

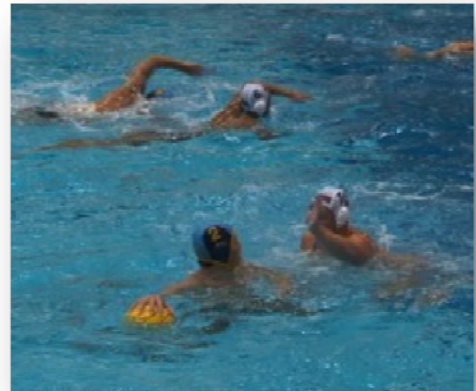


Referee Newsletter: October 15, 2012

Ed Reed, Coordinator of Officials

Notes: NCAA-Bob Corb, September's National Evaluators Conference Call

- (1) ***“On the perimeter*** it is essential that the referee apply the rules as written. An ordinary foul should only be called if the defending player is committing an ordinary foul (impeding) and the offensive player can no longer play the ball. If an offensive player is attempting to receive a pass and the defender plays the man and not the ball by holding, sinking, or pulling back, an ***exclusion*** should be called. If the defending player commits an ordinary foul and then interferes with the free-throw by holding or pushing off the offensive player, the defending player should be excluded. Conversely, referees must be in position to see if the offensive player pushes off the defending player in order to make space to catch or pass the ball, and if so, a contra foul should be called.”
- (2) ***“When a cap comes off***, it must be replaced in a timely manner. This is first and foremost an issue of player safety. Rule 4-1 states, "If a player loses the cap, the player will replace it at the next appropriate stoppage of the game when the player's team is in possession of the ball." Referees are also instructed to apply the advantage rule but in this case player safety is the highest priority.”
- (3) ***“When an excluded player*** is waved in by either the referee or by the score table, the referee must ensure that the player reenters the field of play legally (Rule 21-3). In particular, if the reentering player affects the alignment of the goal, Rule 21-13 describes the appropriate response by the referee.”
- (4) ***“There was also discussion***, but less consensus, on what should be an exclusion and what should be a 5 m penalty shot when an offensive player is fouled inside 5 m. It was agreed that offensive players should make an effort to finish the play and score a natural goal, but when they are unable to do so due to a defensive foul the referee must make a call. If the referee believes that a probable goal has been taken away by the defenders actions, a 5 m is the appropriate call.”
- (5) ***“There was also discussion*** about the effects on the game of shortening the pool and possession time. Once again, there was no strong consensus, but the point was made that referees must set the tone early as to the degree of physicality that will be acceptable at 2 m, on the perimeter, and in transition.”



Key Points on the Perimeter to Think About

Quick Whistles- calling quick/automatic ordinary fouls only complicates the issue for consistency.

Fouls Need to be Earned- be patient, determine who the aggressor/instigator is and allow the defender to respond in a legal manner according to the rules. A no call may be more appropriate in many cases.

While Holding the Ball- The defender is allowed to tackle the offensive player in a non-overly aggressive manner. Unreasonable levels of physical contact should not be allowed i.e. contact to the head or neck involving player safety issues. The defenders strategy should be **“play the ball and not the person.”** The offensive player is not allowed to use his free hand to create an advantage whether above the water or below by straight-arming the defender to create space or using the free hand/arm to keep the defender at bay. The offensive player may not invade the defenders space with the ball in hand to attempt drawing a foul. This can be a player safety issue if the offensive player leads with the head and rams the defender. A no call or contra (offensive foul) should be applied according to the severity of the action.



Figure 1



Figure 2



Figure 3

In **Figure 1**, the offensive player is holding the ball and using the opposite hand/arm to maintain separation keeping the defender at a safe distance (Contra Foul). **Figure 2**, the offensive player is holding the ball and uses the opposite hand/arm to knock the defenders advancing hand/arm away attempting to deflect the defenders attempt to tackle (Contra Foul). In **Figure 3**, the offensive player received a pass, drops the ball and moves into the defender trying to draw an ordinary foul. The defender is not the aggressor and quickly responses by showing two hands/arms in a vertical, non-impeding manner (No Call or Contra Foul).

PLEASE KEEP IN MIND: When the offensive player initiates contact, **sinks into** the defender, and lets go of the ball, **two advantages are lost**, possession of the ball and position. **Therefore, no call should be made that favors the offensive player.**

When Not Holding the Ball- If the defender is invading the offensive player's space, when he is not holding the ball, then impeding is taking place and an ordinary foul can be called. Two hand up in a vertical position without any body lean or impeding contact on the offensive player shows a no foul situation and the offensive player should not be rewarded with an ordinary foul. Impeding must be demonstrated before and ordinary foul is called.

Skillful Players- will let go of the ball when being pressured by the defender, protect the ball while absorbing the pressure and make the ordinary foul obvious (Figures Below).



Pressure-No Foul Holding Ball



Impeding-No Foul, Holding Ball



Letting Go of Ball- Draws Ordinary Foul

Defender knocks the ball away- when the ball is passed to the offensive player dry. Sometimes the referee assumes this is a foul and calls a quick ordinary. However, there is no foul when the ball is in the hand of the offensive player unless it's a player safety issue (defenders hand to the head or neck). Again, be patient and see what follows, the defender needs to have the opportunity to respond after the ball is knocked away.

Intentional fouls- deserve a little more patience and a better read. If the defender holds, pulls back, or sinks, the rule is very clear, an exclusion foul should be called. If the ball is far away from the offensive player and the defender slightly impedes, give the offensive player the opportunity to get the ball. Calling a quick ordinary gives the defender an advantage, the opportunity to drop back. By having a little more patience a more significant penalty could be applied or the natural flow of the game could continue uninterrupted. Playing the ball should be encouraged, ***playing the individual by intentionally fouling needs to be discouraged.***

Unfortunately not reading the action properly can impact a game, a situation that can perpetuate inconsistencies from one game (or referee) to the next. As a referee you should avoid injecting your influence into the game. You may think a quick whistle is moving the game along, but in reality, you are influencing the natural flow of the game, creating problems for future games (referees). Game strategies are affected, rule inconsistencies are created, and players/coaches become frustrated. Use the same patience that is expected at 2Mers and be consistent throughout the entire game. Referees are there to call the game according to the rules, consistently with fairness, you are a backdrop to the actual action of the game.