



**REPORT OF THE  
NCAA WOMEN'S BASKETBALL RULES COMMITTEE  
APRIL 30 – MAY 1, 2024, 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 2024-25 season. The Women's Basketball Rules Committee requests approval from the NCAA Playing Rules Oversight Panel for the following items:

**a. Disqualifying foul (Rules 10-14.1.a.6, 10-14.1.b.3 and 10-14 Penalty).**

(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 women'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. Replay (Rule 11-2.1.a.1).**

(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 zeros) in any quarter or overtime.

(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 by rule. This does not add a review as the officials

are already over at replay reviewing whether the ball was released prior to the expiration of time on the game clock. This review aligns with rules in the WNBA and FIBA on this play.

(4) Estimated budget impact. None.

(5) Student-athlete impact. None.

**c. Replay (Rule 11-3.1.r).**

(1) Recommendation. To require that any replay review, whether initiated by a coach's appeal or by the officials of their own volition, occur immediately following the foul to determine whether a successful field goal or free throw should count or be canceled when an "off-ball" foul is committed by either team.

(2) Effective date. Immediately.

(3) Rationale. Last year's rule change moved the replay review to the next electronic-media timeout when the "off-ball" foul was committed by the defensive team during a successful field goal. The committee determined that it is more beneficial for all reviews to be conducted in the same fashion and there was no significant benefit to delaying the review when the defensive team fouls.

(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 (PROP) directives.** 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 rules committee was reminded of the 2009 and 2014 directives from PROP. These directives outline the two-year rules process and reasons a rules committee could propose a rules change in a non-rules change year, and encourage 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. Additionally, the rules committee reviewed a 2024 directive from PROP that was issued to all rules committees to review its rules surrounding sportsmanship and ethical conduct and reaffirm that those rules adequately address unsporting behavior that may occur during competition.

3. **Review and approval of 2023 annual meeting report and February 12, 2024, videoconference report.** The reports were approved as written.
4. **NCAA federated playing rules processes and framework for integral rules.** The Women's Basketball Rules Committee reviewed the federated playing rules process for each division, as well as the framework for federating integral rules.
5. **National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) report.** The Women's Basketball Rules Committee heard a report from the NFHS, which included 12 proposed rules changes recently approved by the NFHS Basketball Rules Committee. At the high school level, basketball is the third most popular team sport for girls with approximately 12 million participants.
6. **NCAA vice president of women's basketball update.** Lynn Holzman, NCAA vice president of women's basketball, provided a recap of the 2024 Division I women's basketball championship, noting the all-time attendance record of 436,055 fans, which eclipsed the previous record of 357,542 that was set last season. In addition, a record 18.9 million viewers watched the Division I women's basketball national championship game. Updates were also provided on the WBTV, the new broadcast rights agreement and the Division I women's basketball performance fund.
7. **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 and waivers issued during the 2023-24 season, as well as a summary of the major foul report. The rules committee reviewed data submitted by conference coordinators of officials on technical, intentional, and disqualifying fouls from 2006-2024. The rules committee approved several interpretations and clarifications that were issued by the secretary-rules editor during the season, as well as new approved rulings for inclusion in the 2024-25 Women's Basketball Case Book. Other discussion items included face guarding, a standardized mechanic for officials to report uniform numbers, and a potential change to the uniform rule to not require shorts to be the same color as the jersey's neutral zone so that a dark color could be worn instead of white.
8. **National coordinator of officials' report.** The Women's Basketball Rules Committee heard a recap of the 2023-24 season from the women's basketball national coordinator of officials, Penny Davis. During the pre-season, the national coordinator developed an instructional video for officials and coaches, conducted the coordinator meetings in Indianapolis for coordinators from all three divisions, and participated in four regional in-person clinics for Division I officials. During the season, educational videos were posted for officials and stakeholders, monthly videoconferences with coordinators of officials from all three divisions were conducted, and two national officiating calls were held. In conjunction with the regional

advisors, 272 games were observed to evaluate 271 officials who were on the watch list. For the 2024 NCAA Division I Women's Basketball Tournament, 116 officials were selected, with five officials being new to the tournament and two officials being new to the Final Four. The WBIT also presented opportunities for officials during the postseason. The percentage of correct calls in the tournament was approximately 93%. Key areas of improvement and training opportunities for next season include post play, rebounding, legal guarding position/block-charge plays, intentional/disqualifying fouls, penalizing misconduct, faking being fouled and basket interference/goal tending.

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 rules committee.
10. **Active officials' report.** The Women's Basketball Rules Committee heard a report from Karen Robertson-Preato, active official, which included feedback on the 2023-24 rules changes and points of emphasis.
11. **Review 2023-24 statistics and trends.** The Women's Basketball Rules Committee reviewed statistics and trends from the 2023-24 season, noting that points per game had increased slightly for all three divisions. The average game length during the regular season was 1 hour, 53 minutes, which was identical to the 2022-23 season. This is an increase of one minute from the 2021-22 season.
12. **Review 2024 rules survey.** The Women's Basketball Rules Committee reviewed the results from the 2024 rules survey and noted that the overall response rate was 20% (19% for head coaches, 14% for athletics directors, 37% for conference commissioners, 9% for senior woman administrators, 16% for Division I women's basketball administrators, 34% for conference coordinators of officials, and 26% for officials).
13. **Review of rules proposals and discussion items.** The Women's Basketball Rules Committee reviewed and considered 38 rules proposals and approved three major rules changes for the 2024-25 season, as noted above in the Action Items section of this report. The Points of Emphasis for the 2024-25 season will include enforcing the rules as written, screening, traveling, legal guarding position, post play/three seconds in the lane, contact on and by the ball handler/dribbler, sporting behavior/conduct, and clamping.
14. **Future meeting dates.** The Women's Basketball Rules Committee scheduled its 2025 annual meeting for May 6-8, 2025. Monthly videoconferences for 2024-25 will be scheduled in December, January, and February.
15. **Selection of committee chair.** The Women's Basketball Rules Committee re-elected Nicki Collen, Baylor University, as chair for the 2024-25 academic year.
16. **Other business.** None.

**17. Adjournment.** The Women's Basketball Rules Committee adjourned at 5 p.m. Eastern time on Wednesday, May 1.

*Committee Chair:* Nicki Collen, Baylor University, Big 12 Conference

*Staff Liaison(s):* Rachel Seewald, Championships and Alliances, Playing Rules and Officiating

NCAA Women's Basketball Rules Committee April 30 - May 1, 2024, Annual Meeting	
<b>Attendees:</b>	
Tricia Binford, Montana State University-Bozeman	
Nicki Collen, Baylor University.	
Christopher Cross, Cedarville University.	
Kam Gissendanner, La Roche University.	
Julie Goodenough, Abilene Christian University.	
Carol Jue, Chapman University.	
Alex Lang, Brooklyn College.	
Jon Levinson, secretary-rules editor.	
Mike Simonson, Seattle Pacific University.	
Diane Thompson, Colorado Christian University.	
Tiffany Tucker, University of North Carolina, Wilmington.	
Alyse Wells-Kilbert, Jackson State University.	
Debbie Williamson, Atlantic Coast Conference.	
<b>Absentees:</b>	
None.	
<b>Guests in Attendance:</b>	
Lindsey Atkinson, National Federation of State High School Associations.	
Patty Broderick, Women's Basketball Officiating Consortium.	
Tiffany Daniels, Southeastern Conference.	
Penny Davis, national coordinator of officials.	
Terry Gawlik, University of Idaho.	
Karen Robertson-Preato, active official.	
<b>NCAA Staff Liaison in Attendance:</b>	
Rachel Seewald.	
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>	
Lynn Holzman, Greg Johnson, Connor Lancashire and Binh Nguyen.	