

Good morning and Happy New Year! 2021 is here, games are starting this weekend! There IS HOPE!!!!

Take a look at this clip of a loose ball scrum [here](#). What did you see? Do you have any whistles besides the held ball?

First, we need to officiate a loose ball situation when players are on the floor as if they were standing/running. In this particular play, no player seems to create an advantage by illegally using his body. Nobody undercuts or dives and takes out another players legs.

Second, the officials ALL did a great job of closing in on the play (they all moved to see the play better and physically got closer to the action of the scrum). This is critical for plays of this sort so that any potential illegal action is seen AND stopped.

Third, as soon as the whistle sounded, the officials were 'on top of the action' and put a stop to the held ball.....and the extra-curricular that was happening above C towards mid-court.

Was there a way to make sure that the two players tangled up could have been seen from the start of their actions? Was this C's responsibility? T's? The play was definitely in C's primary and he did a great job of seeing it all and what was happening. The issue is that red 4 and black 5 were also in C's primary. This is a case where POSSIBLY the T opposite needed to take note of these two players sooner than he did. All three officials were focused on the 7 or 8 players involved in the main scrum. The two that got tangled needed to be seen by someone. We always talk about making sure we see all 10 players. These two got lost in the action in a situation that they should not have.

This is a generality that can be touched on in our pre-game conference....."Make sure that we never leave a player unattended, like an injured player or players on opposite teams during a free throw or in a transition where two players are caught behind'.

These are great plays to use as reminders to not let ourselves get caught in a bad situation because we let players unattended. Just make sure someone is 'seeing' those players off to the side or behind. All clips used aren't about getting the call right or wrong, sometimes we just need reminders!

Have a great week and looking forward to Friday!!!!!!!!!!!!

Tim