

Good morning everyone.....hope all you were safe to and from games last evening.....remember, GET THERE SAFE.....the game will wait.....get HOME safe, your family is depending on it....

Today's tip.....making a quick judgment on a 'hard' foul and how do we call it. Take a look at the clip [here](#) and the foul will happen coming right towards the C after the rebound.....decide what YOU have in real-time....

SO let's break down the entire sequence.....what do you have? The center official here did a GREAT job of recognizing the severity of the act by red 31. He immediately had the intentional foul. Red 31 certainly had A) had a wind up with his shoulder, B) made contact and C) followed through. To be an intentional, we really need 2 of those 3 components of 1) wind up, 2) contact and 3) follow through. This foul is without a doubt an intentional foul. Is that all it could be?

Anybody have a flagrant? This where we have a fine line.....WHAT did we just see? If we saw what C saw, we have intentional. If we saw red 31 actually 'throw his shoulder intentionally into white 5's head/shoulder,' then we have a flagrant. If the C had gone flagrant here, he would have certainly been supported by the film and his explanation of what he SAW. Kudos to him for getting it an intentional immediately, that was intentional at a minimum. Think about what could happen if we do not call an intentional here.....and we aren't even adding knowledge about what has happened already in the game as far as chipiness, if this game has high stakes, if white 5 and red 31 have had problems, etc. ALL of those need taken into consideration. If we had already had an issue with red 31 and white 5, we may be way more inclined to deem the foul flagrant. If the play happened early in a seemingly smooth game, intentional. Just get it right.....

OK, what happened AFTER the call? The C went directly to the L to discuss what he had. It would certainly appear that if he asked the L for help on flagrant or not that with the number of players in the paint the L couldn't offer reliable information. The T did not come in to offer info so assuming he had no additional information to offer either. The C and L talked about what the sequence would be in resuming play. That is always VERY important, as we do not want to go to the wrong end to shoot free throws or give the ball to the wrong team or allow the wrong player to shoot the free throws, etc. The L hopefully calmed down the C as in any situation like this, we are a little excitable and just need to explain what we have to a partner to 'get it right.'

The T stayed back and observed the players.....it is critical in a play like this that the players are monitored. One bad play can certainly lead to another, so we need to monitor the 10 players at all times. There would be no problem at all here with immediately sending both teams to their benches THEN getting together as a crew to talk about the penalty sequence. Notice that white 40 comes in clapping after the call? Think that might instigate a reaction from red? Hm.

This crew did a great job of getting the intentional, going with it and administering the penalty correctly. They did not have any retaliation from this play. ANY of us could have a bad situation happen when it appears that the game is going smoothly. Just make sure that when we do have to get together to talk that all the players can be seen and opponents are not chirping to each other.

Be ready for anything, especially this late in the season when some knuckleheads think their only way to 'win' is to do something dirty.

Have a great game today, stay focused and be alive during dead balls.

Tim