

Good morning!

Hope your tipoff weekend went well! It was mixed for me.....as an official and as an assigner.

Here are a few 'reminders' from the weekend:

- 1) The coaching box is a COACHING BOX.....please do NOT let the coach yell and scream at you OR your partners. Things like "YOU HAVE GOT TO BE KIDDING ME" yelled so the opposite officials can hear it.....'you guys are missing a good game'if we allow these things, they will happen the rest of the game AND game after game.....and their comments probably won't get better!
- 2) The coaching box has defined boundaries for a reason! Our PA coaching box is 28 feet long! There MUST be lines at the baseline extended and at the 28 foot line for there to be a coaching box! Check that when you walk on the floor! Get the game manager to get tape down if it isn't there! Make sure the coach *stays in the box!* Yelling ANYWHERE is not acceptable....being across mid court is NOT acceptable even if the coach 'isn't yelling at us.'
- 3) Uniforms.....I worked 4 games over the weekend and saw 4 others.....16 teams.....EVERY SINGLE TEAM I SAW had uniform issues...mostly waistbands and tag/logo issues on the shorts. We are our own worst enemy when we do not address this immediately. TAKE CARE OF IT!
- 4) House arrest ankle bracelets need a letter of approval from the PIAA office and must be wrapped in soft padding as well...if no letter AND not wrapped, the athlete may NOT participate.
- 5) FOCUS ON THE GAME, not talking to fans in the stands!
- 6) Ball watching.....we need to be vigilant in working our OWN primary coverage area (PCA). Take a look a clip of a college game with similar issues [here](#).

Watch the eyes and head movement of L. He watched the ball handler near the sideline and when 'something happened' that caught his eye on the low block, he looked there, then back out to the ball handler. THIS is why *positioning and PCA* is critical.

Positioning: No matter a 2-person or 3-person game, the L needs to get 'wide' (back out by the three-point arc and angle the body at an angle facing the paint...NOT parallel or perpendicular to the sideline). In either a 2 or 3-person game, being 'wide' on a play like this allows us to officiate our primary matchup....they are different in either case.

In a 3-person game as in the video, the L has PCA in the paint. The T has the ball handler/defender. The L still can 'see' the ball handler/dribbler out of the corner of his eye, but MUST focus on the paint and the primary matchup there.

In a 2-person game, this is tougher (as nearly everything 2-person is). The L must get wide and DOES have the ball handler/defender as a primary matchup. By being wide, the L will then have the PAINT peripherally in his sight. In addition for a 2-person game, the T will have the weak side HALF of the paint and being that the dribbler is going towards the baseline, should be focusing on the paint for a potential post pass or preparing for rebounding off of a shot. The T MAY be able to help on this action at the strong side low block.

REGARDLESS of who sees this play, this is a 'whale' and MUST be called. This is the type of play we get no matter where we are when we see it. The crew here is lucky that nothing escalated from this action. NONE of us hope something like this happens in our game. All we can do is control

ourselves.....prepare, know what the consequences are and MAKE SURE to referee your PCA and NOT be a ball watcher! Take care of uniforms immediately at EVERY level.....take care of the coaching box.....

Hope you are ready for a full week of games! Have a great game this evening!

Tim