

Good morning everyone! First full week of 2017.....and the state finals will be here before we know it. If you haven't been to Hershey for the finals, consider going, it is a GREAT time and many, many officials are there for the entire weekend. Here is a link for info to the [PIAA Basketball Finals tickets](#). Hope to see you there!

Remember yesterday's clip about a steal/transition play with a double whistle? Today's piggybacks that.....and this one reinforces the need to be in position. A few people commented that yesterday's new lead may have been out of position. In today's clip, all we want to focus on is positioning.....where ARE the officials? Where SHOULD they be? What gives them the best positioning to get the call correct.

Just to generate discussion from the fact that we have the luxury to see this play several times and in slo-mo.....I have a PC....defender obtained legal guarding position, maintained it by moving 'obliquely' (which means not TOWARDS the dribbler) and takes the contact in the torso. Send it the other way!!!

OK, so yesterday we talked about a steal/transition play or a breakaway layup being leads call first, second and third.....then if the lead does NOT get a call, center (or trail in a two-person game...rarely) can come and help on it. If the coach questions why the call is late, it is easy to answer 'coach, it was a foul and I got it.....sorry it was late'.

In this clip, new lead somehow was way behind where he should have been. In fact, by the time new lead gets to the top of the key, there are 7....SEVEN players IN FRONT of him! THAT is not good. He actually looks lackadaisical in his attempt to get to new lead. Barring being injured, we MUST hustle all the time, but ESPECIALLY when we need to 'bust it' to get to a spot. That being said, there is no problem with lead realizing he is beat and stop just short of the baseline to get a good look at the play....but he never even got CLOSE to the baseline for the play.

Was the C in the correct position? Sure! He did a nice job of being where he should have been, getting as good of a look at the play as possible and then closing down to the spot of the foul after he calls it.....then counts the hoop after closing down. Positioning from the C was as good as can be expected....it is VERY difficult for C to referee the defense here and KNOW how the defender got where he did. THAT is why lead needs to get there and SEE how the defense sets up.

Lastly, anybody notice the trail on this play? NO WAY he should be going where he went on this. The problem is that we now have three sets of eyes on the same matchup and no sets of eyes on the other 8 players..... This play happens with about 5:35 remaining in the *first half*. Not so sure this is a 'whale' that needs called from T at this point in the game. AT THE VERY LEAST, T MUST give L and/or C a CHANCE to make the call! TRUST YOUR PARTNERS!

Positioning is crucial, angles are THE reason we make the calls we do.....hustle to get where it is best.....take a look at the clip [here](#).

Have a great game tonight and a relaxing weekend!

Tim