



Kicked Ball

Rule 4-29: "Kicking the ball is intentionally striking it with any part of the leg or foot". However, contact intentionally initiated with any part of the leg or foot to control the ball is considered a kicking violation as well. A "soccer stop" of a rolling ball (4.29B), directing a rolling ball with a foot or feet to the hands, directing or gathering the ball with a foot or feet while on the floor to keep it from an opponent -- while not actually "striking the ball" in the strictly literal sense, each are illegal and additional ways the Rule 4-29 violation can be committed. Examples below:

Controlling the Ball with the Feet - 4-29 Violation

Ball's Contact with Feet Ruled Unintentional - Held Ball

Coverage Responsibilities: Pass and Crash

It is important that it is discussed in the officials' pregame which official is responsible for the pass, and who is responsible for the crashing passer. When both officials just naturally follow the pass, the legal guarding position of the defender into whom the passer crashes cannot be assessed. The new MHSAA Basketball Officials Manual tried to make the answer the same for both systems.

In 2-person (p.91), "Officials must pregame the coverage of pass-offs on drives to identify which official will follow the ball and which will stay with the driver to cover any crash after the pass. Typically the Trail will take the pass and the Lead will take the crash, assessing the legal guarding position of the defender."

In 3-person (p.110), "The Trail or Center must follow the pass and the Lead must maintain focus on the defender into whom the passer may crash, assessing the defender's legal guarding position..."

Lead Follows the Pass, Misses the Crash

Game Management

The 13:00 conference with crew, captains, and head coaches should feature an alternating variety of things to positively impact the game and keep these conferences fresh and relevant. One thing, however, should be a constant. Seeking an affirmative response from each coach, the Referee's pregame duties includes this: "Verify with the head coach prior to each contest, that his/her team members' uniforms and equipment are legal and will be worn properly, and that all participants will exhibit proper sporting behavior throughout the contest" (Rule 2-4-5). That's a rule, not merely a suggestion. However the Referee wants to express that in his/her own words is fine. Bound by rule, that one agenda item must be somehow be mentioned at all 13:00 pregame meetings.

REMEMBER: the AP arrow doesn't change if it's not an AP throw-in. The AP arrow favors team A to begin the second quarter. During the intermission, team B's coach asks that the scorebook be changed to include a player not previously listed. The second quarter begins with two administrative technical foul free throws and a team A throw-in at the division line opposite table. However, the AP arrow does not change after this throw-in ends. This throw-in was as a result of the technical foul; it was not an AP throw-in. Review Casebook 6.4.1B.

Rule Review:

A1 is dribbling along the base line as she drives to the basket. B1, in the path of A1, appears to have established a legal guarding position when contact is made, except that B1 has one foot touching the end line.

Ruling:

This is a blocking foul because a player may not be out of bounds and achieve or maintain a legal guarding position.