



## **Commentary on Use of Monitor in Connection with Calling Flagrant Fouls**

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**NCAA Men's Basketball Rules Committee (November 12, 2010)**

Since the release of the NCAA online clinic and the completion of many conference clinics, I have received numerous questions regarding the use of the monitor in connection with the enforcement of flagrant fouls and especially the swinging of the elbow penalties adopted by the Rules Committee for the 2010-11 season. The following is intended to clarify the rules associated with such enforcement.

### **RELEVANT RULES**

**A. Rule 2-13.2.d.** This rule should be utilized when the official makes a call on the floor for a contact foul and may have some question about the severity of the contact. The official may have called a common, intentional, flagrant, or contact dead ball technical when the uncertainty arises. Proper use of the monitor and enforcement of the rules requires the following:

1. Once the official has made a call, he may go to the monitor to determine if a flagrant foul occurred if there is a plausible reason to do so (i.e., the official is not sure of the severity of the contact, a fellow official offers information which should be reviewed with the monitor, or some other viable reason).
2. If the conditions in Paragraph 1. are met and regardless of what kind of foul the official may have called on the floor, he may use the monitor to determine if a flagrant foul occurred and to penalize the foul accordingly. If the official determines that a flagrant foul did not occur but that an intentional foul or contact dead ball technical foul did occur, that foul may be penalized.
3. No other infractions may be penalized by using the monitor. The official may not reduce a flagrant or intentional foul called on the floor to a common foul or no call.

**B. Rule 2-13.6.** This rule should be utilized when the official fails to observe any of the contact fouls noted above or a fight. Utilize the monitor as follows:

The official may go to the monitor to determine if a contact flagrant foul occurred and to enforce the flagrant foul penalty accordingly. The official may also penalize the contact by enforcing an intentional foul or a contact dead ball technical if the severity of the foul does not warrant a flagrant foul. The official may not call a common foul or any other infraction under these circumstances.

**C. Use of the Monitor – Timing.** The use of the monitor under Rule 2-13.2.d and 2-13.6 is not without time limitations. Note that when a contact foul occurs as in Rule 2-13.2.d, there shall be no review of the call once the ball again becomes alive. **Note further that A.R. 39, which further limits the time frame within which the official can utilize the monitor to the time the official “reports” the foul to the table, does not apply to men’s rules.**

When utilizing the monitor under Rule 2-13.6, the following time limitations apply:

1. In reviewing the monitor, if the official determines that a contact, flagrant/intentional foul, contact dead ball technical foul or fight occurred “when the game clock was stopped,” the foul may only be penalized during the first dead ball after the clock was properly started. (Rule 2-13.6.b.)
2. If the official determines that the foul occurred “when the game clock was running,” it can only be penalized:
  - a) During the first dead ball after the clock was properly stopped; or
  - b) Before the second live ball when the ball became dead after a successful goal but the clock continued to run. (Rule 2-13.6.b.)
3. After reviewing the monitor, when it is determined that no contact, flagrant/intentional foul, contact dead ball technical foul or fight occurred or that such foul did not occur within the time frames prescribed for enforcement, play shall resume where the stoppage of play occurred to review the act. Any previous activity before the monitor review shall not be cancelled or nullified.

In addition to the above referenced rules, A.R.’s 35-38 should be reviewed for a clearer understanding of the use of the monitor in connection with flagrant fouls.

#### **RELEVANT CASE PLAY**

**Play 1:** A-1 is dribbling the ball with the clock running and 50 seconds left in the game. B-1 flagrantly fouls A-2. The officials fail to observe the foul. A-1 continues to move toward the basket, shoots and scores making the score 82-81 in favor of Team B. After the inbounds pass, B-3 dribbles to half court and calls a time out. The officials notice that A-2 is writhing in pain or bleeding and believe that a flagrant foul may have occurred. They review the play on the monitor and agree that B-1 flagrantly fouled A-2. Can they penalize B-1 for a flagrant foul?

**RULING:** No. Since the play occurred when the game clock was running and the game clock subsequently was properly stopped after the made basket by A-1 in the last 59.9 seconds of the game, the foul could only have been penalized until the ball next became alive after the basket. (Rule 2-13.b.1.)