

Good morning!

Hope your game went well last evening!

When I was a much less experienced official, we had a very experienced, very good member of our chapter who I worked with occasionally. One night I was working with him and we had a pretty good game going and with under a minute remaining, I was administering free throws and told the players 'two shots' when it was really a one-and-one. He comes in after the first shot after nobody attempted to rebound the miss and after we 'got it figured out' and he ends by saying 'a perfect game shot to hell.' He wasn't being rude, just accurate. We need to KNOW what we have...especially on free throws. Sometimes we get caught relaxing then when we shouldn't.

Free throws and all the crazy things that can happen on them can be overwhelming. Take a look at a clip of a free throw [here](#) and think about what you have without reading the rule. So.....your ruling? OBVIOUSLY a violation on white 15. Black misses the free throw.....did the ball hit the rim? Is that important?

READ the penalties for free throw violations:

PENALTIES: (Section 1)

1. If the first or only violation is by the free thrower or a teammate, the ball becomes dead when the violation occurs and no point can be scored by that throw. The following out-of-bounds provisions apply if no further free throws are to be administered:

- a. If the violation occurs during a free throw for a personal foul, other than intentional or flagrant, the ball is awarded to the opponents for a throw-in from the designated out-of-bounds spot nearest the violation.**
- b. If the violation occurs during a free throw for a technical foul, the ball is awarded to the thrower's team for a throw-in at the division line on the side of the court opposite the scorer's and timer's table.**
- c. If the violation occurs during a free throw for a flagrant personal foul or an intentional personal foul, the ball is awarded to the thrower's team for a throw-in from the designated out-of-bounds spot nearest the foul.**

2. If the violation is by the free-thrower's opponent only:

- a. If the try is successful, the goal counts and the violation is disregarded.**
- b. If the try is not successful, the ball becomes dead when the free throw ends, and a substitute throw shall be attempted by the same free thrower under conditions the same as for the free throw for which it is substituted.**

3. If there is a simultaneous violation by each team, the ball becomes dead and no point can be scored. Remaining free throws are administered or play is resumed by the team entitled to the alternating-possession throw-in from the designated out-of-bounds spot nearest to where the simultaneous violation occurred.

4. If there is a violation first by the free-thrower's opponent followed by the free thrower or a teammate:

- a. If both offenders are in a marked lane-space, the second violation is ignored, as in penalty item (2).**
- b. If the second violation is by the free thrower or a teammate behind the free-throw line extended and/or the three-point line, both violations are penalized, as in penalty item (3).**
- c. If a violation by the free thrower follows distraction by an opponent, a substitute free throw shall be awarded.**
- d. If a fake by an opponent causes the free thrower or a teammate of the free thrower to violate, only the fake is penalized.**

I think we can all agree that white 15 violated. The ruling is that the free thrower gets a substitute free throw. In my opinion, white 15 distracted/disconcerted the free thrower causing her to miss the throw. In this case, it would not matter if she had violated or not by missing the ring, there will be a substitute free throw. If we only have a violation by white 15, we know this is a substitute free throw. If the free throw missed the ring also, we must consider the possibility that the free thrower violated due to being distracted (penalty 4-c above).

We MUST make sure we KNOW the penalties for free throw violations in all situations. TALK to your partner(s) to get it right!

Remember, applying rules correctly CANNOT be argued! Be alive during free throws!

Have a great game tonight!

Tim