

**REPORT OF THE
NCAA WOMEN'S BASKETBALL RULES COMMITTEE
MAY 6-9, 2013, MEETING**

ACTION ITEMS.

1. Legislative Items. The NCAA Women's Basketball Rules Committee agreed to the following rules change proposals for the 2013-14 and 2014-15 seasons. The committee requests approval from the NCAA Playing Rules Oversight Panel (PROP) for the following items:

a. Lower Defensive Box (Rule 1).

- (1) Recommendation. Establish a lower defensive box, which is an imaginary box used to determine legal guarding position by secondary defenders (currently used by the NBA and WNBA). The imaginary box is created by using the second free-throw lane marks currently marked on the floor, and two 12" x 2" 'tick' marks on the baseline which are located 3 feet from the lane line.
- (2) Effective Date. Immediate.
- (3) Rationale. Clearly defines the lower defensive box to be used in Proposal w below.
- (4) Estimated Budget Impact. Minimal. The 12" x 2" lines can be applied using a water-based paint for less than \$20. If sanding, painting and applying a finish the cost would be less than \$100. Tape could also be used provided the court is finished in a manner that is similar throughout.
- (5) Student-Athlete Impact. Enhances student-athlete experience.

b. Backboard Signage (Rule 1-13.5).

- (1) Recommendation. Neon, electric, LED or artificially lit signage shall be permitted on the horizontal stanchion booms. However, it shall not be permitted on the vertical backboard stanchion arms.
- (2) Effective Date. Immediate.
- (3) Rationale. Allowing electric, LED or artificially lit signage on backboard stanchion supports will allow member institutions the opportunity to increase advertising revenue and social media exposure and not interfere with the playing of the game.
- (4) Estimated Budget Impact. None.

(5) Student-Athlete Impact. None.

c. Official's Uniform (Rule 2-1.2).

(1) Recommendation. The official's uniform shall be a black and white striped shirt that may have a 3-inch black insert and black pants. A national flag is permitted on the sleeve. Patches are not permitted with the exception of the NCAA patch to be worn during the NCAA tournament. One manufacturer's logo is permitted, but must not exceed 2¼ square inches.

(2) Effective Date. Immediate.

(3) Rationale. To clarify the standard for officiating uniforms.

(4) Estimated Budget Impact. None.

(5) Student-Athlete Impact. None.

d. New Shot Clock Period After Double Personal Fouls (Rule 2-11.6).

(1) Recommendation. After any double personal fouls and one of the fouls is a flagrant 1 or 2 foul, the team entitled to the throw-in shall receive a new shot clock period.

(2) Effective Date. Immediate.

(3) Rationale. This is consistent with other rules.

(4) Estimated Budget Impact. None.

(5) Student-Athlete Impact. Enhances student-athlete experience.

e. Monitor Reviews/Indisputable Evidence (Rule 2-13).

(1) Recommendation. Create a standard of review by establishing a standard of "indisputable evidence" as a requirement for an official to change a call on the floor after a monitor review.

(2) Effective Date. Immediate.

- (3) Rationale. To establish a clear standard for officials to use during a monitor review to determine if a call made on the floor should be overturned.
- (4) Estimated Budget Impact. None.
- (5) Student-Athlete Impact. None.

f. Monitor Reviews (Rule 2-13).

- (1) Recommendation. In the last two minutes of the game, officials are permitted to review whether a shot clock violation occurred, including if the shot left the shooter's hand prior to the sounding of the shot clock horn, or to determine who caused the ball to go out of bounds when there is a deflection involving two or more players.
- (2) Effective Date. Immediate.
- (3) Rationale. Provides the officials with the ability to make the correct calls on these violations at a critical point in the game.
- (4) Estimated Budget Impact. None.
- (5) Student-Athlete Impact. Enhances student-athlete experience.

g. Monitor Reviews (Rules 2-13.2.b.1 and 2-12.3).

- (1) Recommendation. Permit an official to wait until the next electronic media timeout to determine if a mistake has been made in erroneously counting a two- or three-point goal for the entire game except the last 4 minutes of the second period and the entire overtime(s), during which time the correctable error time frame must be used.
- (2) Effective Date. Immediate.
- (3) Rationale. To reduce the number of interruptions during the game for the purpose of monitor reviews. Research from the 2011-12 men's basketball season found that the average monitor review of a two- or three-point shot was a minimum of 90 seconds.
- (4) Estimated Budget Impact. None.

- (5) Student-Athlete Impact. Enhances student-athlete experience.

h. Monitor Reviews (Rule 2-13.2.c.2).

- (1) Recommendation. At any point during the game, when using the monitor to review a timing mistake, officials are permitted to place the time on the clock as to when the ball actually touches out of bounds regardless of when the whistle is blown or when the official gives a signal to stop the clock.
- (2) Effective Date. Immediate.
- (3) Rationale. Having the ability to put the exact time on the clock as to when the ball makes contact out of bounds, regardless of the reaction time of the official in recognizing this violation, will provide an accurate time for the out of bounds call when reviewing a timing mistake.
- (4) Estimated Budget Impact. None.
- (5) Student-Athlete Impact. Enhances student-athlete experience.

i. Monitor Reviews (Rules 2-13.2.d and 2-13.5.a).

- (1) Recommendation. Officials are permitted to use the monitor to determine on who a foul is to be charged when there is uncertainty.
- (2) Effective Date. Immediate.
- (3) Rationale. Currently, the monitor can only be used to determine the player who was fouled when there are free throws due, and not the player who committed the foul. Since players can be disqualified, officials should be permitted to confirm that the foul is charged to the player who actually fouled.
- (4) Estimated Budget Impact. None.
- (5) Student-Athlete Impact. Enhances student-athlete experience.

j. Monitor Reviews (Rule 2-13.2.d).

- (1) Recommendation. When there is a flagrant 1 or 2 foul called, permit a monitor review to determine whether a flagrant 1 personal or common foul occurred. When upon review it is discovered by indisputable evidence that there was no contact at all, the foul call can be reversed to no foul. When the officials use the monitor to review a situation that is not called, the only options are flagrant 2, flagrant 1 or no foul (when there was no contact).
- (2) Effective Date. Immediate.
- (3) Rationale. To provide officials the ability to use the monitor to enforce the correct penalty.
- (4) Estimated Budget Impact. None.
- (5) Student-Athlete Impact. Enhances student-athlete experience.

k. Substitutes During Free Throws (Rule 3-4.2).

- (1) Recommendation. Between free throws for a technical foul or flagrant fouls, only substitutes required by rule shall be permitted to enter the game before the final attempt. All other substitutes shall be permitted to enter the game only before the first attempt or after the final attempt.
- (2) Effective Date. Immediate.
- (3) Rationale. To speed up the game.
- (4) Estimated Budget Impact. None.
- (5) Student-Athlete Impact. Enhances student-athlete experience.

l. Uniforms (Rule 3-5.5).

- (1) Recommendation. Allow other words or names besides a player or institutional name/mascot on the back of the game jersey. No commercial advertising will be allowed.
- (2) Effective Date. Immediate.

- (3) Rationale. To allow institutions more latitude to celebrate or memorialize persons, events or other worthy causes.
- (4) Estimated Budget Impact. None.
- (5) Student-Athlete Impact. Enhances student-athlete experience.

m. Undergarments (Rule 3-6.1).

- (1) Recommendation. Allow players to wear long-sleeved shirts made of compression-type material under the game jersey without having to request a medical waiver. The shirts must be a color similar to that of the game jersey and meet all other undershirt restrictions.
- (2) Effective Date. Immediate.
- (3) Rationale. Each year, there is an increase in the number of players with medical conditions that require them to wear long sleeves. There is no reason not to permit players to wear these shirts. This will put the responsibility back on the coaches regarding how players should look on the floor, and it removes a rule that has no impact on how the game is played or officiated.
- (4) Estimated Budget Impact. None.
- (5) Student-Athlete Impact. Enhances student-athlete experience.

n. Undergarments (Rule 3-6.1).

- (1) Recommendation. Allow players to wear full-length tights under the game shorts without having to request a medical waiver. The tights must be black, white, beige or the color of the game shorts.
- (2) Effective Date. Immediate.
- (3) Rationale. Each year, there is an increase in the number of players with medical conditions that require them to wear full-length tights. This will put the responsibility back on the coaches regarding how players should look on the floor, and it removes a rule that has no impact on how the game is played or officiated.

- (4) Estimated Budget Impact. None.
- (5) Student-Athlete Impact. Enhances student-athlete experience.

o. Players' Equipment (Rule 3-9.9).

- (1) Recommendation. The use of an arm sleeve, knee sleeve and lower leg sleeve is permissible and does not need to be verified by team medical personnel that it be used for medical reasons only. These sleeves must be a solid color. The arm sleeve may be black, white, beige or any color contained in the jersey and the same color must be worn by teammates. The sleeves on the leg (knee or lower leg) may be black, white, beige or the color of the game shorts and the same color must be worn by teammates.
- (2) Effective Date. Immediate.
- (3) Rationale. There was no need to have officials ask team medical personnel whether the sleeves were to be worn for medical reasons. In addition, multiple designs in arm and leg sleeves were creating too many variations in the uniform appearance of players. Further, multiple colors makes it hard for officials to distinguish players from each other.
- (4) Estimated Budget Impact. None.
- (5) Student-Athlete Impact. Enhances student-athlete experience.

p. Basket Interference (Rules 4-5 and 10-3.4).

- (1) Recommendation. Causing the basket or backboard to vibrate when the ball is on or in the basket, on the backboard and/or is on or in the cylinder is basket interference.
- (2) Effective Date. Immediate.
- (3) Rationale. The current penalty for causing the backboard to vibrate is a technical foul to the offending player and a basket interference violation is less severe and still allows a basket to be scored or canceled.
- (4) Estimated Budget Impact. None.
- (5) Student-Athlete Impact. Enhances student-athlete experience.

q. Flagrant 1 Personal Foul (Rule 4-29.2.c).

- (1) Recommendation. It is a flagrant 1 personal foul for excessive contact to any player.
- (2) Effective Date. Immediate.
- (3) Rationale. There is a need for a flagrant 1 foul for excessive contact when not playing the ball. A current rule exists for excessive contact when playing the ball.
- (4) Estimated Budget Impact. None.
- (5) Student-Athlete Impact. Enhances student-athlete experience.

r. Timeouts (Rule 5-13.10).

- (1) Recommendation. When a team-called timeout occurs within or up to 30 seconds of a media timeout occurring, it becomes the subsequent media timeout with the exception of the first team-called timeout in the second period.
- (2) Effective Date. Immediate.
- (3) Rationale. To avoid the number of consecutive stoppages that occur when a team-called timeout occurs just outside of a media window.
- (4) Estimated Budget Impact. None.
- (5) Student-Athlete Impact. Enhances student-athlete experience.

s. Live Ball and Dead Ball (Rule 6-6.3).

- (1) Recommendation. A try in flight shall not become dead when a shooter's teammate excessively swings elbows without making contact.
- (2) Effective Date. Immediate.
- (3) Rationale. Excessively swinging elbows without making contact, when committed by a teammate of the shooter while the ball is in flight, should not

cause a successful try to be canceled. Under the current penalty, a violation is more severe than a foul.

- (4) Estimated Budget Impact. None.
- (5) Student-Athlete Impact. Enhances student-athlete experience.

t. 10-Second Back Court (Rule 9-10).

- (1) Recommendation. Adopt a 10-second back court count while still maintaining the 30-second shot clock.
- (2) Effective Date. Immediate.
- (3) Rationale. To increase offensive scoring opportunities, reward defensive strategies and cause offensive teams to have to increase the pace of play from the back court to the front court.
- (4) Estimated Budget Impact. None.
- (5) Student-Athlete Impact. Enhances student-athlete experience.

u. Counting the 10-Second Back Court (Rule 9-10).

- (1) Recommendation. Start the 10-second back court count when a player on the floor legally touches the ball, not on possession, thereby allowing the officials to use the shot clock to count time for a 10-second violation.
- (2) Effective Date. Immediate.
- (3) Rationale. Enables the shot clock to be used to count a 10-second back court violation and to create accuracy in 10-second back court counts.
- (4) Estimated Budget Impact. None.
- (5) Student-Athlete Impact. None.

v. Closely Guarded (Rule 9-13.2).

- (1) Recommendation. A player holding the ball in her front court only is closely guarded when her opponent is in a guarding stance at a distance not exceeding six feet (current rule is three feet). This distance shall be measured from the forward foot or feet of the defender to the forward foot or feet of the opponent.
- (2) Effective Date. Immediate.
- (3) Rationale. With the adoption of the 10-second back court violation count, there was no need for a closely guarded count on a hold in the back court. In addition, extending the closely guarded distance from three to six feet will encourage defenders to not have to guard the ball handler so closely, which should decrease contact on the dribbler.
- (4) Estimated Budget Impact. None.
- (5) Student-Athlete Impact. Enhances student-athlete experience.

w. Lower Defensive Box (Rule 10-1.12).

- (1) Recommendation. A secondary defender as defined in Rule 4-61 cannot establish guarding position in the restricted area for the purpose of drawing a player control foul/charge when defending a player who is in control of the ball or who has released the ball for a pass or try when the play begins outside the lower defensive box. When a player who is in control of the ball receives the ball in the lower defensive box, any defender is permitted to draw a charge in the restricted area.
- (2) Effective Date. Immediate.
- (3) Rationale. The use of the lower defensive box permits players who do not have time to get out of the restricted area (RA) from being unduly penalized with a blocking foul when the defender does not have time to get outside of the RA. Having a defined area where play begins distinguishes when the RA is and is not in effect, which makes it much easier to teach and officiate and reflects the original intent of the restricted area rule. This concept is currently used with success in other rule codes.
- (4) Estimated Budget Impact. None.

- (5) Student-Athlete Impact. Enhances student-athlete experience.

x. Elbow Fouls (Rule 10-1.13).

- (1) Recommendation. Illegal contact caused by the swinging of the elbow(s) and/or contact with the elbow that: (a) Results from total body movement is a common or flagrant 1 personal foul; (b) Is excessive per Rule 4-36.7 is a flagrant 2 foul; (c) Occurs above or below the shoulders of an opponent is a common, flagrant 1 or flagrant 2 personal foul.
- (2) Effective Date. Immediate.
- (3) Rationale. Having illegal elbow contact above the shoulders of an opponent was an automatic flagrant 1 personal foul which resulted in two shots and the ball to the offended team. This left no option for an 'elbow' foul above the shoulders that was less severe to be called a common foul. This will allow officials to penalize illegal elbow contact above the shoulders with a common, flagrant 1 personal or flagrant 2 personal foul when it occurs during a live ball.
- (4) Estimated Budget Impact. None.
- (5) Student-Athlete Impact. Enhances student-athlete experience.

y. Bench Technical Fouls (Rule 10-4.1).

- (1) Recommendation. It is a flagrant 2 foul when bench personnel cause contact that is unnecessary, unacceptable, excessive or extreme during a live or dead ball.
- (2) Effective Date. Immediate.
- (3) Rationale. There is currently not a rule to penalize illegal contact by bench personnel without charging someone on the bench with a fight which requires a one-game suspension. This would permit a flagrant 2 foul to be called on this type of foul without a one-game suspension.
- (4) Estimated Budget Impact. None.
- (5) Student-Athlete Impact. Enhances student-athlete experience.

z. Bench Technical Fouls (Rule 10-4.1.a).

- (1) Recommendation. It is a flagrant 2 foul for a player and/or bench personnel to disrespectfully contact an official.
- (2) Effective Date. Immediate.
- (3) Rationale. Players and/or anyone on the bench contacting officials will be ejected when they disrespectfully contact an official. While this has typically been the practice, there is no rule in place to support this ejection.
- (4) Estimated Budget Impact. None.
- (5) Student-Athlete Impact. Enhances student-athlete experience.

aa. Bench Personnel in a Fight Situation (Rule 10-4.8).

- (1) Recommendation. In addition to the head coach, permit one assistant coach to leave the bench area in a fight situation. It is recommended that coaches only touch their own players when separating players in a fight situation.
- (2) Effective Date. Immediate.
- (3) Rationale. Having more than one coach on the floor in a fight situation can serve to resolve the altercation and keep players safe. Having the other assistant coaches remain in the bench area will keep team personnel from entering the playing court.
- (4) Estimated Budget Impact. None.
- (5) Student-Athlete Impact. Enhances student-athlete safety.

bb. Separation of Rules Books.

- (1) Recommendation. Create separate rules books for men and women with the following mandates: (a) Both Rules Committees will meet jointly and collaborate on an annual basis; (b) Both Rules Committees will collaborate on the development of rules language where rules are identical; (c) Rules changes that impact common issues (e.g., facility issues, court markings, etc.) will be discussed and every effort made to have common rules in those areas; and (d)

Both secretary-rules editors will collaborate on rules book preparation and interpretations.

- (2) Effective Date. Immediate.
 - (3) Rationale. Ease of understanding rules that only apply to the users.
 - (4) Estimated Budget Impact. None to the membership.
 - (5) Student-Athlete Impact. None.
- 2. Nonlegislative Items.**
- None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

- 1. Opening Remarks and Review of Meeting Schedule.** The committee reviewed the agenda and meeting schedule and prioritized the rules proposals for discussion. The committee was reminded to think globally about the game as it considers each proposal.
- 2. Approval of 2012 Annual Meeting and Teleconference Reports.** The committee approved the 2012 annual meeting report and 2012-13 teleconference reports as written.
- 3. Women's College Basketball Officiating (WCBO), LLC Competition Committee Report.** The committee received an update from Ms. Donehew on the WCBO Code of Professionalism for officials and coordinators, as well as the work of the WCBO Competition Committee subcommittees, which include Flow of the Game/Managing Physicality, Image and Respect for the Game/Caretaking of the Game/Marketing and Branding, and Youth Development/Key Fundamentals. The committee also reviewed nine rules proposals recommended by the WCBO Board of Directors.
- 4. Conference Coordinator of Officials' Report.** Mr. Meier reported to the committee that conference coordinators are committed to training and recruiting officials. He also emphasized the importance of focusing on all three levels of the game. With regard to elbow fouls above the shoulders, it was requested that officials have the flexibility to call a common foul.

5. **Active Officials' Report.** Ms. Kantner indicated to the committee that the pool of officials is growing and that officials need the right tools to succeed. She also reported that officials prefer a free flowing game where athleticism is rewarded. She expressed concern about the elbow rule and the inability for officials to call a common foul.

6. **NCAA National Coordinator of Women's Basketball Officiating Report.** Ms. Williamson reviewed the 2012-13 technical foul report and updated the committee on her efforts to educate and train officials. There were 2,300 registered officials on ArbiterSports this year and 2,100 of those officials took the required exam. Seven quizzes and 11 video bulletins on new rules and hot topics were posted on the site throughout the season. Over 1,000 officials viewed at least six of the video bulletins. Four regional clinics were conducted last fall across the country for officials.

7. **Secretary-Rules Editor Report.** Ms. Williamson informed the committee that she issued 58 uniform waivers during the 2012-13 season. In addition, she posted quizzes and video on ArbiterSports and issued over 200 rules interpretations.

8. **Review of 2012-13 Rules Survey.** The committee reviewed and discussed the results from the 2012-13 rules survey. It was noted that the survey is just one tool for the committee to use in its decision-making.

9. **Review of Guiding Principles, Voting Procedures and Principles for Rules Writing.** The committee reviewed the guiding principles that were established during last year's annual meeting, as well as voting procedures and the principles for rules writing.

10. **Review of Rules Proposals and Discussion Items.** The committee reviewed the rules change proposals and discussed each item at length. Proposals that were approved by the committee are included at the beginning of this report.

11. **Review of Interpretations.** The committee approved all interpretations issued by the secretary-rules editor during the 2012-13 season. The secretary-rules editor will review all interpretations for accuracy before incorporating them into the 2014 Case Book.

- 12. Major Officiating Concerns.** The committee identified the following items as major officiating concerns for the 2013-14 season: contact on/by the ball handler/dribbler, screening, freedom of movement, sportsmanship and contact on the shooter.
- 13. Future Meeting and Teleconference Dates.** Next year's annual meeting will take place May 5-7, 2014.
- 14. Selection of New Chair.** The committee re-elected Barbara Burke, Eastern Illinois University, as chair for the 2013-14 academic year.
- 15. Other Business.** None.
- 16. Adjournment.** The committee adjourned at 1 p.m. on Thursday, May 9, 2013.

Committee Chair: Barbara Burke, Eastern Illinois University
Staff Liaisons: Rachel Seewald, Championships and Alliances
Ashlee Ferguson, Championships and Alliances

May 6-9, 2013, Meeting	
Attendees	Absentees
Barbara Burke, Eastern Illinois University	None.
Charlene Curtis, Atlantic Coast Conference	
John Dzik, Piedmont College	
Cindy Fisher, University of San Diego	
Joe Foley, University of Arkansas, Little Rock	
Candice Lee, Vanderbilt University	
Don Mulhern, University of Wisconsin, Superior	
Jamie Pewinski, Saginaw Valley State University	
Michael Shafer, University of Richmond	
Tom Shirley, Philadelphia University	
Curt Smyth, University of New England	
Debbie Williamson, secretary-rules editor	
Other Attendees: Danielle Donehew, American Athletic Conference Ted Gumbart, Atlantic Sun Conference	

Dee Kantner, active official

Ed Meier, Ivy Group/Northeast Conference

Anucha Browne, NCAA; Kelsey Cermak, NCAA; Ashlee Ferguson, NCAA; Tina Krah, NCAA;
Mark Lewis, NCAA; Dennie Poppe, NCAA; Rachel Seewald, NCAA.