

Good morning! Hope you had a great game last night!

Back to a screen play! Take a look [here](#) and think about what you have on it. Well?

Let's talk about *just the act of setting the screen*. I am sure some of us might say she threw her hips into the Texas player and some would not. The question here is whether or not running the direction that Tennessee #21 was running, stopped and screened Texas #23 was legal?

ART. 1

A screen is legal action by a player who, without causing contact, delays or prevents an opponent from reaching a desired position.

ART. 2

To establish a legal screening position:

- a. The screener may face any direction.
- b. Time and distance are relevant.
- c. The screener must be stationary, except when both the screener and opponent are moving in the same path and the same direction.
- d. The screener must stay within his/her vertical plane with a stance approximately shoulder width apart.

ART. 3

When screening a stationary opponent from the front or side (within the visual field), the screener may be anywhere short of contact.

ART. 4

When screening a stationary opponent from behind (outside the visual field), the screener must allow the opponent one normal step backward without contact.

ART. 5

When screening a moving opponent, the screener must allow the opponent time and distance to avoid contact by stopping or changing direction. The speed of the player to be screened will determine where the screener may take his/her stationary position. The position will vary and may be one to two normal steps or strides from the opponent.

ART. 6

When screening an opponent who is moving in the same path and direction as the screener, the player behind is responsible if contact is made because the player in front slows up or stops and the player behind overruns his/her opponent.

ART. 7

A player who is screened within his/her visual field is expected to avoid contact by going around the screener. In cases of screens outside the visual field, the opponent may make inadvertent contact with the screener and if the opponent is running rapidly, the contact may be severe. Such a case is to be ruled as incidental contact provided the opponent stops or attempts to stop on contact and moves around the screen, and provided the screener is not displaced if he/she has the ball.

ART. 8

A player may not use the arms, hands, hips or shoulders to force his/her way through a screen or to hold the screener and then push the screener aside in order to maintain a guarding position on an opponent.

Specifically, articles 2 and 6 are quite relevant here. Hopefully we can agree that the two players are moving in the same path and direction. In this case (article 6), the player behind is responsible for contact. From what we see in the video, Texas 23 DID see the screen from the reaction on her face

preparing for the contact. She made no attempt to go around the screen. This appears to be a legal screen by Tennessee 21 and is incidental contact.

Many times screens in the open court like this have severe contact because the teammates of the player being screened do not talk and yell that a screen is coming. In THIS case, she can SEE the screen coming and does nothing to avoid it. Contact on screen CAN be severe and incidental at the same time.

Again, if we are just talking about the process of the screen (not if Tennessee 21 threw her hips into Texas 23 or not), this screen is legal. This is a very good example of the 'same path, same direction' article AND article 7 where a screen within the field of vision requires the player being screened to avoid contact. The same article says that screens outside the visual field may be severe contact and incidental. This is a case of severe contact *within* the visual field. Since responsibility of contact is on Texas 23, any foul would be on her. Did she create an advantage? I say no.....thus incidental contact.

This is another great discussion clip that seems to fit our rules set in a much more straight-forward way!

Hope you have a great game tonight!

Tim