

Good morning!

Take a look at the clip for today [here](#). Thanks Craig Bradley for the clip for today. Watch it several times to see what action this player took in the backcourt. We need to be READY for these types of plays. In my opinion, there was never an attempt by white to set a legal screen. This looks 100% dirty and can NOT be allowed in our game. Hopefully the entire play was seen by the crew. The C made the foul call and hopefully the new L saw what really happened and helped the C with the call and ejected the player.

Even when we have nobody in our coverage area, we need to LOOK for the next competitive matchup and this play is definitely what the new L (in a 3-person game) should be looking at. When the ball is inbounded, there are 9 players (all but the guilty player for white) from the free throw line extended to the endline. The C should really have been on his sideline at free throw line extended to help new T with all the pressure in the backcourt. The new L should be as deep as the deepest player (the player in white). The C should be helping in that 'cone' or 'V' going up the floor and the new L should see what the player in white is doing and how she gets to and makes contact with the girl in red. In a 2-person game, it becomes much more difficult. New L needs to try to help on pressure, but not at free throw line extended. We usually use a guide as 'be as deep as the next pass might go'. Since no red was in the new frontcourt, new T could probably be up about mid court to start this throw-in. As play progresses up court, new L needs to again pick out the next competitive matchup and would then see how white contacted red. In either case, we need to make sure the players do not react to the play and escalate action, then the crew should talk about it with the players at their benches.

Remember that to be intentional, we need at least two of these three:

- 1) Windup
- 2) Contact
- 3) Follow through

The players in white had all three here....and it certainly appears that she 'eyed' red up and threw her shoulder and body weight into red to get the result that she did. Remember that legal screens CAN have severe contact, but this was nowhere near a legal screen since she kept moving into reds path and actually lowered her torso to hit red. FLAGRANT FOUL! Not sure what happened after the hit, but the officials probably need to 'get to the spot' of this foul quickly to prevent anything else from escalating.

Bottom line....make sure to be observing players we should be, not watching the ball come up the floor.....no matter where we are, and when a player commits flagrant actions, we penalize accordingly. Don't get caught off guard with these.

Friday extra: How do we help our assigner love us? KEEP CLOSED DATES CURRENT with him/her!
Another way? KEEP CLOSED DATES CURRENT with him/her!!!! Whether using a software system like Arbiter or something else, the way to most irritate an assigner is to give an official a game and get a response like 'I can't work that game because.....'. There aren't many justified 'because' reasons. Just be responsible and keep your assigner up-to-date with closed/blocked dates!