

2025-26 NCAA COACHES' APPEALS AND CHALLENGES

Created by Jon M. Levinson, NCAA Women's Basketball Secretary-Rules Editor, and Jeff O'Malley, NCAA Men's Basketball Secretary-Rules Editor

Appeals (NCAAW and NCAAM): Teams may appeal an unlimited number of times and do not have to have timeouts remaining to appeal.

Challenges (NCAAM only): Teams must have a legal timeout remaining to challenge, which must be taken before the challenge. Each team has one challenge per game; when it results in an overturned ruling, the team receives a second (and final) challenge.

Common Appeals:

- Determine who shall attempt free throws when there is uncertainty.
- Determine whether a player fouled on an unsuccessful try shall be awarded two or three free throws.
- Determine whether officials permitted the wrong player to attempt free throws.
- Determine whether officials permitted a player to attempt free throws at the wrong basket.
- Determine whether a successful try was a two- or three-point goal.
- Prevent/rectify a scoring, bookkeeping, or alternating-possession arrow mistake.
- Determine whether a score was erroneously counted or canceled.
- Determine whether the ball was released on a successful try before the shot-clock period expired.
- Determine whether a timing mistake in starting/stopping the game clock occurred or the game clock malfunctioned.
- Determine whether a timing mistake in starting/stopping/setting/resetting the shot clock occurred or the shot clock malfunctioned.
- Determine, following the ruling of a contact foul by officials, whether a flagrant 1 or contact flagrant 2 foul (MBB: also, a contact dead-ball technical foul) occurred.
- Determine whether the officials erred and failed to rule a flagrant 1 or contact flagrant 2 foul (MBB: also, a contact dead-ball technical foul).
- Determine whether the officials charged a foul to the correct individual.
- Determine whether a goal shall count when a foul is committed by or against a teammate of the shooter ("off-ball" foul).
- Determine whether a foul or shot-clock violation occurred first.

WBB-only Appeals:

- Determine which team caused the ball to be out of bounds following an out-of-bounds ruling by the officials.
- Determine whether the ruling of a backcourt violation was correct.
- Determine whether free throws shall be awarded when a foul is committed in close proximity to a change of team control.

MBB-only Challenges:

- Determine which team caused the ball to be out of bounds following an out-of-bounds ruling by the officials
- Until the last two minutes of the game, to determine, following the ruling of a foul, whether a secondary defender was located within the restricted area, or to determine whether a ruled goaltending or basket-interference violation was correct.