Good morning everyone! Hope you are all caught up and ready for the holidays!

Today's quiz question first......

A-1's throw-in is touched by B-1, who is standing on the boundary line. The official rules a throw-in violation
Yes No and awards Team B the ball at the spot of the original throw-in. Is the official correct?

Hand checks......been beat to death right? NOT! We can ALWAYS improve our hand check calls. Hand checks are NOT advantage/disadvantage calls. Hand checks are AUTOMATIC FOULS. Here is the rule again.....10-7-12....

ART. 12

The following acts constitute a foul when committed against a ball handler/dribbler. A player becomes a ball handler when he/she receives the ball. This would include a player in a post position.

- a. Placing two hands on the player.
- b. Placing an extended arm bar on the player.
- c. Placing and keeping a hand on the player.
- d. Contacting the player more than once with the same hand or alternating hands.

I have heard people argue that if the ball handler 'beats' his/her defender that we need to let him/her finish the play/drive to the hoop. Nice idea, but NOT what the rules book says. Even if the ball handler 'beats' the defender and the defender puts a hand or extended armbar on the ball handler, WE HAVE A FOUL! Period, no questions.....that is a foul. ANY of these four types of contact by a defender on ANY ball handler MUST be a foul.

Go back to the thought of a defender being beaten and the ball handler appears to have a drive to the hole for a score. What if we pass on the hand check......SCORE right? Not so fast.....what if a secondary defender steps in and the ball handler now commits a player control foul? NOW we have penalized the ball handler TWICE....first by **not** calling the hand check, then by **calling** the PC foul. What we must do is call the hand check foul....get it the first time! Take a look at today's clip and think about what might have happened if the hand check had NOT been called which meant no whistle would have slowed/stopped play.....take a look here.

What did you have? Pretty sure if the hand check is not called, we have a PC coming.....and the ball handler is penalized twice.

Quiz Answer......NO.....there is NO throw-in violation by A-1. B-1, at a minimum, caused the ball to go OOB, thus A's ball. There is certainly the possibility that B committed a delay of game as well by crossing the plane on the throw-in.

Have a great game tonight! Safe travels!

Tim