



# BASKETBALL

## 2024-25 NCAA MEN'S BASKETBALL INTERPRETATIONS AND CASE PLAYS By Jeff O'Malley, Secretary-Rules Editor NCAA Men's Basketball Rules Committee January 7, 2025

*[Note: Shaded areas indicate new or altered language from the December 23 version of the interpretations and case plays document.]*

Please note the comments, interpretations and case plays that appear below are intended to correct or to provide additional clarity around the playing rules or case plays.

### Rules Book Corrections

- There are no corrections to the rules book at this time.

### Case Book Corrections

- A.R. 4-39 – RULING should read, “By A2 and A3 locking arms both players are not in legal guarding position.”
- A.R. 5-14 – RULING should read, “This is a loose ball player control foul by an airborne shooter. The goal shall be cancelled even though the foul may have occurred after the goal. Even if Team B is in the bonus, B1 shall not be entitled to free throws.”
- A.R. 9-35 – The following should be included: *NOTE: When an official rules that a 10-second backcourt violation has occurred but is late in making the ruling (blowing the whistle) and the backcourt violation causes the ball to become dead, there shall be no adjustment made to the game clock (as no timing mistake has occurred).*

### Interpretations

- PLAY - With 0.4 seconds on the game clock, A1 jumps and releases a try for goal. After the horn sounds and before A1 has returned to the floor, B1 fouls A1. Upon review, officials see that A1's last foot was out of bounds before jumping to release the shot.

RULING – Because A1's last foot was out of bounds and the foul occurred after the expiration of the period, the officials should ignore the foul (unless it is flagrant). The play

is handled this way whether or not the ball enters the basket. Team B should be awarded the ball at the spot of the violation with the exact time on the game clock.

- **PLAY** – During a dead ball, A1 combatively throws the ball at B1 and the ball strikes B1.  
**RULING** – A1 shall be charged with a dead ball contact technical foul. Team B shall be awarded two free throws and Team B shall be awarded the ball for a throw in according to the procedures in Rule 7-3.2.

#### Shot and Game Clock Adjustments for Violations

**This is being reposted from last year as a reminder and with updated Approved Ruling citations.**

The **general rule** for clock adjustments after violations for timing errors when the clock is running is to adjust the clock to the point where the official blows the whistle and signals for the game clock to be stopped. (See Rule 11-2.1.c.1.d) This does not include timing errors where the clock was erroneously started, started late or not started at all. The following is a list of relevant rules and previously issued interpretations on the subject. Officials should review all rules and interpretations located in the NCAA Men's Basketball 2024-25 Rules and Case Books.

#### **Exceptions –**

1. For out-of-bounds violations, the official shall determine the elapsed time before the game clock stopped from the time the ball actually hit out of bounds. (Rule 11-2.1.c.1.d)
2. In the last two minutes of the second period or the last two minutes of any overtime period, if a shot clock violation occurs, the official shall determine the correct time to be put back on the game clock from the time the shot-clock violation actually occurred. (Rule 11-2.1.c.1.e)
3. Immediate reviews for basket interference/goaltending, clock shall be reset to time the violation occurred or when official thought the violation occurred. (Rule 11-2.1.b.6)
4. A shot clock violation that is not called on the floor but called at the monitor shall have the clock set to the time when the violation occurred. Since there was no violation called on the floor the general rule cannot apply. For example, there is a shot, no whistle, successful goal and then a whistle for a monitor review to determine if the shot was released before the shot-clock period expired. Since the violation was not called on the floor but was called at the monitor, the clock shall be set to the time of the actual violation. *Note that this interpretation is not new and was originally provided as an interpretation in 2016.*

In addition, please review the following Approved Rulings in the NCAA Men's Basketball 2024-25 Case Book on this subject as these are very specific scenarios. Approved Rulings – 5-29, 9-35, 11-13, 11-14, 11-15, 11-16 and 11-17.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions at [omalley.sre@gmail.com](mailto:omalley.sre@gmail.com).

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