

NCAA Women's Basketball Rule Changes for 2004-05

Rules changes are listed below in the order in which they will appear in the 2004 rules book. Rule references are from the 2004 rules book. NCAA Championship/Competition Committees for Divisions I thru III will meet the last week of June for final approval. Any changes will be published in the next issue of *Sportorials*.

2-5.1—Officials shall be permitted to use a courtside television monitor, when there is uncertainty as to who should shoot an awarded free throw.

Rationale: To get the call correct in these rare situations. Since the ball is already dead, minimal time will be added to the game.

2-5.2—For games with a courtside television monitor and a tenth-of-a-second game clock, when officials are required by Rule 2-5.2 to view the monitor before making a final ruling, the determining factor as to whether the ball was released before time expired shall be when the game clock shows 0.00, provided that the game clock is visible on the monitor. When the game clock shows 0.00 before the shot leaves the shooter's hand, the period has ended and the shot shall not count. When the clock is not visible, the red or LED light shall be the determining factor, then the sounding of the horn. If definitive information is not available from the monitor, the original ruling that was based on a call using the red or LED lights and then the sounding of the horn shall stand.

Rationale: This clarifies game-ending situations. Using the reading of 0.00, which indicates that the game has ended, factors out the time lag that occurs when this reading sends an impulse that triggers the mechanisms in the light and the horn.

2-12.12 and 5-7—For game- or period-ending last-second shots, the red light or LED lights (one of which is required for Division I), when present, shall be used as the indicator for the expiration of playing time. This signal shall terminate player activity. The sounding of the horn shall be used as a backup or when the red or LED lights are not available in Division II or III.

Rationale: Using the red light provides a consistent measure that terminates player activity.

2-13.7—For all double fouls, return ball to the team that had control at the time of the fouls at a designated spot without a reset of the shot clock.

Rationale: This administers all double personal fouls in a consistent manner because of the inclusion of double flagrant personal fouls and double intentional personal fouls.

3-4.6—With 59.9 seconds remaining in the game, substitutions will only be allowed for a timeout, violation or foul.

4-26.3-12—After any technical foul or double technical foul, the ball will be put back into play at the point of interruption to create consistency. One exception to the rule is that for a single flagrant technical foul, the ball will be put in play at the division line.

4-33—The following definition for **guarding** shall be added: Guarding shall be the act of legally placing the body in the path of an offensive opponent. The guarding position shall be initially established and then maintained in bounds on the playing court. To maintain a legal guarding position after the initial position has been attained, the guard . . .

1. is not required to continue having the torso face the opponent.
2. is required to have either one foot or both feet on the playing court. Interpretation: (If one foot is on the playing court, the other foot may be lifted and extended over the boundary line. Once, however, the second foot is on the boundary line or extended over the boundary line and touching out of bounds, the defender is no longer considered to be in a legal guarding position. A blocking foul must be called in this these circumstances, even if the offensive player clearly created the contact!)
3. may shift to maintain guarding position in the path of the dribbler, provided that the guard does not charge into the dribbler or otherwise cause contact as in Rules 2-21.2 and 10-21.3.
4. may move laterally or obliquely to maintain position provided such a move is not toward the opponent when contact occurs.
5. may raise the hands or may jump within his or her own vertical plane.
6. may turn or duck to absorb shock when contact by the dribbler is imminent. In such a case, the dribbler shall not be absolved from the responsibility of the contact.

Rationale: The current rule does not describe how a player may maintain guarding position. The definition provides clarity.

4-42—The following definition shall be added: A **jump stop** is executed when a player catches the ball while moving or dribbling with . . .

1. One foot on the playing court, jumps off that foot and lands simultaneously on both feet (no pivot foot).
2. Two feet off the playing court, lands on one foot, jumps off that foot and lands simultaneously on both feet (no pivot foot).

A jump stop may also be executed when the dribbler has one foot on the playing court, initiates a jump off that foot, ends the dribble with *both* feet off the playing court and lands simultaneously on both feet (either foot can be established as the pivot foot).

Rationale: Adds clarity to a commonly misunderstood term.

5–10.6—In games involving electronic media, when a foul is committed that causes the ball to become dead at one of the specified times marks on the game clock for an electronic-media timeout, that electronic-media timeout shall be taken, then the free throw(s) shall be taken after that electronic-media timeout.

Rationale: Allows for better flow by requiring electronic media to use their timeouts at the specified marks and preventing timeouts from being used in close proximity of each other.

Equipment Rules Supplements—Free-throw lane space marks and blocks and coaching box lines do not have to be a contrasting color of any other lines on the court as required previously.

Rationale: Allows schools more flexibility when painting courts.

Women's Points of Emphasis—*Displacement*. Including handchecking, post play, screening, cutting and rebounding, will remain a point of emphasis for a second year. The *Principle of Verticality* will also be a point of emphasis for 2004–05.