

Good morning!

Hope you had a fantastic holiday season and are rested and ready for the next 6 weeks of the regular season!

Rule 9.3.3 was added last year to assess a violation when a player goes out of bounds on his/her own volition (intentionally) and is the first to *touch* the ball after returning to the playing court. The NFHS added a case play this year to help clarify what 'first to touch' means. It does not clear *everything* up but does clarify that if a player who possesses the ball continues to possess (dribble) it and a player who went OOB and comes back in and 'cuts to get open' and the defense 'recovers' then if that player receives a pass, it is **not** a violation. This is explained in case play 9.3.3 Situation B.

Take a look at an example of this situation [HERE](#).

This play should not be a violation since blue 1 goes OOB, comes back in and the defense has obviously recovered. The point guard was still dribbling well after blue 1 returned inbounds and passed to blue 1. There was no advantage gained so no violation on this play.

This case play seems to indicate that advantage/disadvantage is the spirit of this rule.

Friday Extra: Getting the correct free throw shooter at the line is still an issue. The clip from December 11 (Free throw shooter switch) happened again with the same coach/team/player last Saturday. In a similar situation, a player was fouled and the coach yells 'Make the free throws Brooke' when it was not Brooke who was supposed to be shooting them. First, we need to identify free throw shooters as a crew, second know when we are in the bonus and third, do not let a coach get away with trying to deceive us.

Have a great game tonight and an awesome 2025!

Tim