

Good morning!

Hope everyone is doing well with the weather and traveling. Make sure you leave extra travel time with bad roads looming...

So, you are trail and all of a sudden we have a steal and a breakaway situation.....one on one and the defense is trailing the ball handler...he goes up for the layup and there is hard contact. What goes through your head in this whole 4-5 seconds from the time the ball is stolen until the shot attempt/hard contact? We need to make sure we see the play. If that means being able to get in front of the play (most desirable option) then we do that. If we cannot get there, we need to take a running line that gives us a good angle to SEE what happens and not guess. You take a good line, get a good look and there is hard contact.....common foul? Intentional foul? Flagrant intentional?

To be intentional, we want to have 2 of the following 3 characteristics present in the foul....windup, contact and follow through. If two of those three are present we have an intentional foul (in the least). What happens if the shooter retaliates? Chest bumps the defender? Kicks the defender? Pushes the defender?

This all can happen in the 'easiest' of games. Be ready to take action immediately.

Take a look at the clip by clicking [here](#) and determine how YOU would rule the entire sequence that occurs, then finish reading here.


Well? Could happen every game we work couldn't it?! What do you have? Agree with the calling official? Anything that could have been done differently?

I seriously doubt that there was any way to prevent the initial foul from happening and the official nailed the intentional signal immediately.....GREAT job of that. What follows is the kick by black 00. Even if the calling official had run to the two players to try to prevent anything, not sure that it would not have still happened as fast as it all transpired. MAYBE the official could have closed down to the players right away.....hopefully I will learn from that and do it if/when that happens in my game. The official then call at least a technical on black 00 (assuming he signaled it before the whistle). The officials partner runs in to help with the players as several are running to the area as well. This is great help by a partner.

How would you hope to have called this sequence? Intentional on the foul initially? Flagrant? What if nothing had happened as a result while they were one the floor/getting up after the foul? What about black 00? T/ Flagrant?

What we have no choice in this sequence is that black 00 gets a flagrant technical for the kick after he gets up. Kicking is nothing different than a punch according to rule 4-18 as follows:

Currently Viewing: 4-18-1

 [Link to Article](#)

Fighting is a flagrant act and can occur when the ball is dead or live. Fighting includes, but is not limited to combative acts such as:

ART. 1

An attempt to strike, punch or kick by using a fist, hands, arms, legs or feet regardless of whether contact is made.

ART. 2

An attempt to instigate a fight by committing an unsporting act that causes a person to retaliate by fighting.

Black 00 is ejected and must stay on the bench. White was assessed an intentional foul. It would appear that if that foul stood all alone and black 00 does not retaliate, an intentional is the appropriate call. This does not seem to be an unsporting act that caused black 00 to retaliate. Sticking with the intentional just from seeing this short clip seems appropriate but a discussion among the officials is certainly warranted and upgrading to flagrant could be justified. Make sure that when you crew/partners are discussing the play that all players are separated....preferably at their own bench area. After making sure the crew is on the same page, the coaches need to be told what has happened as a result of the fouls. This could be done by the same official to each coach separately, both coaches together or separate officials to each coach. The last would be least desirable as we want that same thing said the same way to both coaches.

Make sure you slooowww doooowwwwn in situations like this. When the players excitement rises, ours must lower.

If you have a hard foul of any sort and CAN close down on the players involved, great. In most cases, nothing happens.....in some cases like this one, there is extra action and must be dealt with accordingly.

Be mentally sharp and get through the mid-season lull. Get as much rest as possible and have FUN every game....that makes it enjoyable, not a 'job'!

Have a great game today!

Tim