



2019-20 NFHS BASKETBALL RULE CHANGES

3-4-3e (2)	<p>The team jersey color itself when bordered with not more than two ¼ inch solid border(s) contrasting with the team jersey color. (Effective 2024-25)</p> <p>Rationale: The number being the same color as the jersey, though bordered by a contrasting color, is difficult to see. Two options for number design remain.</p>
3-5-4b	<p>A headband is any item that goes around the entire head. It must be a circular design without extensions. If worn, only one headband is permitted, it must be worn on the forehead/crown. It must be nonabrasive and unadorned, and it <u>must be no more than 3 inches wide</u>.</p> <p>Rationale: I am suggesting that we make the Basketball and Volleyball rule codes on headbands, the same. Girls are wearing headbands that are wider than 2 inches in basketball but are allowed to wear up to 3-inch headbands in volleyball. I think it would help girls who are in these two sports to comply with the rule without confusion.</p>
3-5-4d	<p>Add to (d) - Hair control devices are not required to meet color restrictions.</p> <p>Rationale: To address inconsistent interpretations regarding items such as pre-wrap controlling hair.</p>
3-5-5	<p>Add Note: NOTE: Provided the shorts are not in conflict with 3-4-5, no drawstring or other part of the shorts intended to maintain them in a normal position causes potential harm to the player or others and wearing of the shorts is not objectionable in exposing the anatomy, there is no restriction on folding or rolling the shorts at the natural waistband seam.</p> <p>Rationale: Rolling of the shorts is only illegal by interpretation, not by current rule. This is an attempt to modernize the rule and allow what players seem to want and what serves as no harm to the game or its integrity. In particular, this interpretation was made because allegedly manufacturers did not intend on the shorts to be rolled when in fact many manufacturer reps will tell you that the seams are intentionally made to offer options in the way they are worn.</p>
3-5-8 NEW	<p>MOUTHGUARD</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> A tooth and mouth protector (intraoral), if worn shall: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> include an occlusal (protecting and separating the biting surfaces) portion; include a labial (protecting the teeth and supporting structures) portion; cover the posterior teeth with adequate thickness; It is recommended that the protector be properly fitted, protecting the anterior (leading) dental arch and: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> constructed from a model made from an impression of the individual's teeth, or constructed and fitted to the individual by impressing the teeth into the tooth and mouth protector itself. State associations may deem a tooth and mouth protector required

Proposed – NFHS Basketball Rules Changes

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	<p>equipment.</p> <p>Change section 6 to 7; change section 7 to 8.</p> <p>Rationale: Provides another safety option with specific with coverage for the devise.</p>
9-9-1	<p>Exception:</p> <p>A ball in team control of Team A in the front court that is deflected by a defensive player, which causes the ball to go into the backcourt, may be recovered by either team unless the offense was the last to touch the ball before it went into the backcourt. If the offense was last to touch the ball in its frontcourt, only the defense can legally recover the basketball.</p> <p>Rationale: This was the original intent of the proposal from 2017-18 and 2018-19. Despite the committee's best efforts, the wording adopted, which mirrored the intent, has caused issues. This wording is identical to the exception at other levels of play and easier to teach and understand.</p>
10-5-5 Note	<p>The head coach and <u>any number of assistant coaches</u> may enter the court in the situation where a fight may break out - or has broken out - to prevent the situation from escalating.</p> <p>Rationale: Based on some fight situations that I have seen and heard about over the last couple years at the high school level, I believe that this change, which was instituted at the NCAA level, is a change that is good for the game of basketball and in regard to player safety. It is difficult in our society for officials to be able to help to separate players involved in a fight since our society has become very litigious. Changing the rule to allow the head coach and assistant coaches to assist in these types of situations will help the officials to regain control of the entire situation more quickly and especially in regard to player safety.</p>
Stop Clock for Jump/Held Ball-Part 3 of the NFHS Basketball Officials Manual-#3	<p><u>When a held ball occurs, covering official(s) shall stop the clock using signal #2 (straight arm, open palm extended) while simultaneously sounding their whistle.</u> Then both arms are extended straight out, at chest level, with fist clinched. Thumbs are displayed as a part of the signal. Signal is given with both arms moving in an upward motion. Should be followed with a directional signal (See #6) indicating team possession.</p> <p>*Occurs when opponents both have their hands on the ball and neither can gain control</p> <p>*When an opponent places their hand on the ball and prevents an airborne shooter from passing or releasing the try.</p> <p>Rationale: This change should help in the alleviation of conflicting calls by officials when a held ball occurs, ie jump ball and foul both called on the same play. We currently raise one arm to stop the clock for everything except the jump/held ball.</p>



MAINE BASKETBALL COUNCIL
Officials Addendum
2019-2020 Season

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RULES EXCEPTIONS

RULES EXCEPTIONS



Announcer: (1-18)

The announcer shall be permitted to make announcements during the game. (e.g. "two minutes to go", "that is the seventh team foul")

Comment: Announcers should be consistent in the information provided as well as the manner it is presented. If an official feels this guideline is not being honored, it should be reported to their Board Interpreter.

Official Scorer: (2-11-12)

The official scorer will not be required to wear a black-and-white vertically striped garment.

Comment: The court shall be marked with an "X" on the court in front of the scorer. It is permissible for the scorer to drape a black and white shirt over the scorers table for identification purposes. If an official encounters a situation where the scorer is not easily identifiable, it should be reported to the Board Interpreter.

RULES EXCEPTIONS



Manufacturer's Logos: (3-5-5,3-6)

If multiple manufacturer's logos are visible on the game pants/skirt as a result of a “rolled” or “folded” waist band, the game pants/skirt shall be considered legal. The size of the logo must be limited to 2¼ square inches to be considered legal.

Grasping: (10-4-3,10-5-1)

A player must not: ...Grasp either basket at any time during the game except to prevent injury. All rules below assume grasping is NOT to avoid injury to the player or another player below.

A player may not grasp the ring and break the ring loose from the flange

A player may not grasp the ring and hang

A player may not grasp the ring and pull themselves up

A player may not grasp the ring to gain an advantage in playing defense or offense.

A player may wrap their fingers around the ring (**grasp**) if none of the previous four bullets have been done

Penalty: Player technical foul. If committed during an intermission, or prior to the game, an indirect technical would also be charged to the head coach and he would lose coaching box privileges.



MANUAL EXCEPTIONS

JUMP BALL

JUMP BALL COMMUNICATION



The tossing official should ensure both teams are ready before tossing ball. The tossing official will not be required to check with speaking captains.

The tossing official shall confirm readiness of each team by using the color of the jersey. (e.g. “Blue Ready”, “White Ready”)

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Jump Ball

Jump Ball

A. Crew Positions

1. Tossing Official holds ball and stands at division line opposite tableside
2. Non-Tossing official's position is on the tableside sideline straddling the division line.
3. Officials verify the correct number of players, for both teams, are on the court.

B. Jump Ball Procedures

1. The tossing official
 - a. Checks for readiness with table, partner ~~and captains~~
 - b. Verbally and by directional signal indicates the teams' basket

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Jump Ball

Jump Ball

A. Crew Positions

1. Tosser holds ball and stands at division line opposite tableside
2. Umpire positions are at the sidelines, approximately in line with the top of each 3-point arc. (U1 on tableside sideline; U2 on the opposite sideline, see page 155)

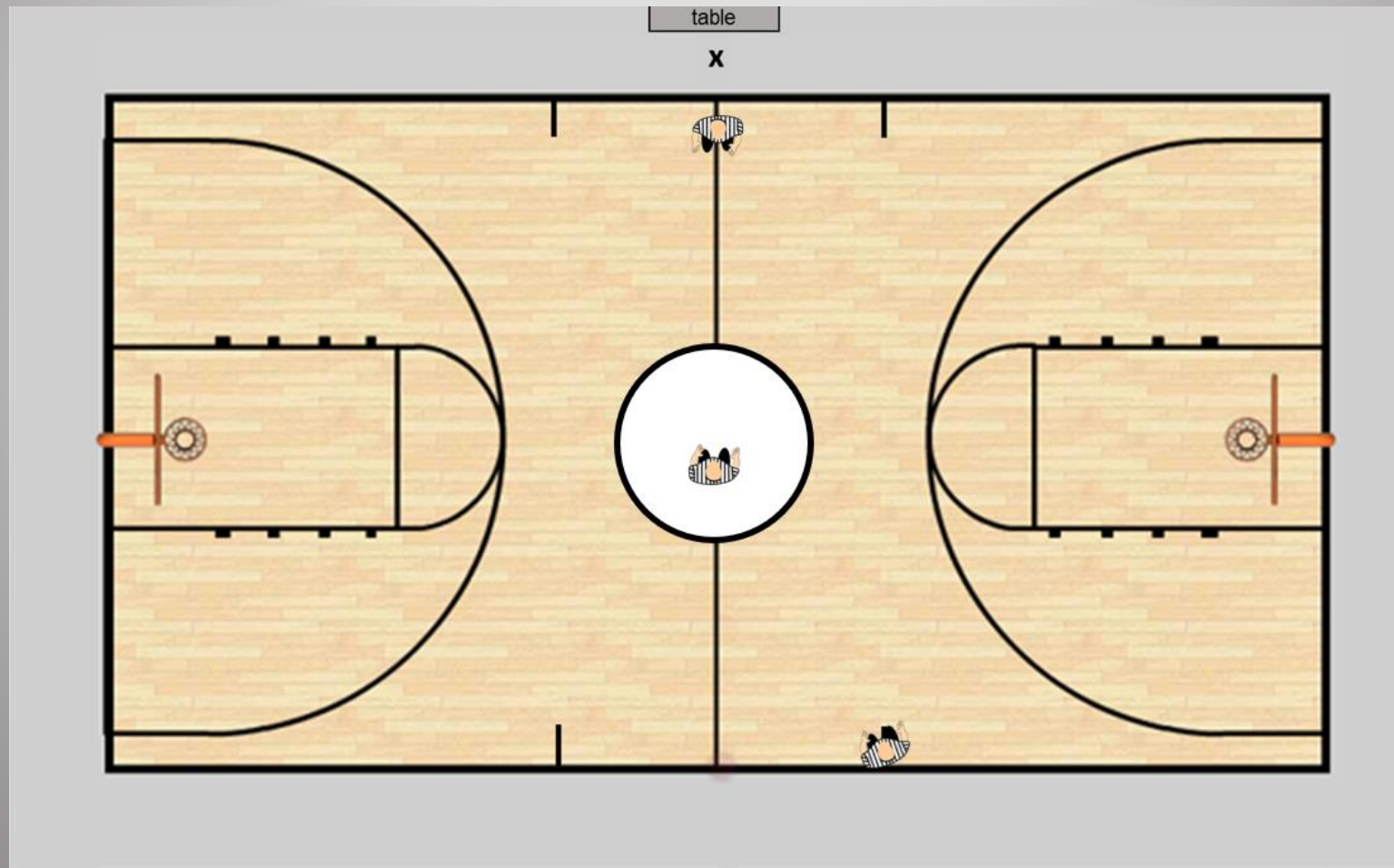
B. Jump Ball Procedures

1. The tossing official
 - a. Checks for readiness with table, partners ~~and captains~~

JUMP BALL POSITIONING (Co3)



The U1 will be positioned tableside at the division line to observe and rule on the jump ball.

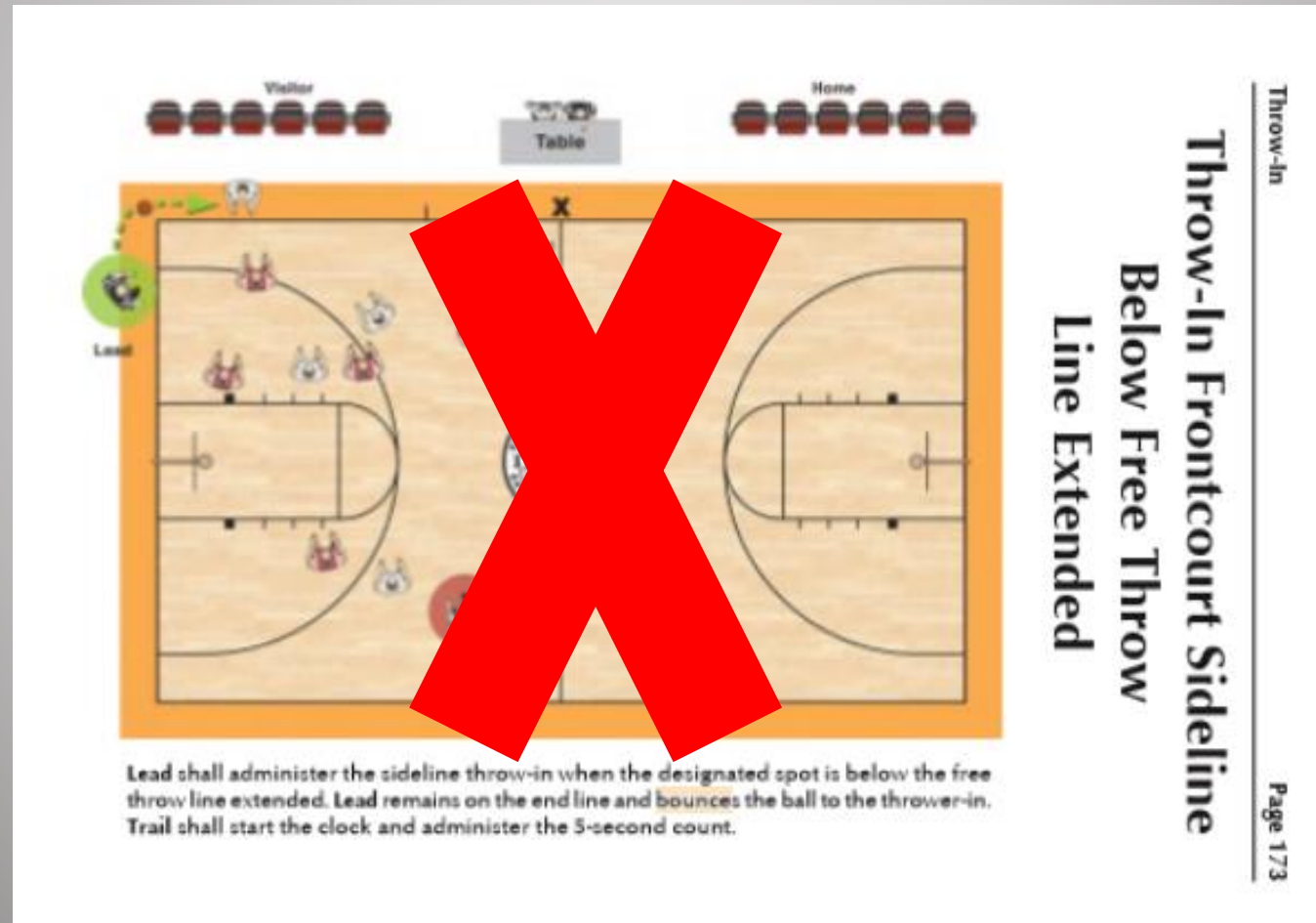


THROW-IN

LEAD FRONTCOURT SIDELINE (Co3)



The Lead will not bounce ball to thrower on sideline. Sideline throw-ins shall be administered by Trail official.



THROW-IN/START CLOCK



The Trail official **will not** mirror the start clock signal on frontcourt endline throw-ins, unless there is an extreme case where official timer cannot see the Lead official.

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Throw-In

G. Crew responsibilities during throw-in

1. Administering official may hand or bounce the ball to the thrower-in
2. Lead as administering official
 - a. has coverage option to stand on either side of the thrower-in for frontcourt end line throw-in
 - b. shall be positioned on same side of basketline as thrower-in
 - c. may bounce ball to thrower for sideline throw-in below free throw line extended
 - d. may provide ballside coverage during any throw-in
 - e. ~~The Trail mirrors the Lead's start clock signal. To ensure proper court coverage, Trail must open his/her position and field of vision cone to monitor both PCA and the start clock.~~

Throw-In

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F. Throw-in coverage

1. Administering official—thrower-in and nearby players
2. Free officials—all players in their PCA
3. Free officials—avoid delays to admit substitutes
4. ~~The Trail mirrors the Lead's start clock signal. To ensure proper court coverage, Trail must open his/her position and field of vision cone to monitor both PCA and the start clock.~~

SUBSTITUTION PROCESS

SUBSTITUTION PROCEDURE



During a throw-in or free throw:

- Subs will be beckoned in by the Administering Official.
- Administering Official will display “stop the clock” signal until substitution is complete.
- This official may have the ball in the “stop the clock” hand.
- **“Non-administering” officials should not display “stop clock” signal** (unless administering official is unaware of issue at table that needs to be addressed).

SUBSTITUTION PROCEDURE



After a foul, when subs are at the table:

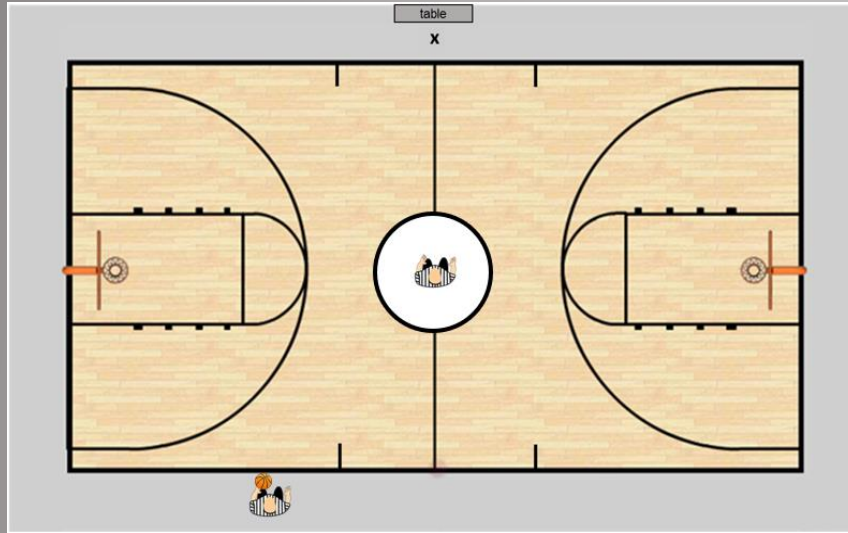
- The reporting official will beckon in subs already at the table.
- This official will release monitoring responsibilities to administering official at the throw-in spot or the free throw.
- If the reporting official is to become the administering official (for the throw-in or free throw), he or she will continue to monitor the substitution as he or she moves into position, i.e.: continue displaying “stop the clock” signal.

TIMEOUT POSITIONS

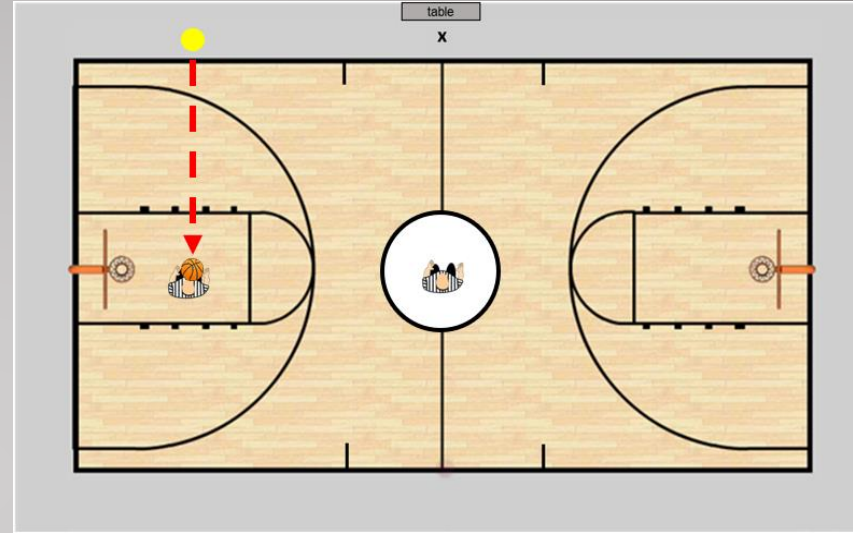
TIMEOUT POSITIONS – CREW OF 2

(When there are no cheerleaders / spirit participants)

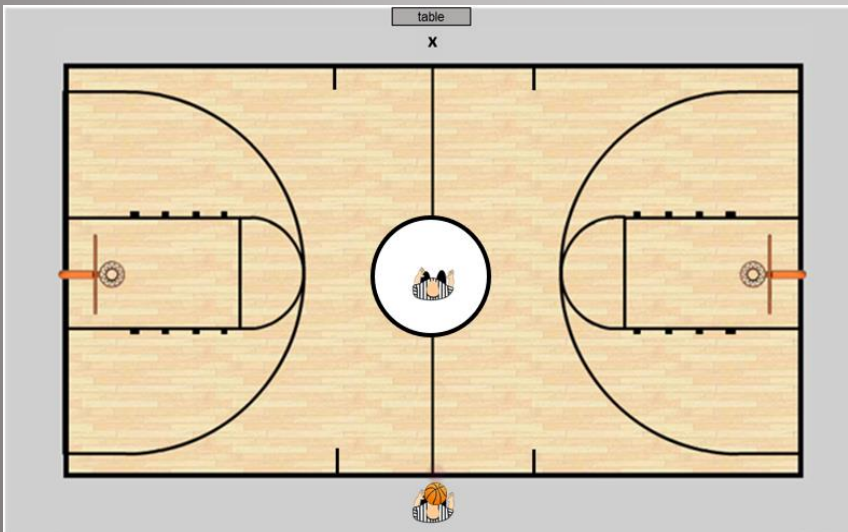
30-SEC, 60-SEC, INJURY



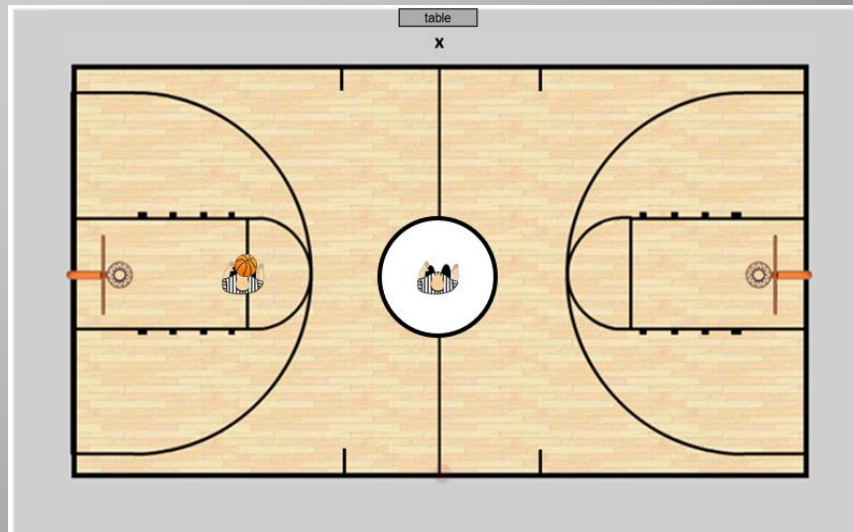
SPOT TABLESIDE



BETWEEN QUARTERS



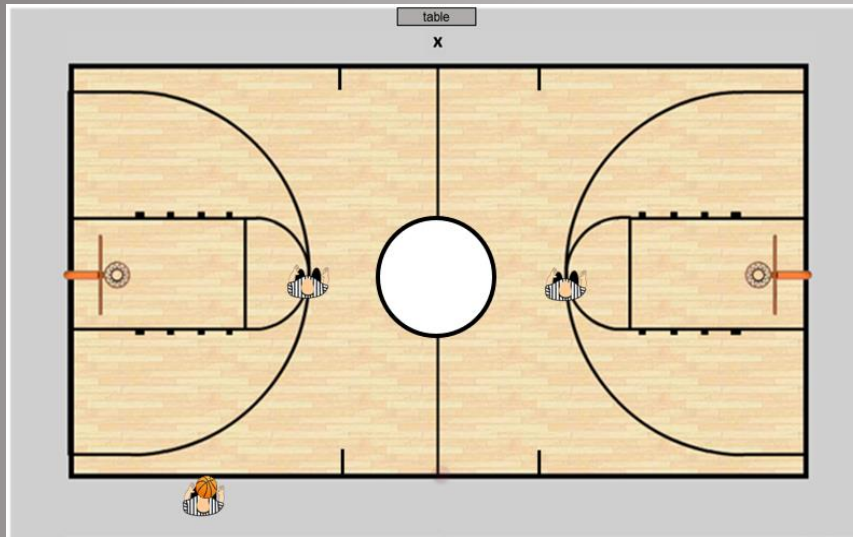
FREE THROW



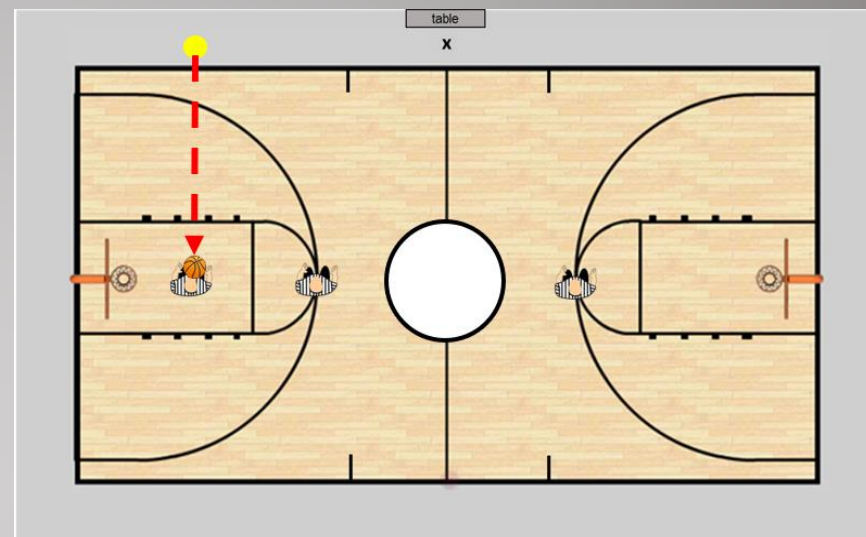
TIMEOUT POSITIONS – CREW OF 3

(When there are no cheerleaders / spirit participants)

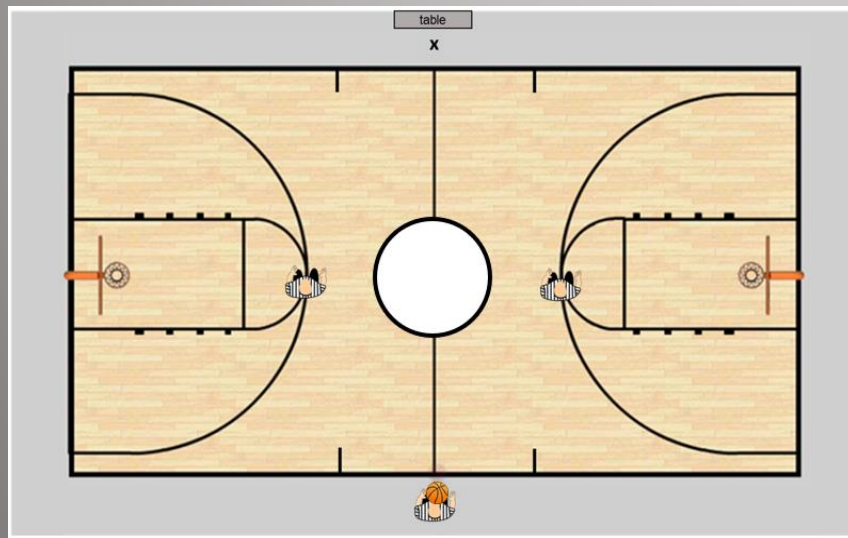
30-SEC, 60-SEC, INJURY



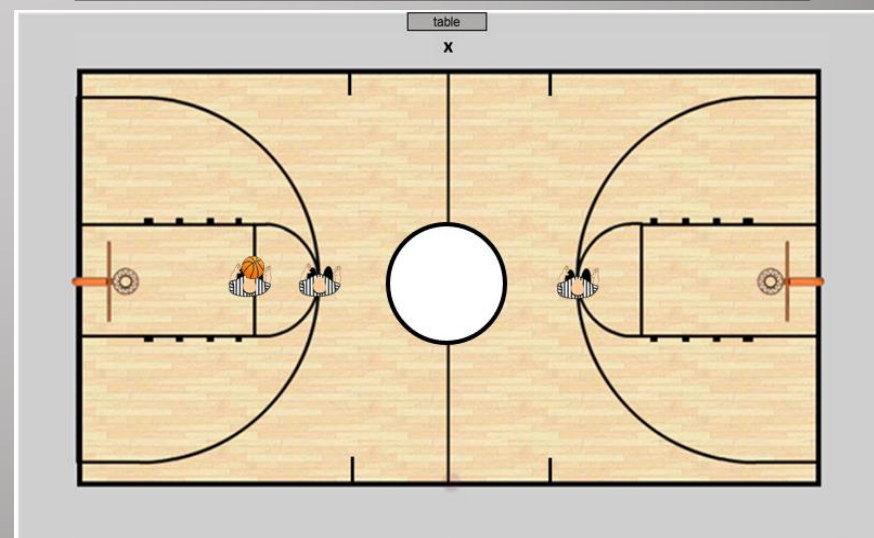
SPOT TABLESIDE



BETWEEN QUARTERS



FREE THROW

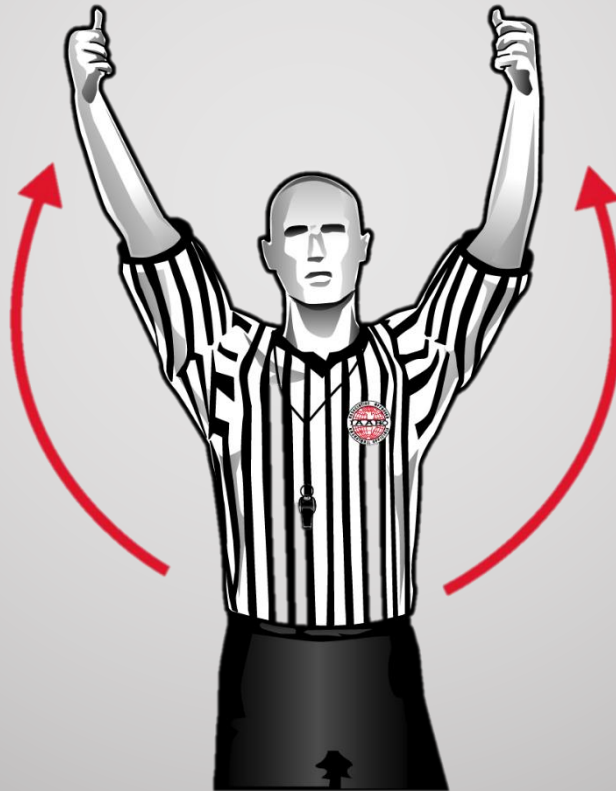


SIGNALS

HELD BALL SIGNALING



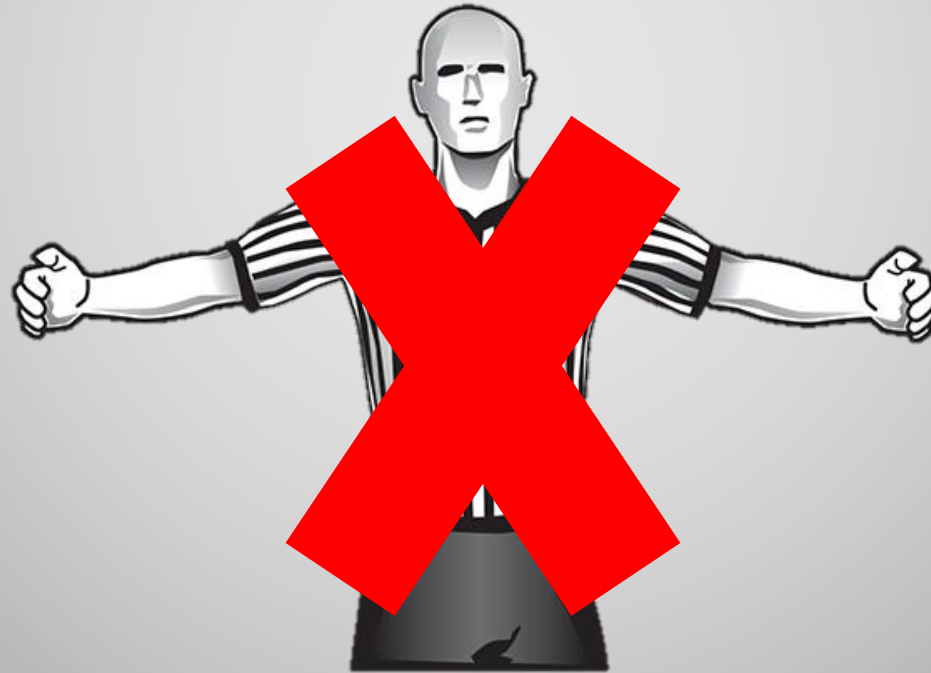
When a held ball occurs, officials shall stop clock by using Held Ball signal



NOT CLOSELY GUARDED SIGNAL



The “Not Closely Guarded” signal will not be utilized in Maine.



CLOCK AWARENESS/LAST SECOND TRY



In Crew of 2, The Trail is responsible for last second try. In Crew of 3, The official opposite the scorer's table is responsible for last second try.

Officials should not raise an index in the air with one minute remaining in a quarter or extra period.

Basic Position & Coverage Responsibilities

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c. When the clock is stopped and the ball is dead, with limited playing time remaining, communication between partners and table personnel is imperative.

17. Clock Awareness/Last Second Try

- After putting ball in play, check to see that clock is properly started.
- After each whistle check to see the clock has properly stopped.
- ~~One Minute Remaining - Recommend officials in crew raise an index finger in the air.~~
- The Trail official is primarily responsible for the last second try.
- ~~If the Trail official is not in the half of the court the try is attempted from, the official in that half of the court should assume responsibility.~~
- It is suggested that the official responsible for the last second try indicate responsibility by placing a hand on his/her chest.
- Officials should sound the whistle to signify the end of the quarter/period when ruling a try was NOT released prior to the sounding of the horn.

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Basic Position & Coverage Responsibilities

19. Clock Awareness/Last Second Try

- After putting ball in play, check to see that clock is properly started.
- After each whistle check to see clock has properly stopped.
- ~~One Minute Remaining - Recommend officials in crew raise an index finger in the air.~~
- The official opposite the scorer's table is responsible for the last second try. ~~If that official is not in the half of the court the try is attempted from, the official in that half of the court should assume responsibility.~~
- It is suggested that the official responsible for the last second try (Trail or Center) indicate responsibility by placing a hand on his/her chest.
- Officials should sound the whistle to signify the end of the quarter/period when ruling a try was NOT released prior to the sounding of the horn.

TABLE REPORT TO SCORER



Officials shall use “one hand” to indicate the number of the player who fouled to the official scorer.

Foul Procedures

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B. Reporting the foul

1. Proceed to the **reporting area** (hustle to and from, see page 68).
2. While moving to the reporting area observe the bench areas.
3. Stop, establish eye contact with the scorer prior to beginning the report.
4. If a successful field goal is involved signal to score the goal immediately.
5. Complete all communication with the table prior to acknowledging substitutions or time-out requests.
6. State the color of the jersey and the number of the player who fouled. ~~Simultaneously, using two hands (showing the first digit on the right hand and the second digit on the left hand) signal to indicate the number of the player who fouled.~~ Single digit numbers may be reported with either hand.
7. Verbalize the type of foul and give the appropriate signal. Use the same signal used at the spot of the foul.
8. If free throws are to be attempted, indicate the number of free throws.
9. If a team control foul, signal type of foul then signal team control.
10. While proceeding from the reporting area, the foul reporting official shall make eye contact with his/her partner and indicate the number of free throws awarded or indicate the throw-in spot.
11. If a player disqualification is involved, the ruling official has the

Foul Procedures

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1. Proceed to **reporting area** (hustle to and from, see page 68).
2. While moving to the reporting area observe the bench areas.
3. Stop, establish eye contact with the scorer prior to beginning the report.
4. If a successful field goal is involved signal to score the goal immediately.
5. Complete all communication with the table prior to acknowledging substitutions or time-out requests.
6. State the color of the jersey and the number of the player who fouled. ~~Simultaneously, using two hands (showing the first digit on the right hand and the second digit on the left hand) signal to indicate the number of the player who fouled.~~ Single digit numbers may be reported with either hand.
7. Verbalize the type of foul and give the appropriate signal. Use the same signal used at the spot of the foul.
8. If free throws are to be attempted, indicate the number of free throws.
9. If Team Control, first signal the type foul then signal team control.
10. While proceeding from the reporting area, the foul reporting official shall make eye contact with his/her partner and indicate the number of free throws awarded or indicate the throw-in spot.
11. If a player disqualification is involved, the ruling official has the option of going opposite side. If the ruling



RULES INTERPRETATIONS

RULES INTERPRETATIONS

The Following information and corresponding casebook plays were developed to address areas of the rules that do not have specific rules book or casebook coverage. We hope this information will give officials guidance needed for consistent rules enforcement in these areas. These interpretations are based on the best available information provided by the NFHS.

Play #1 – HAIR CONTROL DEVICES

3.5.4 SITUATION C: A-1 is wearing rubber, cloth or elastic bands with extensions to control his/her hair.

RULING: Illegal. Hair control devices shall be bands that do not include decorations such as extensions. Metal or hard plastic bands are also not legal.

COMMENT: “Knots” and “Extensions” created by the use of pre-wrap is considered legal.

Play #2 – 2-POINT or 3-POINT GOAL

4.41.4 SITUATION C: A-1 is behind the 3-point line near the top of the free throw semi-circle. A-1 attempts a diagonal pass to A-2, who is positioned outside the 3-pt. arc, near the end line. B-1, who is defending A-2 deflects the pass, which enters the basket.

RULING: Since the ball was not thrown in the general direction of the basket, this is a two-point goal. In order for a thrown ball to be ruled as a three-point goal, the ball must be thrown in the general direction of the basket.

Play #3 – 2-POINT or 3-POINT GOAL

4.41.4 SITUATION D: A-1 is outside the 3-pt. arc and attempts to make a chest pass into A-5 near the basket. B-5 reaches around A-5 and deflects the ball without A-5 touching the ball. The ball is deflected upward, strikes the backboard and passes through the goal.

RULING: Since the ball was not thrown in the general direction of the basket, this is a two-point goal. In order for a thrown ball to be ruled as a three-point goal, the ball must be thrown in the general direction of the basket.

CONTACT ABOVE SHOULDERS

The following information along with the 3 play situations are consistent with the most recent information we have received from the NFHS with regard to above the shoulder contact that involves a player's elbow.

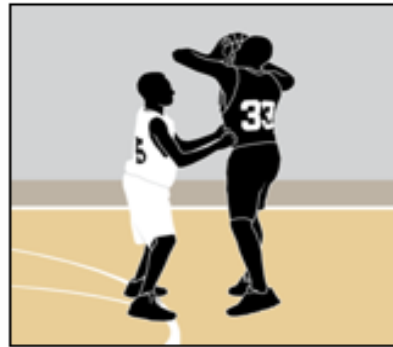
STATIONARY ELBOW

1. Contact with a stationary elbow may be incidental or a common foul.
 - a. A stationary elbow is defined as an elbow that is not moving faster than the rest of the player's torso. (Example: If A1, while holding the ball, pivots and his/her elbow contacts B1, the official ruling could be incidental contact or a player control foul.)



MOVING ELBOW

2. A moving elbow that is excessive can be either an intentional foul or flagrant personal foul.
 - a. If a player swings elbows excessively, faster than the rest of the player's torso, and contacts an opponent, it is at a minimum an intentional foul. If the contact is severe or the player 'measures up' the opponent, it is flagrant.



Play #4 – CONTACT ABOVE SHOULDERS

4.19.3 SITUATION G: A-1 jumps vertically to try for goal. A-1 makes inadvertent contact with B-1's head with his/her (A-1's) moving elbow as he/she (A-1) completes the try.

RULING: This is contact with a moving elbow that could be ruled to be incidental contact or a player control foul, depending on the situation.

Play #5 – CONTACT ABOVE SHOULDERS

4.19.3 SITUATION H: As A-1 and B-1 are both diving for a loose ball, B-1's dive causes his or her head to contact A-1's moving elbow.

RULING: If A-1's elbow is not moving faster than his/her body, this is contact with an elbow that is incidental contact, no foul.

Play #6 – CONTACT ABOVE SHOULDERS

4.19.3 SITUATION I: A-1 is running down the court and jumps to catch a pass. B1 jumps vertically to try to intercept the pass. As A-1 returns to the floor, he/she inadvertently contacts B-1 in the head with his/her elbow.

RULING: This is contact with a moving elbow, which could be ruled to be incidental contact or a common foul, depending on the situation.

CONTACT ABOVE SHOULDERS

Contact above the shoulders with a moving elbow may be incidental contact or may be ruled to be a personal, intentional or flagrant foul, depending on the situation.

Officials should be diligent and if there is any doubt, should rule the penalty to be the more severe of the choices he or she is contemplating.

Play #7 – ILLEGAL POSITION

4.23 SITUATION: (a) A-1 is dribbling or (b) A-1 secures a rebound. In both cases, A-1 trips over B-1 who is lying on the floor, causing A-1 to lose control of the ball.

RULING: Blocking foul on B-1 in both (a) and (b). To obtain an initial legal guarding position the guard must have both feet touching the playing court must be facing the opponent. Lying on the playing court is not considered a legal position.

Play #8 – HELD BALL

4.25.1 SITUATION: Must each opponent have two hands on the ball to cause a held ball?

RULING: NO. A held ball could occur if one or both opponents have one or both hands on the ball. When officials judge that the ball cannot be controlled by a player without causing **undue roughness**, a held ball should be called. This may (or may not) occur if opponents have one or both their hands on the ball.

Play #9 – SCREENER WIDE STANCE

4.40.2 SITUATION: B-1 sets a stationary screen with a stance wider than shoulder width apart. A-1 makes contact with B-1 (a) in the torso area or (b) in the leg area. In both cases, the contact prevents A-1 from reaching his/her desired position.

RULING: (a) It is considered a Legal Screen; in (b) a team control foul for blocking is charged to B-1. For the screener to be considered in a legal screening position, he or she must stay within his/her vertical plane with a stance no wider than approximately shoulder width apart unless contact is in the torso area of the screener.

Play #10 – WARNING FOR DELAY

4.47 SITUATION: A-1 has the ball out-of-bounds for an alternating possession (AP) throw-in when B-1 reaches through the boundary plane, without making contact with A-1 or the ball.

RULING: Team B is charged with a delay of game warning and play will be resumed with an AP throw-in awarded to Team A. The warning for delay of game supersedes the penalty for the defensive violation and thus the alternating possession arrow will be reversed when the throw-in ends (4-36-2a).

Play #11 – TEAM CONTROL / THROW-IN

4.12.2d SITUATION B: With 3.9 seconds remaining in the 4th quarter, A-1's throw-in pass is deflected by B-1 and the ball is loose on the court when an official inadvertently sounds his/her whistle. The game clock shows 3.3 seconds remaining in the game.

Play #11 – TEAM CONTROL / THROW-IN

RULING: Because the inadvertent whistle occurred when the ball was still in control of Team A, Team A will be awarded a throw-in, out-of-bounds at the spot nearest to where the ball was located when the whistle was sounded (4-36-2a).

Unless the Referee has definite information that the game clock did not start or stop properly, the game clock should remain at 3.3 seconds.

Play #12 – TEAM CONTROL / THROW-IN

4.12.2d SITUATION C: With 3.9 seconds remaining in the 4th quarter, A-1's throw-in pass is deflected by B-1. As A-2 and B-2 are attempting to retrieve the loose ball, A-2 illegally contacts B-2. Just after the whistle is blown, the ruling official glances at the clock and observes that there are 1.2 seconds on the clock. The timer does not properly stop the clock and time runs out for the quarter.

...

Play #12 – TEAM CONTROL / THROW-IN

RULING: A team control foul shall be charged to A2. Team B will be awarded a throw-in, out-of-bounds at the spot nearest to where the foul occurred (7-5-4a). Because officials have definite knowledge, the Referee may correct this obvious timing mistake. The officials know some time had elapsed between the whistle and when the clock was observed and should have the exact time observed placed back on the clock (5-10-1). In this scenario, the exact time observed was 1.2 seconds.

Play #13 – TEAM CONTROL / THROW-IN

4.12.2d SITUATION A: With 3.9 seconds remaining in the 4th quarter, A-1's throw-in pass is deflected into the air by B-1. While the ball is in the air, an official inadvertently sounds his or her whistle. After the whistle, the game clock still shows 3.9 seconds remaining in the quarter. ...

Play #13 – TEAM CONTROL / THROW-IN

RULING: The throw-in ended when the ball was legally touched inbounds (4-42-5a). While the ball remains live, a loose ball always remains in control of the team whose player last had control (4-12-4). In this case, Team A maintained control and they will be awarded a throw-in nearest to where the ball was located when the whistle was sounded (4-36-2a).

A ball in flight retains the same location as it was last in contact with a player on the court (4-4-3). The clock should have started when the ball was legally touched inbounds by B1 and should have stopped when the official sounded his/her whistle.

Play #13 – TEAM CONTROL / THROW-IN

If the clock still shows 3.9 seconds after the whistle, it is clear that the timer did not properly start the clock. The referee may only correct an obvious timing mistake by the timer to start or stop the clock properly when he/she has **definite information** relative to the time involved (5-10-1). An official's count or other official information may be used to make a correction (5-10-2).

In the play outlined above, there is no rule basis for any count to occur, as the throw-in count ended and no player on the court ever gained control of the ball. Since there is no count, the officials would have no rule support to take time off the clock. The clock shall remain at 3.9 seconds with Team A awarded a throw-in at the out-of-bounds spot nearest to where the ball was deflected by B-1.



Board #111 Members,

Please make the following edits in your Rulebooks & Casebooks;

Rulebook: 4.41.7 (page 41) Remove "or try for field goal"
10.6.1 Note (page 66) Add, "and any number of Assistant Coaches" after Head
Coach

Casebook: 3.5.4 Situation B (page 23) Ruling for C, should be Legal