



Referee Newsletter:

February 20, 2015

Ed Reed, Coordinator of Officials

Assignments

Assignments have been posted on the CWPA website through the April 18-19th weekend. There are still a few minor changes to be made, so please check the schedule every week:

http://www.collegiatewaterpolo.org/Officiating/assignments/2015_Women_Assignments

All Head Referees should confirm their assignment with Ed Reed ASAP. As Head Referee, you're responsible for confirming your crew as well, at least one week in advance of the date. Each referee assigned should contact the Head Referee ASAP and confirm your intentions to accept the assignment. If you need to withdraw from an assignment contact the Head Referee and Ed Reed ASAP. This needs to be done in a timely fashion so we can re-assign the tournament or game schedule.

Reimbursement for expenses must go thru the CWPA office on the standard form located at:

<http://www.collegiatewaterpolo.org/officiating/forms/index>

If you click on Referee Reimbursement Form a box will open and you can choose to open the form with Microsoft Excel or Save File. Fill out the form, scan receipts and send it into the CWPA office. The Head Referee reports the number of games and mileage (one way) on the Head Referee Report. Car rentals, gas receipts, plane tickets, and parking fees should be reported on the Referee Reimbursement Form

Suit Grabs

Offensive players must have the freedom to swim or move to the ball in order to run their offense. Any attempt by the defender to grab the suit and control this movement must be addressed appropriately. Rule 21-9 is very specific: "To hold, sink or pull back an opponent who is not holding the ball" is an exclusion foul. If it's inside the 5 meter line, and in the judgment of the referee a "probable goal", it would be a penalty foul Rule 22-2. *The women seem to have a propensity for using the straps of the suit* like a handle to control the player whether on offense or defense. If the offensive player has her hand on the ball and there's a suit grab then it would be treated like any other hold; probably a No Call unless it is over aggressive and misconduct.



The above sequence shows a typical perimeter use of the suit grab to control an offensive player about to move to the ball and pick it up for a pass. By holding the straps initially the defender can limit the offensive players movement and keep her close so when she grabs the ball the defender can avoid separation and attack the player with relative ease. You will see this same technique at the CF position with regularity

Holding to prevent the offensive player, who is not holding the ball, from executing the offense is an advantage lost and needs to be dealt with appropriately. Always take a close look at the CF position where the players are maneuvering for a position of advantage. If the CF defender is grabbing the suit to hold and gaining an unfair advantage they should be excluded. The ball isn't required to be on it's way into set in order to call the exclusion. Control the level of physicality, call the exclusion foul and send the appropriate message to the defender.

Exposure

Exposure is a different story and it trumps "hand on the ball." Rule 5-4 Interpretation: "In women's competition, a defender shall be excluded for 20 seconds after grabbing an offensive player's suit and causing breast exposure. Likewise when the offensive player grabs the defender and causes exposure, the player shall be excluded for 20 seconds. If a player grabs her own suit and exposes a breast, a 20 second exclusion shall be called."

This can happen on the perimeter when an offensive player extends her free hand to the defender when she is holding the ball and grabs the suit. In the 3,4,5 positions it is hard for the perimeter referee to always see this action and may result in exposure especially if the defender tries to show it. The attack



referee can easily collaborate with the perimeter referee in many situations pending player distribution and location.

This offensive player in the adjacent picture is at the P4 position. She is about to extend her free hand to the defender's chest to grab the front of the suit or push to create separation for passing the ball. If it turns into exposure it is an offensive exclusion otherwise it would be a contra foul for pushing to create separation from the defender.

Center Forward Offense

Take a look at the next picture, what do you see? How did this happen? Did the defender pull back on the



CF or did the CF push back on the defender positioning herself for a move to the ball? In this particular situation the CF was stronger than the defender and moved back without head butting and over powered the defender. *Many times the less experienced referee would assume a pull back and exclude the defender without letting the CF complete a move to the ball* and make a shooting attempt on the goal. The defender is in a very weak position as you can see by the location of her legs and body relative to the CF. The CF can easily rotate on her hips and move to the ball for a step out, sweep shot or even a backhand attempt pending the defender stopping the attempt by holding. Have patience let the offensive player make a move to the ball and see

if the defender actually holds the CF or pulls back. Don't be a reactionary and anticipate the call. Be in the moment, have patience and make your decision to No Call or exclude based on the entire sequence.

Have You Watched the Season Introductory Video on NCAA Advantage Website?

<http://www.arbitersports.com/front/107515/Site>