

I A A B O E - C o u r t

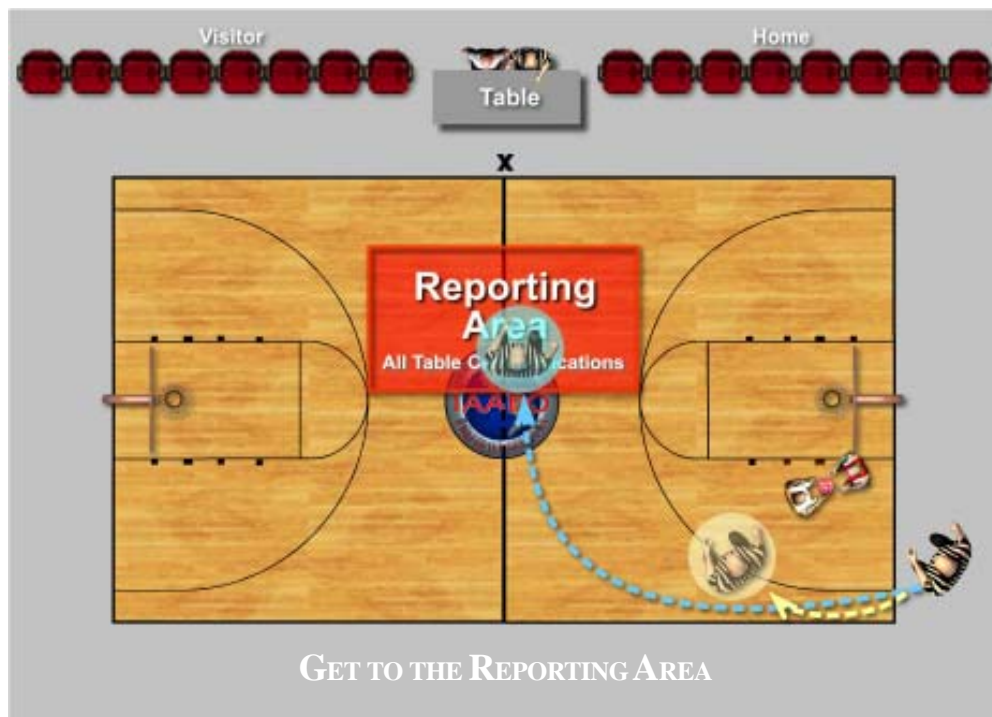
It is frequently observed in high school officiating that the recognized high school mechanics are deficient. The high school official utilizes mechanics they deem fashionable. These unauthorized mechanics are copied from men and women NCAA mechanics as well as NBA and WNBA mechanics. If the games are different, the rules are different, why must the high school official attempt to make the mechanics the same. In an attempt to educate, please take into consideration the following situations illustrated with E-Court:

REPORTING AREA

The reporting area was established to enhance communication, minimize errors and mistakes, and to create a uniform area for all table communication. High School officials, however, are consistently using the collegiate mechanic of “clearing the arc” and reporting from any area that is convenient, even if it is 50 feet away (see highlighted official). Officials must consider the differences between table personnel at the high school and collegiate levels. Students are frequently responsible for scorer’s table management at the high school level. The scorer’s table personnel at the high school level, unlike the collegiate table, consistently change. This explains why it is imperative that clear and concise reporting is a vital component of the table communication process. By taking a position that is in the open, closer to the scorer’s table, clear of the players, there is less chance for inconsistent and failed reporting. Doesn’t the Lead Official move to the Trail position anyway and what is the problem for the Trail Official to move a few steps toward the reporting area before settling down to report the ruling? If officials were to utilize the reporting “box” (blue highlighted official), as it is referred to, on a consistent basis, there would be fewer cases of misunderstood numbers and correctable error occurrences.

WORKING THE ARC

The responsibility of the Trail Official in the front court is dictated by each particular play situation. The Trail Official’s primary coverage area should not be “standing on a dime,” one step inside the division line. Too frequently the Trail Official arrives at this position, becomes complacent and remains motionless 40 feet from the basket (highlighted official).



GET TO THE REPORTING AREA



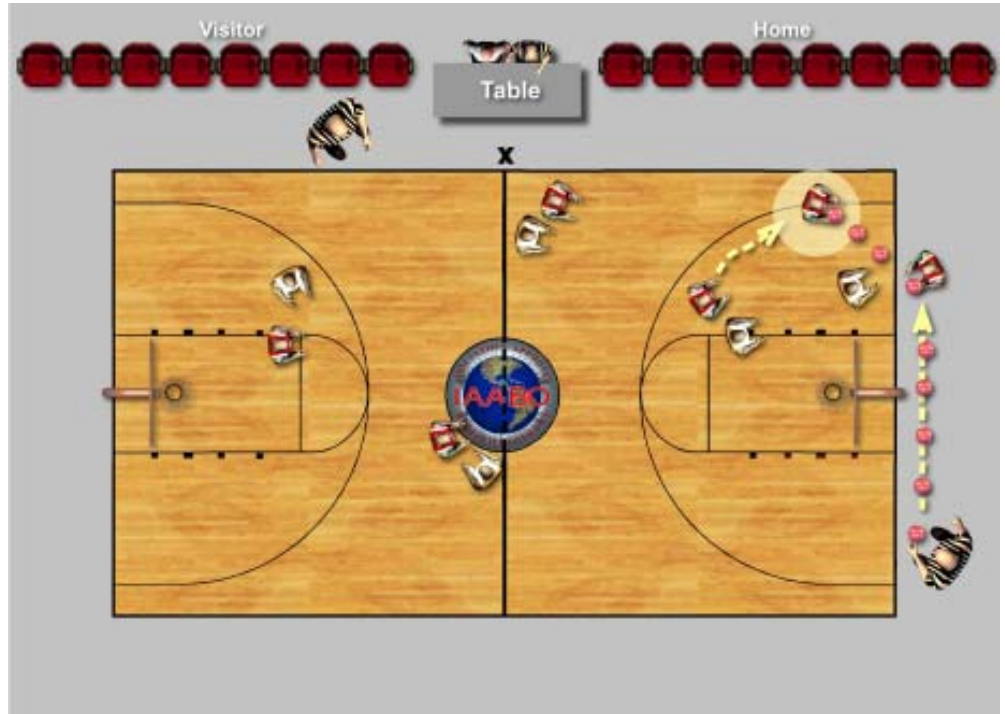
“WORK THE ARC”

Too many officials are watching television. In a crew of two, the Trail Official is always moving to improve, whether moving down the sideline toward the endline, onto the court when necessary, but always and consistently working the arc. The Trail Official closes down (steps toward the basket) on a try for goal and when the ball is released for the final free throw.

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BALL BOUNCED ACROSS THE LANE LINE

When the ball is bounced across the lane line during the administration of a throw-in from the backcourt in a game using a crew of two, efficient court coverage is significantly reduced. The Trail Official is in a compromised position when observing those issues affecting the subsequent throw-in, especially if a quick trapping or pressing situation develops. The Trail Official exercises this technique simply to keep the new lead from moving to the opposite side of the court as a result of where the ball went out of bounds. The Lead Official, positioned further down the court, is not in the most advantageous position for on the ball coverage. This is not a crew of three, where the center official can move further down the sideline to assist the Trail. The Trail Official must administer the throw-in from the side of the basket line where the ball is to be put in play.



NEVER PRECEDE THE BALL UP THE COURT
The Trail Official should never precede the dribbler while progressing up the floor from the backcourt to the frontcourt. The Trail Official, however, is frequently observed two steps in front of the dribbler when moving in transition as well as progressing up the court before a designated spot throw-in or a throw-in after a goal is scored, is completed. What would happen if a double dribble occurred or the ball went out of bounds after a clumsy dribble. Stay a few steps behind the dribbler as well as a player administering a throw-in. The few times you may be beaten up the floor is slight compared to the situations that could be extremely embarrassing for the team of officials!

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