

Good morning!

If you remember [THIS](#) play you are dating yourself! There was great debate about this play and whether or not MJ committed a player control foul on Byron Russell that cleared space. I am sure the debate would rage on today if we were all together discussing it!

Take a look at a somewhat similar play [HERE](#).

SOMEWHAT similar in that the off arm of the ball handler makes contact on the defender. In the HS play, the defender definitely goes backwards. Did he embellish it? Maybe some. Did the ball handler create space by extending the arm? It sure looks like it. These type of plays are bang-bang plays where there is somewhat of an extension of the arm and at least some space created. This is the type of play where the head coach is 'showing' us what the ball handler did to 'foul' his defender.

The point of this play is that a split second decision must be made about any advantage being gained by the arm and what the arm did. If the arm 'extends' past a 90 degree bent elbow to create space, then we probably have a PC. There is no 'line in the sand' so to speak about how far the arm may be extended. We also must take into account that the defender was moving backwards and sometimes even the slightest contact causes the defender to fall backwards or lose balance. Did the contact create an advantage? Did the contact create space?

The best way to be prepared for this type of play is to watch clips of them and determine advantage or not to decide on a PC or play-on. We need to make sure we are in good position to see what happens and be ready to make that split-second decision. These are great discussion plays and the debate will go on!

Wednesday extra: Just a follow up to yesterday and the free throw lane violation. We all need to be prepared to help on free throw issues if needed. C was on top of the situation and got the violation where no opponent of the free throw shooter was in the bottom space!

Have a great game tonight!

Tim