

## Uniformity and Consistency...Play-Calling Proficiency

### Word Mean Something!

Note: In rule 1-13-2 and casebook 1.13.2, it's not the "coach's" box, it's the "COACHING" box. What's the difference? One term is proprietary, as if it's owned by an individual who then can do in there anything and everything desired. The other -- the way it should be regarded -- conveys the purpose of it: it's the box to be used for COACHING.

Now, if things other than coaching are coming from that recently lengthened location, officials should know how to implement the options offered in rule 4-48, "Warning for Coach." All for the sake of the beneficial purpose for which the box has been allowed.

The size of the coaching box has been extended this season. But the intended purpose of it remains the same. And the intended purpose of last year's new rule 4-48 stays the same, too. To a great extent, it's up to us, with a judicious dose of professionalism, tactfulness, and effective communication, as well as wise use of the tools of the rules issued to us, to extol the order, dignity, and civility the game deserves by promoting and prompting the proper use of THE COACHING BOX.

### What Good Looks Like: Lead Rotating

Camps and preseason scrimmages reveal many L's rotating and then putting two eyes on the competitive matchup that C is already covering with his/her two eyes. That means four eyes on the on-ball competitive matchup, which is two too many.

The correct mechanic is for L to transition to the other side which has become strong-side in order to provide surveillance over what C can't handle over there. C's got an overload that requires

more eyes over there than just his/her two. C's watching the competitive matchup he needs to be watching over there but can't rightly observe everyone else there also. So, here comes lead to assist.

But Lead, as you rotate over, don't be putting two more eyes on what two eyes are already covering. The three-person system was developed to allow four eyes to be dedicated to off-ball surveillance. Cover the off-ball matchup(s) unable to be covered by the Center.

[HERE](#) is a good example of "What Good Looks Like"

While rotating, it's important that all officials involved be "in the right place at the right time and looking at the right thing to make the right call." Quite often, however, some common rotation errors are committed that keep us from getting are calls correct. Do any of the errors in this list show up in your rotations?

**ERROR 1:** L ball-watching over in C's area, not sensing the need to rotate.

**ERROR 2:** L rotates, but too late.

**ERROR 3:** C sees L coming across and immediately loops up toward the division line to a high T position.

**ERROR 4:** L rotates, but while he/she does, his eye focus straight on the matchup for which C is already providing ample coverage so that there are extra eyes unnecessarily focused on the ball.

**ERROR 5:** L misses a foul in the low post across the lane because he/she hasn't rotated in a timely fashion and he is straight-lined from his position over on the weak side. Or L calls a foul on a play which he cannot be certain because the "slot" between the offensive and defensive players is not visible from his position on the other side of the lane.

**Rules Review:** Which results in a jump ball in the center circle between the two opponents mentioned in the answer?

- A. Neither jumper A1 nor B1 touch the tossed ball and it touches the floor.
- B. The touched jump ball deflects off A2 and B2 simultaneously and then goes out-of-bounds on the end-line in Team A's backcourt.
- C. The touched jump ball is grasped mutually by A3 and B3 at Team B's free throw line and a held ball is called.
- D. All of the above.
- E. None of the above.

**Last Bulletin's Review:** A1 jumps in the air to attempt a try. Thinking the attempt would be blocked, he gives up on his attempt and begins a dribble while still in the air. This is traveling under 4-44-3c—"The pivot foot may not be lifted before the ball is released to start a dribble."

