

## CONNECTICUT STATE TOURNAMENT OBSERVATION REPORT

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By

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The information presented is intended and offered as fine tuning considerations for officials that need attention and improvement. We owe it to schools to feature utmost professionalism and provide a service based upon NFHS RULES, APPROVED MECHANICS & SIGNALS.

### **Demeanor & Poise - self check/evaluate consideration**

Displays a conscientious & earnest desire to perform on court duties. Attends to business – Not over aggressive or overbearing. Consistent with concentration throughout the game. Decisiveness – Not timid/weak – Projects confidence.

### **Contact**

Illegal contact beyond incidental contact by offensive players were very often ruled legal. Defensive players, who obtained legal guarding position, were often charged with a blocking foul. Additionally, often the illegal contact of an offensive player was simply ruled legal. The offensive player was not penalized and benefitted by the contact. Guarding & Block or Charge needs further study and instruction. Verticality, featuring the responsibilities of both the defensive player and offensive player, must be understood.

### **Mechanics**

**At the site of the foul procedure** - Needs extensive review & improvement. Often no stop the clock signal. Often the signal used is arm raised with two fingers extended. Often not having eye contact with partner(s). Hit and run by the official. In general the official is hurrying and not composed. Official not informing the player who committed the foul, not informing the shooter, not indicating the number of free throws or indicating the ensuing throw-in spot. Official moving through/among the player in route to Reporting Area. Official not getting to the reporting area. Official reporting the player control foul with a team control signal.

**At the site of the violation procedure** - Needs extensive review & improvement. Often no stop the clock signal. Hit and run by the official. Turning back and signaling while moving. Not indicating the ensuing throw-in spot.

**Free throw administration** - Lead official bouncing the ball to the free thrower, then turning back to move away. Overall, the crew often does not seem to demonstrate care for free throw and free throw play coverage....no whistle in mouth, lined up on the free throw lane line, hands on hips, looking elsewhere.

**PCA & FOV Cone Coverage Concepts** - College women officials applying NCAA's PCA coverage rather than following IAABO guidance. Obvious ball watching, especially the Lead and Center

official, beyond PCA responsibilities. Lead often turning head toward the ball side sideline. Lead official very often not wide enough. Tend to take an initial position near or at the free throw lane line. Lead official needs to have depth off end line.

### **Time-Out**

Time-out granted when there is no player control. Often an off the ball official is guilty. Officials often appear excited and over react to time-out ruling. No stop the clock/time-out signal. 60-second signal is arm extended outward with palms open. 30-second signal is finger tips to the shoulders.

### **Signals**

Often use non-approved signals. No stop clock signal at site of foul, violation, time-out situations. Most often no indication of the throw-in spot following non-shooting foul, violation, time-out. Indicating direction with 2 finger point. 3-Point attempt signal too high – may be mistaken for stop the clock. Initial 3-Point goal signaled by two officials – is one ball watching? Signaling the attempt for goal was a two point try is unnecessary. Signaling to start the clock with a fist or other “snapping” motion. Exaggerating signals at the site of foul, violation, reporting area. Player-control foul – the use of both arms simultaneously. One behind head, the other a punch is incorrect. Blocking foul – pounding the fists to the hips is incorrect.

### **Other**

**Official's uniform** – officials need to wear same shirt.

**Coaching Box** was not enforced – coaches were near the division line and not attended too. Official should not **grant a time-out request to a coach** located outside of the coaching box.

**Throw-in** – the vast majority of time the designated spot is not signaled.

**Toss** – toss needs to be monitored and ruled accordingly.

Substitutes beckoned in by an official when there is no sounding of the horn; officials were delaying the game by withholding the ball until substitute is processed.

**Closely guarded count** – start of count was not prompt; not applying when dribbler/ball handler is within 3, 4, 5 feet of defender.

Back court count must be applied even during quick transition toward frontcourt.

Out-of-bounds ruling (whistle sounded, etc.,) occurred prior to the ball actually being out-of-bounds.

**Tweeting of the whistle** occurring as many as 6-7 times. This is undesirable and unnecessary. Fitness and ability to move is an issue with a few officials.