



**REPORT OF THE
NCAA MEN'S BASKETBALL RULES COMMITTEE
APRIL 30 – MAY 1, 2024, ANNUAL MEETING**

ACTION ITEMS.

1. Legislative items.

- None.

2. Nonlegislative items. The NCAA Men's Basketball Rules Committee approved two rules change proposals for the 2024-25 season and one experimental rules change proposal. The Men's Basketball Rules Committee requests approval from the NCAA Playing Rules Oversight Panel for the following items.

a. Rules 10-3.1.k and 10-3.2.h (Class A Technical Foul).

(1) Recommendation. To amend the current article as follows: "Disrespectfully contacts an official or makes a threat of physical intimidation or harm to include pushing, shoving, spitting, or attempting to make physical contact with an official." The penalty for physically abusing an official is ejection from the contest and a one-game suspension.

(2) Effective date. Immediately.

(3) Rationale. The current playing rules do not address any consequences, other than ejection from that game, for any individual who physically abuses a game official. This proposed rule aligns men's basketball with other sports which prescribe additional suspensions for physical abuse of an official. This change also aligns with the Playing Rules Oversight Panel's directive to rules committees to review its rules and penalties surrounding sportsmanship and ethical conduct and reaffirm that those rules adequately address the unsporting behavior occurring during competition.

(4) Estimated budget impact. None.

(5) Student-athlete impact. None.

b. Rule 11-3.1.a (Instant Replay).

(1) Recommendation. To provide officials the opportunity to review whether the player's last foot prior to leaving the floor was out of bounds prior to releasing a shot as time expired (game clock reading zero) in either half or any overtime period.

(2) Effective date. Immediately.

(3) Rationale. This change would provide officials with another tool to assist in getting the call right on last second shots. Under the current rules, officials are not able to review

out of bounds unless it was called on the floor. In addition, last second shots as time expires are required to be reviewed. This does not add a review as the officials are already over at the monitor reviewing whether the ball was released prior to the expiration of time on the game clock. This review aligns with rules in the NBA and FIBA on this play.

(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. The committee also reviewed the Playing Rules Oversight Directive on sportsmanship and ethical conduct as it relates to the men's basketball playing rules.
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 2023 annual meeting report, June 1, 2023, and December 12, 2023, videoconference reports.** The Men's Basketball Rules Committee reviewed and approved the reports as written.
4. **NCAA federated playing rules framework for integral rules.** The committee reviewed the framework for federated playing rules. It was noted that each Division has the opportunity to federate playing rules by Division vote should that be the interest of that specific Division.
5. **NFHS boy's and girl's basketball report.** A representative from the NFHS joined the rules committee and provided an update on the state of their game. In addition, the NFHS discussed the rules changes that were approved during their most recent annual meeting.
6. **Review 2024 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 again concerned with the overall response rate with only 27 percent of head coaches responding to the survey which was down 12 percent year over year. The committee discussed possible changes in the survey timeline to help generate a better response rate in the future.
7. **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 on April 4. The competition committee chair reported the following recommendations from the Men's Basketball Competition Committee:

- a. Consider experimenting with a coach's challenge for out-of-bounds reviews.
 - b. There was little support to continue experimenting with the standard media timeout format as well as utilizing the widened lane.
 - c. Supported the possibility of reviews of last second shots at the end of games.
 - d. Supported further discussions on advancing the ball.
 - e. Supported further discussions on a 24-second shot clock with eight seconds to advance the ball from the back court to the front court.
8. **Conference coordinator of official's report.** Terry Wymer, coordinator of officials for the Big Ten Conference, thanked the Men's Basketball Rules Committee for allowing the coordinators to be represented at the meetings. Terry Wymer reported that the coordinators recommended the Men's Basketball Rules Committee consider rules topics including:
- a. Supported further conversations on how to enforce physical post play especially with back-down plays in the post.
 - b. Supported providing more guidance to officials on vertically.
 - c. Supported a review of the changes related to basket interference/goaltending to possibly consider reviewing those immediately at the 8-minute mark of the second half.
9. **Active officials report.** Terry Oglesby, 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. Continue to implement a commonsense approach to the rules that promote clear and easily understood rules for student-athletes, coaches, officials and fans.
 - b. Bench decorum continues to be a challenge with players and bench personnel standing. This makes it challenging for officials to enforce especially when the ball is in the front court and players/bench personnel are standing in the back court.

- c. Consider a timetable around the correctable error rule rather than the current rule which applies dead ball scenarios.

10. **NCAA national coordinator of men's basketball official's report.** The national coordinator of men's basketball officials provided a review of the 2023-24 season. It was noted that the changes around the block/charge rule was effective in providing space around the basket. After the first few weeks of the season, officials adapted to the new rule and were correctly adjudicating these plays. The national coordinator also reviewed the selection process for this year's Division I tournament as well as discussed call/no call accuracy data compiled from every game of the tournament.

The Men's Basketball Rules Committee noted the continued improvements and requested that the national coordinator continue the efforts by coordinators and officials to continue to make this game great. The national coordinator noted that the College Basketball Academy as well as in-person clinics in September and October will provide opportunities to get in front of officials to continue our educational efforts. The rules committee will review the national coordinator's officiating directives at an upcoming rules committee videoconference.

11. **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 several rules topics that have been shared during the 2023-24 season which are summarized below:

- a. Aiding a player. The rules committee discussed aiding a player and possibly adopting a rule that would prevent teammates and bench personnel not in the game from aiding a player. The NFHS adopted a rule this year which prevents this behavior. This will be a topic for the rules committee to discuss next year.
- b. Basket interference/goaltending review. The rules committee discussed the change that was approved last season around basket interference/goaltending reviews. There was some concern that these plays should be reviewed right away, but there are also concerns of adding reviews and creating a choppy flow to the game. Currently, these plays are reviewed during the media marks until the last four minutes which they are reviewed immediately. The rules committee felt another year of data on these reviews is needed before considering a change. In addition, if getting the points is the most important aspect of these reviews, this change should still line up with how two's and three's are reviewed.
- c. Coach's Appeal. The rules committee discussed the possibility of a coach's appeal for Instant Replay based on interest the committee has heard from the membership.

The rules committee felt a measured approach was best and to utilize the 2025 NIT as an opportunity to experiment with a coach's appeal. The experimental rule would eliminate the official's voluntary ability to review out-of-bounds calls on the floor in the last two minutes of the game. Instead, these calls for a video review would be tied to the timeouts a team has remaining. If a team appeals the call and it is overturned, the team making the appeal would retain the timeout. The NIT Board is scheduled to review this proposed experimental rule during an upcoming meeting.

- d. Grasping the rim to gain an advantage. The rules committee discussed a play where an offensive player grasps the rim to gain an advantage. Currently, this results in a Class B technical (one shot) and then point of interruption. The vast majority of the time when this occurs, and play is stopped there is no team possession, so officials use the possession arrow to determine possession. It is possible that the offense team could get a new possession on this act at the expense of a one-shot free throw. The committee will discuss this next year to make this a violation rather than a Class B technical with point of interruption penalty.
- e. Front Court Inbounds. The rules committee discussed our current rule/mechanic which creates a trapezoid shape for when violations occur and where the ball is to be inbounded which heavily leans to 28-foot inbounds rather than under the basket. Coaches were interested in having more under the basket inbounds plays so the rules committee will discuss this next year.
- f. Instant Replay. The rules committee supported adding a mechanic and procedure in the officiating mechanics manual which outlines the process for what the primary instant replay system is.
- g. Lighting policy. The rules committee will discuss rules around lights and light shows during games. With advancements to screens and LED lights, venues are being more creative than ever to enhance the in-venue experience. At times this has become a distraction and impacts the game directly.
- h. 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 continues to receive requests from gameday operations staff requesting consistency between the men's and women's rules. The rules committee will discuss this during next year's rules change year annual meeting.
- i. Locking arms on screens. The rules committee reviewed a trend of teammates locking arms to set a screen on a defender. The rules committee agreed that this should not be permitted by rules and the secretary-rules editor will provide an interpretation which clearly makes this behavior illegal as the rules are not abundantly clear.

- j. Technical Foul Review. The rules committee expressed support in having the secretary-rules editor go through a comprehension review/possible reorganization of the technical fouls and corresponding penalties to hopefully provide more clarity and consistency. This will give the secretary-rules editor a year to provide a deep dive to see if a change is even feasible.
 - k. Widen lane. The rules committee also reviewed the results of the widen lane experimental rule. The rules committee experimented with a 16-foot-wide lane which is also used in the NBA and FIBA. The rules committee last experimented with a widen lane during the 2019 NIT. Based on the feedback from this year's NIT and the rules survey, there is little support at this time to move forward with continued experimental or any rules changes to the current lane width of 12 feet.
12. **Review results of rules experiments.** The secretary-rules editor reviewed the results of the experimental rules for the 2023-24 season. The Men's Basketball Rules Committee approved two experimental rules for the 2023-24 season. 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 feedback, while it helps with some of the game day operations staff to know when breaks will occur, there was not enough interest in continuing experimentation in the future.
- The rules committee also reviewed the results of the widen lane experimental rule. The rules committee experimented with a 16-foot-wide lane which is also used in the NBA and FIBA. The rules committee last experimented with a widen lane during the 2019 NIT. Based on the feedback from this year's NIT and the rules survey, there is little support at this time to move forward with continued experimental or any rules changes to the current lane width of 12 feet. The changes to the block/charge rule last year has produced more space around the basket which the widen lane was seeking to provide. In addition, pushing posts further out makes it easier for perimeter defenders to double the post as well as guarding the perimeter.
13. **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 the 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. The committee was supported in the concept of using the NIT to experiment with a coach's challenge to improve the flow of the end of the game which often results in many stoppages and reviews.
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 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 Karl Hicks to serve as the Men's Basketball Rules Committee chair for the 2024-25 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 2024 (videoconference) – To be determined.
 - b. December 2024 (videoconference) – To be determined.
 - c. February 2025 (videoconference) – To be determined.
 - d. May 6-8, 2025 (in-person annual meeting) – Indianapolis.

Committee Chair: Paul Brazeau, Atlantic Coast Conference
Staff Liaison(s): Andy Supergan, NCAA Championships and Alliances

Men's Basketball Rules Committee April 30 – May 1, 2024, Annual Meeting	
Attendees:	
Vince Alexander, Clayton State University.	
Paul Brazeau, Atlantic Coast Conference.	
Travis DeCuire, University of Montana.	
Karl Hicks, American Athletic Conference.	
Myndee Kay Larsen, The Summit League.	
Shantay Legans, University of Portland.	
Jeff O'Malley, secretary-rules editor.	
Adam Stockwell, Hamilton College.	
Brian Streeter, Pennsylvania State Univ. Erie, the Behrend College.	
Brian Wardle, Bradley University.	
Absentees:	
Jay Butler, Virginia Union University.	
Rick Hartzell, Upper Iowa University.	
Guests in Attendance:	
Tiffany Daniels, Southeastern Conference, PROP representative.	
Terry Oglesby, active official.	
Chris Rastatter, national coordinator of officials.	
Brian Thornton, Western Athletic Conference.	
Terry Wymer, conference coordinator of officials representative.	

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).