



REPORT OF THE
NCAA MEN'S BASKETBALL RULES COMMITTEE
MAY 3-4, 2023, ANNUAL MEETING

ACTION ITEMS.

1. Legislative items.

- None.

2. Nonlegislative items. The NCAA Men's Basketball Rules Committee approved eleven rules change proposals for the 2023-24 season and two experimental rules change proposals. The Men's Basketball Rules Committee requests approval from the NCAA Playing Rules Oversight Panel for the following items.

a. Rule 1-19.4 (Shot clock lights).

- (1) Recommendation. To permit, but not require, amber lights on the shot clock and/or an amber strip at the top of the backboard only to signal the end of a shot-clock period.
- (2) Effective date. Immediately.
- (3) Rationale. To address games played in facilities with this equipment and provide another visual tool for officials to recognize when a shot-clock violation has occurred.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. None.

b. Rule 1-22.7 (Uniforms).

- (1) Recommendation. To permit additional uniform options, including identifying names of the institution, allowing more space for logos on the jersey front, allowing numbers 0 or 00 through 99, and permitting religious headwear to be worn without a waiver of the playing rule provided it is safe for competition.
- (2) Effective date. Immediately.
- (3) Rationale. To provide institutions with more uniform options without making previous uniforms illegal. It also eliminates the waiver process that was previously required for a student-athlete to wear religious headwear.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. Enhances student-athlete experience.

c. Rules 2-11.6.b and 2-11.6.c (Shot clock reset).

(1) Recommendation. To establish that anytime the ball hits the rim (a pass, deflection or a shot) and the offense retains possession in its frontcourt, the shot clock will reset to 20 seconds. Anytime the ball hits the rim and the offense retains possession in its backcourt, the shot clock will reset to 30 seconds.

(2) Effective date. Immediately.

(3) Rationale. This change makes it easier for officials on the floor because they will no longer need to determine if the action is a legal try for goal or a pass (e.g., alley-oop plays).

(4) Estimated budget impact. None.

(5) Student-athlete impact. None.

d. Rule 4-17.4.d (Legal guarding position).

(1) Recommendation. To establish legal guarding position on an airborne player with the ball, the defender must establish legal guarding position before the opponent places the last foot on the floor (i.e., plant foot) prior to becoming airborne.

(2) Effective date. Immediately.

(3) Rationale. The goal of this rules change is to reduce the number of charges and collisions that occur around the basket by allowing the offensive player more time to adjust to defensive movements.

(4) Estimated budget impact. None.

(5) Student-athlete impact. None.

e. New Rule 5-14.1 (Coach request reviews).

(1) Recommendation. To require when a coach requests an out of bounds play to be reviewed under two minutes in the second period and in the last two minutes of any extra period that team will be charged a timeout if the original call is not overturned.

(2) Effective date. Immediately.

(3) Rationale. An out of bounds request is the only review that a coach can request in the last two minutes of the second period and in the last two minutes of any extra period that does not result in a charged timeout if not overturned.

(4) Estimated budget impact. None.

(5) Student-athlete impact. None.

f. Rule 5-15.1.c (Timeout).

(1) Recommendation. To allow a timeout to be granted when a player has possession of the ball even though the player is airborne.

(2) Effective date. Immediately.

(3) Rationale. In the past, players were able to request a timeout while airborne. An example would be an airborne player grabbing a loose ball and calling timeout before landing out of bounds. The rules committee concluded that if a player had possession of the ball, they should be entitled to request a timeout.

(4) Estimated budget impact. None.

(5) Student-athlete impact. None.

g. Rule 10-1 PENALTY (Flagrant 1 fouls).

(1) Recommendation. To establish that if a player commits three Flagrant 1 fouls in a game, the player would be disqualified.

(2) Effective date. Immediately.

(3) Rationale. Flagrant 1 fouls are personal fouls that are deemed to be more serious than common fouls. Presently, it would be possible for a player to commit up to five Flagrant 1 fouls before disqualification. As such, the rules committee decided given the severity of flagrant fouls, Flagrant 1 fouls should not be treated the same as a common foul. *(Note: Currently, any Flagrant 2 foul results in an automatic ejection.)*

(4) Estimated budget impact. None.

(5) Student-athlete impact. None.

h. Rule 10-4.2.d (Live/preloaded video).

(1) Recommendation. To permit, but not require, the transmission of live video to the bench area for coaching purposes.

(2) Effective date. Immediately.

(3) Rationale. For the past two seasons, the rules committee permitted conferences to experiment with the transmission of live video data to the bench. This experimentation

was met with positive feedback from the coaches and other stakeholders who utilized the rule.

(4) Estimated budget impact. Varies depending on the type of equipment and devices being used.

(5) Student-athlete impact. None.

i. Rule 10-4.2.j (Peacekeeper).

(1) Recommendation. To permit all non-student bench personnel to leave the bench area to assist in preventing a potential fight/altercation.

(2) Effective date. Immediately.

(3) Rationale. Presently, only the head coach is permitted to leave the bench area to assist in preventing a potential fight/altercation. Depending on the situation, there may be bench personnel who are in a better position to prevent a fight/altercation from escalating.

(4) Estimated budget impact. None.

(5) Student-athlete impact. None.

j. Rule 11-2.1.b (Goaltending/basket interference).

(1) Recommendation. To allow officials the opportunity to review goaltending/basket interference calls during the next media timeout to ensure the call was accurate so long as the official makes the goaltending/basket interference call on the floor. If there is a foul on the shooter while the ball is in the air with a goaltend/basket interference, the review will be immediate to properly adjudicate the potential free throws. *(Note: Under four minutes remaining in the second period and the entire overtime period(s), these reviews will be conducted immediately.)*

(2) Effective date. Immediately.

(3) Rationale. Goaltending/basket interference is one of the most challenging plays to officiate, and these violations directly result in either awarding or disallowing points. The rules committee concluded that it was imperative to review these plays. *(Note: These reviews will be consistent with how officials currently review whether a successful try is a two- or a three-point try.)*

(4) Estimated budget impact. None.

(5) Student-athlete impact. None.

k. New Rule 11-2.1.d.1 (Fouls as a result of a flagrant acts).

(1) Recommendation. To establish that if a player is called for a foul, and upon Instant Replay the officials see that the foul is a direct result of a Flagrant 1 or Flagrant 2 foul committed against the player who was originally assessed a foul, officials may remove the original foul on the player who was flagrantly fouled.

(2) Effective date. Immediately.

(3) Rationale. This change will provide officials the opportunity to remove a foul from a player if they determine that the foul was a direct result of a player being flagrantly fouled (i.e., a defensive player is flagrantly pushed into the offensive player with the ball by another offensive player).

(4) Estimated budget impact. None.

(5) Student-athlete impact. None.

l. Rule 5-10.c (Media timeout format).

(1) Recommendation. To allow conferences that have five media marks in the second half to utilize a standard media timeout format with media breaks at the 17-, 14-, 11-, 8- and 4-minute marks. The rules committee is not prepared to make this change during the rules change year with only a limited sample size based on the experimental rule last year. The rules committee would request permission to explore this as a potential rules change next year during the non-change year based on two full years of experimental data/feedback.

(2) Effective date. Immediately.

(3) Rationale. This experimental rule is designed to help standardized the traditional "floater" media mark in the second half. The goal of this experimental rule is to not have those back-to-back media breaks which often create a choppy flow to the game.

(4) Estimated budget impact. None.

(5) Student-athlete impact. None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. **Opening remarks and review of meeting schedule.** The Men's Basketball Rules Committee chair welcomed those rules committee members attending in person and virtually. The chair also thanked the invited guests for their time and insights they will share with the committee. The chair reviewed the Men's Basketball Rules Committee's scope of responsibilities as well as the timeline for the annual meeting.
2. **Review committee operations manual.** The Men's Basketball Rules Committee reviewed the operations manual and noted the voting procedures and conflict of interest policy.
3. **Review of 2022 annual meeting report, June 2, 2022, and February 2, 2023, videoconference reports.** The Men's Basketball Rules Committee reviewed and approved the reports as written.
4. **NCAA injury surveillance data and report.** The Director of the NCAA Injury Surveillance Program met with the rules committee to review the results of the 2023 injury surveillance report. It was noted that the lack of participation from member institutions was a direct result of challenges within athletics training departments coming out of the pandemic. However, participation numbers are again trending upwards and continued work is being done to increase participation to pre-pandemic levels.
5. **Review 2023 rules survey.** Staff and the secretary rules-editor reviewed the results of the annual rules survey. Of note, the Men's Basketball Rules Committee was concerned with the overall response rate with only 39 percent of head coaches responding to the survey which was slightly up from the previous year. Staff will continue to work closely with the Division I men's basketball conference administrators in an effort to promote a greater return rate from the Division I head coaches on future surveys.
6. **NCAA Division I Men's Basketball Competition Committee and Men's Basketball Oversight Committee reports.** The chair of the Men's Basketball Competition Committee thanked the Men's Basketball Rules Committee for the opportunity to present the discussions from the Men's Basketball Competition Committee. The Men's Basketball Competition Committee met during the NCAA Final Four as well on April 2. The competition committee chair reported the following recommendations from the Men's Basketball Competition Committee:
 - a. Providing more flexibility around the uniforms while protecting the integrity of the uniform and number. The competition committee preferred to keep the current uniform number rules in place.
 - b. Permit bench personnel to leave the bench area to serve as peacekeepers in potential fight/altercation situations.

- c. Assess just a one-shot foul to the offended player when there is an off-ball foul while the ball is in the air and the try is successful.
 - d. Allow live music to be played during all dead-ball situations.
 - e. Permit the transmission of live/preloaded video to the bench area for coaching purposes.
 - f. In order to establish legal guarding position on an airborne player with the ball, the defender must establish legal guarding position before the opponent places the last foot on the floor (i.e., plant foot) prior to becoming airborne.
 - g. Consider experimenting with advancing the ball.
 - h. Consider experimenting again with a standard media break format for conference and NIT games with five media marks in the second half. The breaks would occur at the 17-, 14-, 11, 8-, and 4-minute marks.
7. **Conference coordinator of official's report.** Mike Eades, coordinator of officials for the Southeastern Conference, thanked the Men's Basketball Rules Committee for allowing the coordinators to be represented at the meetings. Mike Eades reported that the coordinators recommended the Men's Basketball Rules Committee consider rules topics including:
- a. Supported a change to legal guarding position that would require the defensive player in position prior to the plant foot in order to take a charge.
 - b. Supported a peacekeeper rule to allow bench personnel to intervene in a potential fight/altercation.
 - c. Exploring our current Flagrant 1 rules as currently, a player could receive up to five Flagrant 1 fouls before that player would be disqualified which does not seem to be the right place to be.
 - d. Supported resetting the shot clock to 20 seconds anytime the ball hits the rim and the offensive team retains possession in the front court.
 - e. There should be no basket interference/goaltending on an out of bounds play as it is not a valid shot.
8. **Active officials report.** Bert Smith, an active Division I men's basketball official, thanked the Men's Basketball Rules Committee for allowing him to represent college basketball officials at the meeting. The active official provided several suggestions, including the following:

- a. All resets in the back court should be 30 seconds, currently a kickball situation in the back court does not reset to 30 seconds.
 - b. Allow a defensive player the opportunity to use an arm bar anywhere on the floor provided that the offensive player has their back to the defender.
9. **NCAA national coordinator of men's basketball official's report.** The national coordinator of men's basketball officials reviewed the successes and challenges during his first year. The national coordinator also discussed moving back to in-person preseason officiating clinics and the importance that in-person meetings have on improving officiating nationally. The national coordinator also noted block/charge calls are some of the most challenging for officials and to provide officials more time by moving to the plant foot for defensive legal guarding position will improve the accuracy of those calls.

The Men's Basketball Rules Committee noted the continued improvements and requested that the national coordinator continue the efforts by coordinators and officials over the past several years to reduce physicality. The rules committee will review the national coordinator's officiating directives at an upcoming rules committee videoconference.

10. **Secretary-rules editor report.** The secretary-rules editor reviewed several reports including an historical document summarizing rules changes and statistics dating back to 1947, the rules interpretations document and the annual meeting rules discussion document.

In addition to the approved proposed rules changes, the secretary-rules editor reviewed several rules interpretations and clarifications as well as discussed several rules topics that have been shared during the 2022-23 season which are summarized below:

- a. Advancing the ball. The Men's Basketball Rules Committee discussed the concept of advancing the ball in the last two minutes of the second half and in the last two minutes of overtime as was recommended from the competition committee as a potential experimental rule. The rules committee did not support experimenting with advancing the ball. There was no interest in awarding the offense a possession with the ball in their front court in exchange for a timeout.
- b. Basket interference/goaltending on a throw-in. Currently, basket interference/goaltending may occur on a throw-in even though a player cannot score directly out of bounds. The rules committee discussed a potential change to this rule which would allow the offense or defense to grab the ball off the rim directly from a throw-in. Even though there is an inconsistency in the rule, the rules committee felt that the current way the rule is written is the best way to adjudicate the play.
- c. Flopping. The rules committee reviewed the rules change from last year on eliminating the warning before assessing a Class B technical foul for flopping.

Overall, the committee felt that the change helped limit the number of flops seen in the game. The committee admitted that plays around the post are challenging but flopping around the perimeter as well as the head bob are no longer a major issue in attempting to deceive officials.

- d. Live music. The rules committee discussed aligning with the women's rule which permits live music to be played during any dead-ball situation. The rules committee expressed some concern over music or sound effects being played between free throw attempts and not shutting off the music in time which could cause additional in-game distractions. Ultimately, the rules committee did not support moving this proposal forward.
- e. Off-ball foul on a made basket. The committee discussed the current rule that when an off-ball foul occurs while the ball is in the air and the shot is successful the basket counts plus potentially possession of the ball or foul shots depending on the bonus scenario. The NBA rule would assess a one shot for the off-ball player that is fouled. The committee did not want to adopt the NBA rule for this play as it rarely happens and when it does, they did not want to limit the number of potential points.
- f. Official jurisdiction. The rules committee addressed an inconsistency in the rules about when official jurisdiction ends. The rules committee determined that the officials have jurisdiction until they leave the floor at the conclusion of the game.
- g. Required ring testing. The rules committee discussed eliminating the required ring testing for Division I. There was not consensus support to eliminate that requirement for Division I.
- h. Shot clock with tenths of a second. The committee determined that officials should use the 20 seconds on the shot clock even with clocks that have tenths of a second that appears under five seconds remaining on the shot clock when determining back court violations when the shot clock begins at 30 seconds.
- i. Six fouls. The rules committee again discussed potentially adding an additional personal foul to increase from five fouls to six for disqualification. The committee did not support for changing the current personal foul rules to permit an additional foul at this time.
- j. Standard Media timeout format. The rules committee approved an experimental rule to allow conferences as well as the NIT to standardize the five media breaks in the second half by designating the breaks to occur at the 17, 14-, 11-, 8-, and 4-minute marks. This is designed to help prevent the back-to-back media breaks in a short period of time that often creates a choppy flow in the game.

- k. Tobacco policy. The accordance with the PROP directive on tobacco, the rules committee amended the inconsistency within the rules around tobacco. If a student-athlete or team or game personnel use tobacco during a game, they will be disqualified for the remainder of the game.
 - l. Widen lane. The rules committee is concerned with block/charge plays around the basket. The rules committee is requesting to the NIT Board permission to experiment with a 16-foot lane which mirrors the NBA and FIBA lanes. The additional space will provide more room for players to drive and the two additional feet of space on either side of the lane will require defensive players to move further in order to be in position in time to legal take a charge. Given the potential financial impact around this change, the rules committee would like to begin experimenting during a non-change year to obtain additional feedback heading into the upcoming rules change cycle.
11. **Review results of rules experiments.** The secretary-rules editor reviewed the results of the experimental rules for the 2022-23 season. The Men's Basketball Rules Committee approved two experimental rules for the 2022-23 season. Over 20 Division I conferences, one Division III conference and the National Invitation Tournament experimented with live video in the bench area. Conferences and the NIT were permitted to experiment with live and preloaded video in the bench area. The feedback from the teams and conferences who experimented was positive and they supported the idea of implementing video in the future. Based on the positive feedback and in collaboration with the Women's Basketball Rules Committee, the committees are both recommending with moving forward a permissive rules change proposal to permit the transmission of live video to the bench area. It should be noted that preloaded video is already permitted in the women's game but will be included in the men's proposal.
- The rules committee also reviewed the results of the standard media timeout format experimental rule. One Division I conference and the NIT experimented with the standard media timeout format which helped to standardize the five media breaks in the second half by designating the breaks to occur at the 17, 14-, 11-, 8-, and 4-minute marks. This is designed to help prevent the back-to-back media breaks in a short period of time that often creates a choppy flow in the game. Based on the initial feedback, it helped ensure full inventory was obtained and also helped better time promotional activities because game day operations staff knew when those breaks were going to occur which is not as easy to plan around the first called timeout in the second half. The rules committee would like another year to explore this experimental rule during the regular season and NIT and would request for permission to explore this change during the non-change year.
12. **Division I Men's Basketball Competition Committee and Division I Men's Basketball Oversight Committee.** Dan Gavitt, NCAA senior vice president of basketball, joined the meeting and complimented Men's Basketball Rules Committee's and the officiating community's collaborative efforts to continue to make significant positive impact in the

game of college basketball. Dan Gavitt supported the continual exploration of technology and how it can be used to improve our game. The rules committee discussed a few of the topics and specifically how the changes around technology would be incorporated in the Division I men's basketball tournament.

13. **National Association of Basketball Coaches and Men's Basketball Rules Committee joint meeting.** As in previous years, the Men's Basketball Rules Committee met jointly with the National Association of Basketball Coaches board of directors. The meeting has become an effective annual event to exchange ideas about the rules of college basketball. The rules committee was able to discuss potential rules change proposals with the NABC board that the rules committee was considering for additional feedback before the rules committee voted on those proposals.
14. **Men's Basketball Rules Committee/NCAA Women's Basketball Rules Committee joint meeting agenda.** The Men's Basketball Rules Committee chair and secretary-rules editor conducted joint meetings with the chair and secretary-rules editor from the Women's Basketball Rules Committee to discuss rules changes both committees were considering so that both groups aligned where it made sense for both committees.
15. **Election of the chair.** The Men's Basketball Rules Committee elected Paul Brazeau to serve as the Men's Basketball Rules Committee chair for the 2023-24 academic year.
16. **Future virtual and in-person meeting dates.** The Men's Basketball Rules Committee was reminded of the following future meeting schedule:
 - a. October 2023 (videoconference) – To be determined.
 - b. December 2023 (videoconference) – To be determined.
 - c. February 2024 (videoconference) – To be determined.
 - d. April 2024 (videoconference) – To be determined.
 - e. April 30 - May 2, 2024 (in-person annual meeting) – Indianapolis.
17. **Adjournment.** The Men's Basketball Rules Committee acknowledged the excellent work of outgoing rules committee members and thanked them for their service on Men's Basketball Rules Committee.

Committee Chair: Rick Barnes, University of Tennessee

Staff Liaison(s): Andy Supergan, NCAA Championships and Alliances

Men's Basketball Rules Committee May 3-4, 2023, Annual Meeting	
Attendees:	
Vince Alexander, Clayton State University.	
Rick Barnes, University of Tennessee.	
Paul Brazeau, Atlantic Coast Conference.	
Jay Butler, Virginia Union University.	
Chris Clunie, Davidson College.	
Travis DeCuire, University of Montana.	
Rick Hartzell, Upper Iowa University.	
Karl Hicks, American Athletic Conference.	
Shantay Legans, University of Portland.	
Jeff O'Malley, secretary-rules editor.	
Steve Schweer, Illinois College.	
Gary Stewart, Stevenson University.	
Brian Streeter, Pennsylvania State Univ. Erie, the Behrend College.	
Guests in Attendance:	
Tiffany Daniels, Southeastern Conference, PROP representative.	
Mike Eades, conference coordinator of officials.	
Dan Leibovitz, Southeastern Conference.	
Chris Rastatter, national coordinator of officials.	
Bert Smith, active official.	
NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:	
Andy Supergan.	
Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:	
Dan Gavitt (men's basketball), Greg Johnson (strategic communications) and Austin Moutry (men's basketball).	