

Good morning!

Is a discussion about intentional fouls part of your pregame? It is ALWAYS part of ours. We always discuss something like 'If I call a foul and you gasp and think 'that was intentional' then we need to talk because many times it is easier to see that it was intentional from 30 feet away than from 6 feet away. We can always upgrade if we need to.'

Take a look at the upgrade to an intentional foul [HERE](#).

In this play, L has a foul involving a defender who pushed from behind on an entry pass from C's side. This is definitely L's foul to call. C had players between him and the contact and also appears to be straight-lined with the 'defender' and shooter.

L calls the foul and counts the goal at the spot of the foul. As he is going to report, the T stops him and they discuss the play. T obviously saw the 'chuck' with the armbar by blue 41 in the back of white 4. *There is no room for play like this in our game and the appropriate penalty needs assessed.* After the discussion, the L blows the whistle and signals an intentional foul to the table. This is excellent procedure as L had the initial call and then has the upgrade to intentional as well. We always want the calling official to make any upgrade signal as needed. This is great crew communication and handling of the foul and upgrade.

This is a good time for a discussion about the number of free throws for an intentional foul as well.

On ANY made goal (2 or 3-point goal) we will count the made goal AND award TWO free throws. We will resume play with a throw-in at the nearest of the 4 spots to where the foul occurred (if it was in the front court and nearest to where the foul occurred if in the back court).

On any MISSED 2-point attempt, we will award TWO free throws for the intentional foul then resume play with a throw-in at the nearest of the 4 spots to where the foul occurred.

On any MISSED 3-point attempt, we will award THREE free throws for the intentional foul then resume play with a throw-in at the nearest of the 4 spots to where the foul occurred (if it was in the front court and nearest to where the foul occurred if in the back court).

I cannot emphasize this enough – talking in your pre-game conference prepares you for what might happen in your game, even if you are working with partners you work with regularly. It gets you ALL in a 'game' frame of mind. Communication from the time you confirm the game with your partner(s) is crucial!

Monday extra: Many of us carry an extra whistle or two...consider carrying an entire extra uniform...even if it is in a separate bag in your car. You never know when someone will need a pair of socks or you rip your own pants!

Have a great game tonight!

Tim