As we enter the start of the 2021-22 men’s basketball season, please note the comments, interpretations and case plays that appear below that are intended to follow up on the clinics that were conducted earlier.

1. Technology on the Bench – The Men’s Basketball Rules Committee continues to permit more technology on the bench to ensure that our game continues to advance and to enable coaches to provide additional coaching techniques to the players.

   This season, the rules allow for electronically transmitted stats to be transmitted to the bench area. This is a rule adopted by the rules committee and no waivers are necessary. The only requirement for officials is to ensure that both teams have access to the electronic transmission of the stats. Otherwise, the officials should direct the home institution to disconnect the electronic transmission of the stats to the one remaining team and to deliver paper stats to both teams unless the one team without the electronic transmission agrees to receive paper stats while the other team receives electronic stats.

   In addition to the “live stats” rule, the rules committee also has approved the use of an experimental rule involving “live video/pre-loaded video” in the bench area for coaching purposes. Numerous conferences have received waivers to use the experimental rule during conference games and conference post-season tournament games only. As in the case of the “live stats” rule, officials may be advised by a coach that they are unable to receive the live videos electronically. If this situation arises, the officials should instruct game management to disable the electronic transmission to the one remaining team until such time as it is available to both teams.

2. COVID-19 Waivers – A list of permissive COVID-19 waivers similar to those issued last season is available to all institutions. The list can be found on the Arbiter website or on the ncaa.org men’s basketball playing rules page linked here. It may be worthwhile to for you to carry a copy with you to games for reference if needed.

3. Rules Book Corrections – Please note the following corrections to the 2021-22 Men’s Basketball Rules Book:
A. Page 5, “Resetting the shot clock” – Change “20” to “30.”
B. Page 26, Rule 1-22.7.b.3 – Change “horizontally” to “vertically.”
C. Page 34 – Rule 2-10.9 – Change first “20” to “15.”
D. Page 64 – Rule 5-14.2 – After “timeout” add “or stoppage of play by an official for an” Instant Replay.”
E. Page 69 – Rule 6-4.1.d – Replace “either team commits” with “both teams commit.”

4. Case Book Corrections – Please note the following corrections to the 2021-22 Men’s Basketball Case Book:

A. A.R. 13 – In the play situation, Add after “wearing”, “any type of glove on the hand”. In Ruling – Add after “remove the”, “glove(s),” and again before “jewelry before “jewelry or socks” and again before “jewelry” in the fourth line. Add 1-26.9 to the rule reference.
B. A.R. 61 – Replace all 15 second references with 20 second references.
C. A.R. 98 – In “Ruling” change “B” to “A.”
D. A.R. 123 – In “Ruling” after “but”, add the word “no” and add “s” to “throw.”
E. A.R. 128 – Delete “at the division Line” and replace with “using the procedures in Rule 7-3.2.”
F. A.R. 130 – Rewrite of Ruling – “When the technical fouls assessed against A1 and B1 occur during the same dead ball period, the technical fouls are charged but no free throws are awarded. Play shall resume at the point of interruption which in this case, is the awarding of the ball to the team favored by the Alternating-Possession arrow using the procedures in Rule 7-3.2 to start the second period. These fouls shall count toward the team foul count and toward an individual's disqualification and ejection.”
G. A.R. 274 – In “Ruling” Replace “free throws” with “fouls.”
I. A.R. 338 – Replace “either period” with “the second period” and add after “or the last two minutes of any over time period.”

5. Rules Interpretations – The following rules were discussed at the clinics and on the rules video viewed by coaches and officials:
A. Flopping – Flopping occurs when a player fakes being fouled. While flopping normally occurs on block/charge plays, jump shooters returning to the floor and when a dribbler uses a “head bob”, it is not limited to these three plays. These principles should apply:
1. If the contact in question is sufficient for a foul, call the foul regardless of any embellishment by the defender.

2. If, in the opinion of the official, the contact does not constitute a foul and the defender flops, stop the game and issue a delay warning to the offending team per Rule 4-10.2 (or assess a Class B technical after a warning has been issued). Report the warning to the scorer and to the head coach of the offending player.

B. Traveling – With regard to three specific basketball moves (the spin, the Euro-step, and the step back), the determination as to whether a moving player has executed a legal play or has committed a violation is based on the player's feet when the player picks up (controls) the ball. If the player picks up the ball with one foot on the floor, that foot is the pivot foot and the player may jump off that foot and land simultaneously on both feet. In this case, neither foot can be the pivot.

Per Rule 9-5.4.a and A.R. 216 and 218, on plays where the location of the foot at the time of ending the dribble is uncertain, the benefit of the doubt should rest with the dribbler having made a legal play by ending the dribble with two feet off the floor. This would result in most spin moves, Euro-steps, and step backs being legal as long as no other violation was committed during the play. In situations where the official is certain that a foot was clearly on the floor when the dribbler picked up (controlled) his dribble, the traveling provisions of Rule 9-5.4 should be enforced.

C. Instant Replay / Out of Bounds, Goaltending and Basket Interference - Per Rule 11-2.1.e.1 and .3, Instant Replay is permitted to review out of bounds plays and basket interference plays under certain situations:

1. Out of bounds
   a. Only permitted in the last two minutes of the second period or in the last two minutes of any overtime period;
   b. Review is only permitted when an out of bounds call has been made;
   c. Officials may determine if the ball went out of bounds and who caused the ball to be out of bounds.

2. Goaltending/Basket Interference - In addition, Rule 11-2.1.e.3 now permits basket interference/goaltending calls to be reviewed using Instant Replay but only in the last two minutes of the second period or the last two minutes of any overtime period when a goaltending/basket
interference decision has been made. All scoring, timing and possession
decisions resulting from these reviews are set forth in this rule and in
A.R. 256.

D. Post Play – Per Rule 4-29, a “post player is any offensive or defensive player in
the post area with his back to the basket.” The post area is defined as the area
inside the lane plus the area approximately three feet outside the lane. When
either the offensive post player or the post defender or both are in the post area,
the defensive post player may use one arm bar on the back of the offensive post
player per Rule 10-1.5.d.

E. Basket Interference/Throw Ins – Please review A.R. 256 which requires basket
interference to be called on a throw-in by Team A that is subsequently touched
by either a Team A or a Team B player while the throw-in is in the cylinder.

F. Free Throws – Rule 10-1 Penalty f., g. and h. outlines when free throws are shot
when there are multiple fouls committed. Rule 10-1 Penalty h. includes a change
which attempts to eliminate free throws when they occur during a stopped-clock
period and the penalties are equal. Review A.R.s 270, 271 and 274. In addition,
note that the determination as to penalties being equal applies to situations
where one foul only is charged to each team. If the penalties are not equal, the
free throws shall be administered. For instance, if during a dead ball, Team A
and Team B are both charged with a Class A technical and then Team A is
charged with a Class B technical, the first two Class A technicals would cancel
because the penalties are equal. A subsequent dead ball technical would be
penalized separately and play resumed at the point of interruption unless the
penalty for the subsequent technical included possession of the ball.

G. Instant Replay – Rule 11-2.1.d.1 – Please review A.R. 333 and especially the
resumption of play by using the Alternating Possession Arrow.

H. Courtside Video Boards – Video boards along the sideline are becoming more
popular and the question arises as to when the video board can be changed
during live play without distracting players. At this time there are no restrictions
as to the timing of changes in the video boards, but the rules committee will
continue to monitor this situation.
I. Fouls with three-tenths of a second or less remaining in a period - Please review A.R. 120. If a foul occurs with three-tenths of a second or less, the period is over unless the foul was a flagrant 1 or flagrant 2 personal foul.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions at art.hyland@comcast.net.

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