



REPORT OF THE  
NCAA WOMEN'S BASKETBALL RULES COMMITTEE  
MAY 3-5, 2023, ANNUAL MEETING

**ACTION ITEMS.**

**1. Legislative items.**

- None.

**2. Nonlegislative items.** The NCAA Women's Basketball Rules Committee approved the following rules change proposals for the 2023-24 and 2024-25 seasons. The Women's Basketball Rules Committee requests approval from the NCAA Playing Rules Oversight Panel for the following items:

**a. Restricted-area arc and lower defensive box (Rule 1-8.1).**

(1) Recommendation. To reduce the restricted area to the area directly underneath the basket and eliminate the lower defensive box.

(2) Effective date. Immediately.

(3) Rationale. The original rule was intended to reduce crashes at the basket and did not accomplish its goal. This change will permit the defense to defend more of the lane in front of the basket while not permitting defenders to take charges under the basket. The change also simplifies the rule as it applies to all defenders who obtain an initial legal guarding position which will lead to greater call accuracy. This change will not require the addition or removal of any court marking.

(4) Estimated budget impact. None.

(5) Student-athlete impact. None.

**b. Shot-clock displays (Rule 1-19.4).**

(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.

**c. Uniforms (Rules 1-22 and 1-26.10).**

- (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.

**d. Officials' duties (Rule 2-7.9).**

- (1) Recommendation. To require officials to use the game clock to administer the 10-second backcourt count when the shot clock is not visible.
- (2) Effective date. Immediately.
- (3) Rationale. To provide greater accuracy in administering the backcourt rule.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. None.

**e. Duties of shot-clock operator (NEW Rule 2-11.6.c.3).**

- (1) Recommendation. To reset the shot clock to 20 seconds or the time remaining on the shot clock, whichever is greater, when a foul is committed by the non-shooting team in the shooting team's frontcourt during an unsuccessful field-goal or free-throw attempt that does not strike the ring or flange but is not committed against a player in the act of shooting or an airborne shooter.
- (2) Effective date. Immediately.
- (3) Rationale. To correct an inequity that exists when the foul is committed following a blocked shot or an "airball" that could cause the shot clock to be reset to 20 seconds when there were more than 20 seconds remaining in the shot-clock period.

(4) Estimated budget impact. None.

(5) Student-athlete impact. None.

**f. Faking a foul (NEW Rules 4-14 and 10-12.3.a.5).**

(1) Recommendation. To define faking being fouled and, following a team warning, penalize the team by awarding two free throws and the ball to the offended team.

(2) Effective date. Immediately.

(3) Rationale. To provide a penalty for unsporting actions (misconduct) that are meant to cause an official to make an erroneous ruling. These acts are outside the spirit of fair play that is foundational in the women's game. This will disincentivize players from faking fouls (flopping) to make it appear that a foul has been committed; by providing a team warning first, it gives the players and team an opportunity to play the game properly.

(4) Estimated budget impact. None.

(5) Student-athlete impact. None.

**g. Personal foul on ball handler/dribbler (NEW Rule 10-10.5.e).**

(1) Recommendation. To prohibit a defender from placing their body on the ball handler/dribbler.

(2) Effective date. Immediately.

(3) Rationale. To increase freedom of movement by prohibiting defenders from body-bumping the offensive player. This change is consistent with the prohibition that post defenders may not place their body on offensive post players with the ball.

(4) Estimated budget impact. None.

(5) Student-athlete impact. None.

**h. Technical fouls (NEW Rule 10-12.3).**

(1) Recommendation. To create a new technical foul category that is the result of a subsequent infraction following a team warning. These technical fouls are charged to the team-foul count but are not assessed to any individual. It addresses the four delay situations in Rule 4-9.1.d through .g as well as when a player fakes being fouled during live play.

(2) Effective date. Immediately.

(3) Rationale. To appropriately penalize infractions that occur following a team warning. Players on the court may not be aware they are playing under a specific warning; assessing a technical foul directly to the player was deemed too severe.

(4) Estimated budget impact. None.

(5) Student-athlete impact. None.

**i. Electronic transmission (Rule 10-12.4.b).**

(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.

**j. Replay equipment (NEW Rule 11-1.5).**

(1) Recommendation. To permit, but not require, a conference to establish an off-site facility to assist and facilitate replay reviews by officials (Collaborative Replay).

(2) Effective date. Immediately.

(3) Rationale. The rules committee permitted a conference, by their request, to experiment with collaborative replay for the past two seasons and it reduced the amount of time for a review to be completed. This proposal aligns with the current men's rule and allows for more accurate and efficient replay reviews.

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

(5) Student-athlete impact. None.

**k. Permissible use of replay (Rule 11-3.1.r).**

- (1) Recommendation. To change the time when a review occurs when determining whether a goal should be counted or canceled when a foul is committed by or against a teammate of the shooter by conducting the review during the next electronic-media timeout, except after the last electronic-media timeout of the fourth quarter or the entire overtime when it must be reviewed before the ball becomes live following the foul.
- (2) Effective date. Immediately.
- (3) Rationale. To increase pace of play by reducing the number of replay reviews.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. None.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

1. **Welcome, introductions and announcements.** The chair of the Women's Basketball Rules Committee welcomed the committee and invited guests and thanked them for their time. All attendees introduced themselves and provided a brief overview of their background.
2. **Review meeting schedule, agenda, committee operations manual and NCAA Playing Rules Oversight Panel directive.** The meeting schedule and agenda were reviewed. The Women's Basketball Rules Committee also reviewed the operations manual, which included the NCAA conflict of interest policy, guidance for committee members regarding meeting reports, notes and email, voting procedures, principles for rules writing, and experimental playing rules guidelines. The Women's Basketball Rules Committee was reminded of the directive from PROP from 2014. This directive encourages all rules committees to strongly consider providing at least a one-year delay for Division II and Division III institutions before implementing any rules changes that have financial or facility implications.
3. **Review and approval of 2022 annual meeting report and February 13, 2023, videoconference report.** The Women's Basketball Rules Committee reviewed and approved the reports as written.
4. **National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS report).** The Women's Basketball Rules Committee heard an update on recent rules changes approved by the NFHS Basketball Rules Committee.
5. **NCAA injury surveillance data and report.** The Women's Basketball Rules Committee received a report from Avinash Chandran, director of the NCAA Injury Surveillance Program,

which included a summary of injury data from 2009-10 through the 2021-22 academic year. It was noted that there was a decrease in injury rates during practice and competition for the 2021-22 season.

6. **Secretary-rules editor report.** The Women's Basketball Rules Committee heard a report from the secretary-rules editor, Jon Levinson, which included an overview of interpretations issued during the 2022-23 season, as well as a summary of major fouls accrued during the 2022-23 season. The Women's Basketball Rules Committee expressed concern with the significant increase in technical, intentional, and disqualifying fouls as compared to last season and noted that conferences should be made aware of the uptick in bench decorum and misconduct incidents that occurred during the 2022-23 season. The Women's Basketball Rules Committee approved all interpretations that were issued during the season, as well as new approved rulings for inclusion in the 2023-24 Case Book. The Women's Basketball Rules Committee reviewed game length data from the 2022-23 season, noting that the final game duration for the 2023 season was 1:53, which is a one-minute increase from the last two seasons. Finally, the Women's Basketball Rules Committee agreed to keep the same Points of Emphasis for next season that were in effect during the 2022-23 season, except for faking fouls (this will be removed due to the new rules change) and screening (this will be a new Point of Emphasis).
7. **National coordinator of officials' report.** The Women's Basketball Rules Committee heard a recap of the 2022-23 season from the women's basketball national coordinator of officials, Penny Davis, who has been in the position for four years. It was noted that the national coordinator developed an instructional video for officials and coaches prior to the season, conducted virtual clinics for 810 Division I officials and 500 Division II and Division III officials, produced five in-season educational videos, conducted monthly videoconferences with coordinators of officials from all three divisions, and worked with the regional advisors to evaluate 263 officials who were on the watch list during the 2022-23 season. For the 2023 NCAA Division I Women's Basketball Tournament, 115 officials were selected, with 14 officials being new to the tournament and two officials being new to the NCAA Final Four. The percentage of correct calls in the tournament was 92.76 percent.
8. **NCAA Division I Women's Basketball Oversight Committee and Competition Committee reports.** The Women's Basketball Rules Committee reviewed recent reports from the Division I Women's Basketball Oversight Committee and Competition Oversight Committee, noting that they did not have any feedback to share on the key proposals being considered by the Women's Basketball Rules Committee.
9. **Conference coordinator of officials' report.** The Women's Basketball Rules Committee heard a report from Patty Broderick, coordinator of the Women's Basketball Officiating Consortium, who thanked the committee for the opportunity to be included in the meeting. Feedback was provided on the major discussion items being considered by the Women's Basketball Rules Committee.

- 10. Active officials' report.** The Women's Basketball Rules Committee heard a report from Maggie Tieman, active official, which included feedback on the 2022-23 points of emphasis and new interpretations/case plays.
- 11. NCAA vice president of women's basketball update.** Lynn Holzman, NCAA vice president of women's basketball, provided a recap of the 2023 Division I women's basketball championship, noting that viewership increased 55 percent from 2022. In addition, a record 9.9 million viewers watched the Division I women's championship game. The Division II and Division III women's championship games were also held in Dallas in conjunction with the Division I championship. An overview was provided of the College Basketball Academies, taking place at the end of July in Memphis with over 900 prospects attending. Finally, an update was given on the new 32-team postseason invitational tournament that will take place in 2024.
- 12. Review 2022-23 statistics and trends.** The Women's Basketball Rules Committee reviewed statistics and trends from the 2022-23 season, noting that points per game had increased for Division I and slightly decreased for Divisions II and III, while three-point shooting percentages had increased for all three divisions.
- 13. Review 2023 rules survey.** The Women's Basketball Rules Committee reviewed the results from the 2023 rules survey and noted that the response rate for coaches was 47 percent.
- 14. Review bench technology experimental rules data.** The Women's Basketball Rules Committee reviewed data and feedback from the conferences that experimented with live video on the bench during the 2022-23 season. Overall, the feedback from the 21 conferences that participated in the experimental rule was positive and they supported using video on the bench in the future.
- 15. Review of rules proposals and discussion items.** The Women's Basketball Rules Committee reviewed and considered 96 rules proposals and approved 11 major rules changes for the 2023-24 and 2024-25 women's basketball seasons, as noted above in the Action Items section of this report.
- 16. Future meeting dates.** The Women's Basketball Rules Committee scheduled its 2024 annual meeting for May 1-3, 2024. Monthly videoconferences for 2023-24 will be scheduled in December, January, and February.
- 17. Selection of committee chair.** The Women's Basketball Rules Committee elected Nicki Collen, Baylor University, as chair for the 2023-24 academic year.
- 18. Other business.** Three outgoing Women's Basketball Rules Committee members were recognized and thanked for their service: Alan Nakamura, Biola University; Kelcey Roegiers, Georgia State University; and Amy Vachon, University of Maine.

**19. Adjournment.** The Women's Basketball Rules Committee adjourned at 12:07 p.m. Eastern time on Friday, May 5.

*Committee Chair:* Amy Vachon, University of Maine  
*Staff Liaison(s):* Rachel Seewald, NCAA Championships and Alliances

NCAA Women's Basketball Rules Committee May 3-5, 2023, Annual Meeting	
<b>Attendees:</b>	
Nicki Collen, Baylor University.	
Carol Jue, Chapman University.	
Alex Lang, Brooklyn College.	
Jon Levinson, secretary-rules editor.	
Alan Nakamura, Biola University.	
Kelcey Roegiers, Georgia State University.	
Diane Thompson, Colorado Christian University.	
Tiffany Tucker, University of North Carolina, Wilmington.	
Amy Vachon, University of Maine.	
Debbie Williamson, Atlantic Coast Conference.	
<b>Absentees:</b>	
Christopher Cross, Cedarville University.	
<b>Guests in Attendance:</b>	
Patty Broderick, Women's Basketball Officiating Consortium.	
Avinash Chandran, Datalys Center for Sports Injury Research and Prevention.	
Tiffany Daniels, Southeastern Conference, PROP representative.	
Penny Davis, national coordinator of officials.	
Neel Rao, Datalys Center for Sports Injury Research and Prevention.	
Maggie Tieman, active official.	
<b>NCAA Staff Liaison in Attendance:</b>	
Rachel Seewald.	
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>	
Lynne Andrew (women's basketball), LaGwyn Durden (sport science institute); Anthony Holman (championships and alliances); Lynn Holzman (women's basketball), Greg Johnson (strategic communications); Mallory Mickus (sport science institute) and Bri Rigney (championships and alliances).	