

Good morning!

No video clip today, just some observations about what has been said from coaches recently.

“Are you gonna use that whistle or just stand there with it in your mouth?” then later in the game
“Wow, you’re really outdoing yourself tonight, big guy”

Official stops the game after the 5th or 6th “TRAVEL!” or “3 SECONDS” from and assistant coach on the bench and gives a bench warning then:

Official - “We don’t need your help officiating tonight. We know what we are doing”

Assistant - “I’m not helping you officiate”

Official – “What are you doing then?”

Assistant - “I’m no trying to help you officiate”

Official – “You are done then”

Assistant – “OK”

Official – “I don’t want to hear another word”

Assistant – “Good”

Coach already has a technical foul for yelling at the officials. One of his players gets injured and as the player is being carried off the court, the coach is berating the officials that “if you have called the foul, this wouldn’t have happened” (the entire gym could hear it).

After an OT game in which the bench was given a warning for the bench reacting to a call by saying things like “Are you serious?! You have got to be kidding me!” an assistant coach follows the officials being escorted by the game manager to their locker room (coaches locker room was in a different hallway out a different door from the gym) and questions why the warning was given over and over, even after the game manager tells the coach to leave.

A coach is in his coaching box yelling “That was an illegal screen!” and “How is that not a foul?!” and “How is that any different than what happened down there?!”

These are just a few that I have been told about or witnessed in the past week!. These are INAPPROPRIATE. ADDRESS them immediately! Every one of these is a technical foul in the least. The coach following the officials to their locker room after the game is a SUPPLEMENTAL DQ. If the coach already has a T and berates you after an injury, the coach gets a second and is DQ’d. A comment with “Big guy” at the end is showing you up. The comments *before* ‘big guy’ warrant a technical foul.

Hey, I KNOW that giving a coach a technical foul is the toughest thing for most officials to do, but especially young officials. THIS is big reason so many officials do not make it 3 years before they quit – coach and spectator treatment. Don’t put up with it by giving a technical foul – it will make your game better and you do NOT deserve to be treated in that manner.

WE ARE THE GUARDIANS OF SPORTSMANSHIP. PERIOD, nobody else is going to do it. WE must do it. Sportsmanship is a Point of Emphasis this year. A coach does not need to go Kim Mulkey to get pinned. Showing you up or even ‘helping officiate’ from the coaching box repeatedly is not acceptable.

Again, **WE ARE THE GUARDIANS OF SPORTSMANSHIP.**

Friday extra: The coaching box MUST be marked on the floor at both the baseline and the 28-foot line. If it is not, there is NO coaching box for EITHER coach (can't let the home coach have a box and the visiting coach not). Ask the game manager to put tape down for the box – look for it as soon as you arrive in the gym. Also, the head coach MUST begin the game WITHIN the coaching box. The coach may not sit outside the confines of the box then stand up and walk into the box. Make sure to observe where they start and tell the coach (most gyms this happens in we know about due to the logistics of the court).

Have a great game tonight!

Tim