

Good morning! Tomorrow!!!!

Wouldn't it be great to have a game go down to the wire to start the season?!

How about this for an ending.....take a look [here](#).....

If you are the T, what do you have? The shot is T's since the play originated in his primary and never left it. First, let's discuss the contact before the shot.....do you have a foul? An OFFENSIVE FOUL? This would obviously be a gutsy call.....would it be the right call? JUST looking at this play and not know how the rest of the game was called, *in my humble opinion*, I see the offensive player creating space (and hence an advantage) by the slight push-off. I know this play would probably be a 50-50 play for foul-no call if we had a convention session about it! The bottom line is what did the official SEE and was an advantage created by illegal contact. Again, my opinion.....since we are to call hand checks on the defense and protect our shooters, we also need to protect the defenders against such contact by ball-handlers.

THAT being said, let's look at the officials positioning on this play. The T has this play. He probably could have shown a little more of a sense of urgency to get a great angle of the play....could have been much closer to the top of the key to see between the ball-handler and defender. If he had closed down towards the baseline and seen between the ball-handler and defender, his justification for not having a foul would be more acceptable. How about C on this play? He is in a very good position and has the big man for the offense in his primary and appears to be looking for a possible lob to him....and the big man has good position for a lob. Lead on this play? He appears to be looking at the ball-handler and defender but no way he can accurately make a call here...he is straightlined and would be guessing at what really happened. This is T's play, period.

Again, this play would probably give a 'healthy' amount of debate at a basketball officials discussion session! Hopefully when you saw the play originally (or the second time) you were pretty sure whether you thought the official should have put air in the whistle or not.....hopefully when you have this same play in a game this year, you are ready....in good position and WANTING the call in your primary!

Have a great evening tonight and sleep well...it all breaks loose tomorrow!

Tim