

MHSAA OFFICIALS BULLETIN

Rules

SITUATION: What is the ruling when simultaneous free throw lane violations happen and then the free throw, the last of a series, is successful? Does the free throw count? Is another attempt awarded? How is the ball made live next, and where? What specific rule reference applies?

Here's what this situation could look like: [Video Play Clip](#)

RULING: "If there is a simultaneous violation by each team, the ball becomes dead and no point can be scored. Remaining free throws are administered or play is resumed by the team entitled to the alternating-possession throw-in from the designated out-of-bounds spot nearest to where the simultaneous violation occurred" (Rule 9-1 PENALTIES 3).

Take a look at the video again. Did the official get the ruling right?

Mechanics: Throw-in

Approved mechanics require the official administering the throw-in to signal either "Spot Throw-In" ([Video Example](#)) or "You May Run the Endline" ([Video Example](#)). This is especially significant when a team's throw-in is from its opponent's endline. This is even more vital when after a time-out. Why? So that if they get it wrong, like this ([Video Example](#)), it's "on them" and not "on us."

NFHS Point of Emphasis

Since one of the most prominent POE's this season is "Throw-In Violations", here's a brief video of a presentation illustrating: [Where the Player Doing a Spot Throw-In CAN Legally Move](#)

Mechanics: Rotating: Lead Official

Typically, the location of the on-ball competitive matchup on the other side of the court, together with the predominant number of players over there are prime indicators that Lead must rotate across. When the official on the side of the court opposite Lead is overloaded and cannot officiate all the action happening in his/her PCA, that's when the assistance of the rotated referee is especially required.

It's important, though, that the Lead, when and after rotating across, NOT put eyes on the on-ball competitive matchup that the other official is already watching. Lead went across to officiate what his/her partner can't due to the excess of action over there. Top priority: the players in the lower part of the free throw lane, the low post area. From Lead's former position, that matchup is a straight-lined, stacked situation at best. That's the same look the overloaded official has on that matchup down low. From Lead's new rotated position, he/she has an ideal look at the "slot" between those two lower post players. And that's a prerequisite for good, accurate play calling.

When to rotate is key for officials working 3-person mechanics; but a working knowledge of this principle is now also the aim for those working 2-person games, and it would look virtually the same as this if Lead were rotating across in the 2-person system: [Excellent Lead Rotating Principles Practiced](#)

Rules Review: A5 is awarded two free throws and makes the first basket. On A5's second attempt, A15 violates and Team B is awarded a throw-in. Can the thrower of Team B move along the end line?

Ruling: No, the throw-in must be from a designated spot outside the end line.