

Good morning!

Ever blow the whistle and as soon as you do wish you hadn't? So one of my best friends, Jeremy Schmader, sent me this yesterday morning.....'Could you help me get the film from my game last night? I think I have a play I screwed up that would make a good tip of the day.' Jeremy has been in a few tips and as our chapter interpreter, regularly uses clips of himself (and his closest friends) in his presentation to teach and learn from. Take a look at the clip he wanted [here](#).

So Jeremy called a foul on the defense. He told me "The offense initiated all the contact there. My preference would be a no-call in this scenario as he didn't displace anyone but himself. He bought the foul and I was stupid to give it to him." He also went on to say that this is a great example of 'referee the defense'. What did the defense do wrong here? If we referee the defense then block/charge calls become way more simplified. I am sure this play would generate a great deal of discussion at a convention session or a chapter meeting but THAT is great! The way we learn – and get better – is by discussion and looking to improve every game!

I following a theme this year, we need to be able to explain our decisions to the coaches (if they would ask). The call Jeremy made is admittedly hard to explain if the blue coach asked 'what did my defender do wrong?' If he would have had a no-call, and explanation of 'the ball handler initiated all of the contact' is a great answer. The coaches are not always going to like our answer, but a truthful one is way better than a BS one!

In regards to contact and putting air in the whistle.....with the exception of one, we make a decision based on advantage/disadvantage. The hand check is the ONLY black and white foul defined in the Rules Book! Anything more than a 'hot stove touch' is defined in the book as a hand check foul!

Thursday Extra: Next week is official's appreciation week.....how about we recruit a new official for each chapter next week?! Reach out to someone to try to get them to take the test!

Have a great game tonight!

Tim