

## 2025-26 NCAA MEN'S BASKETBALL INTERPRETATIONS AND CASE PLAYS By Jeff O'Malley, Secretary-Rules Editor NCAA Men's Basketball Rules Committee September 17, 2025

[Note: Shaded areas will indicate new or altered language from the previous versions of the interpretations and case plays document.]

## **Rules Book Corrections**

- Rule 5-11.5 Delete "or to determine if a defender was in or out of the Restricted Area in the last two minutes of the second period or the last two minutes of any overtime period."
- Rule 5-14.17 Should read, "Bands/amplified music are permitted to play or be played only during any timeout, intermission, during an Instant Replay review by the officials or during dead ball periods when the clock is stopped."
- Rule 7-2.3.b Should read, "A member of their team's bench personnel physically contacts their player with the ball to direct them to move in a different direction or to stop."
- Delete 10-4.1.g
- Rule 11-4.1.3 Should read, "Until the last two minutes of regulation, after a called foul involving a secondary defender, to determine if the secondary defender was in the restricted area."

## **Case Book Corrections**

• A.R. 10-6 **RULING** should read "This play may be reviewable in the last two minutes of regulation and the entire overtime period(s).

- A.R. 11-10 **RULING** add as the second sentence "**This play has to be a coach's** challenge prior to the last two minutes of regulation, after that the officials can review on their own."
- A.R. 11-35 should read:
  - A1 picks up the dribble in the backcourt near the sideline and is trapped by B1 and B2. B1 has a foot on the sideline and slaps the ball away from A1. Immediately after slapping the ball, B1 moves the out of bounds foot inbounds and the ball goes off A1's knee and out of bounds. The official rules that the ball went off of A1 and award Team B the ball. Team A's coach calls timeout and challenges the play.

RULING: The officials may use instant replay to determine which player caused the ball to be out of bounds. In this case, B1 caused the ball to be out of bounds when he touched the ball while standing on the sideline. B1's standing out of bounds and slapping the ball off A1's knee is all part of the same play. Thus, it falls within the scope and intent of the rule and allows the officials to make the appropriate decision as to which player caused the ball to be out of bounds. However, while the officials are at the monitor, if they see that the two acts were separated by time and were not part of the same act, the officials may not reofficiate the prior act of a player being out of bounds.

(Rules 11-2.1.e, 11-1.4.c, 11-4 and 7-1.2)