

Good morning!

I am sure many of us saw the ending of the Portland v OKC game Tuesday evening. If not, take a look [here](#).

There is a LOT happening in this clip. I want to focus solely on the trap above C and the request for a timeout by the orange coach. C has a TON going on with the trap...he has the count, he has two defenders trapping and a potential foul, he has a potential held ball, he has a potential travel by the ball handler....then we have the coach trying to call timeout. We have ALL been there (or you haven't work enough games yet!) where a timeout is being requested and we don't hear/see them because we are so focused on the play...like this one.

How do we get hear/see the timeout?

One option is to make sure the coaches know my name and they yell "TIM, TIMEOUT!" That MAY help. Personally I would rather they call me by name when they need a TO like that. I actually tell the coaches during the captain's meeting to yell my name if I know it most likely will be a loud gym and they are trying to get a TO. Totally up to you in that regard though.

Another option that should be employed in ALL games is to that It's a situation in which a crew needs to adjust. T opposite has a good open view and should be aware that the coach might request a TO in this situation and should be LOOKING FOR IT. Actually, f the L sees the TO request, come get it. There most likely is going to be a movement by most players towards the trap anyhow.

We need to be situationally aware: the time, the score, any specific actions such as a trap where a coach may be asking for a TO....maybe this is something you personally set as a goal to improve the last 3 weeks of the season or bring it up in your pregame conference.

Thursday Extra: Be accepting to constructive criticism. ASK for it from officials whose opinions you value!

Thursday Bonus: If you are a veteran official, be understanding of the less experienced official. We were all there at some point. HELP them get better by being a friend and offering advice. Hopefully they accept it!

Have a great game tonight!

Tim