This bulletin will present recent play situations that have occurred in Connecticut games this season. As a reminder, Connecticut has six (6) area rules interpreters, and a state interpreter who serves as our liaison to the CIAC. We are members of the International Association of Approved Basketball Officials (IAABO); the world’s oldest, largest and most respected organization dedicated to the education and continuous improvement of basketball officials. We annually train our officials to follow the rules and points of emphasis publicized by the CIAC and the NFHS.

The following individuals are the Connecticut high school basketball rules interpreters:

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**PLAY SITUATIONS**

**Situation #1** – During the second of two free throws by A1, B5 breaks the plane of the three-point line before the ball hits the ring. A1’s free throw attempt misses the ring. The official penalizes both violations. **Ruling** – Correct, penalize both violations, Use the AP arrow and put the ball in play on the end line near a lane line for a designated spot throw in. (Rule 9-1-3c, 9-1-3f, 9-1 Penalties 3, 4b, and 4c)

**Situation #2** – Player A1 jumps and secures a rebound among a crowd of players underneath Team A’s basket. Several players lose their balance and fall down. A-1 also loses his/her balance and falls on top of the other players but does not touch the floor. A-1, while lying on the other players, manages to pass the ball to teammate A-2, who scores. Is this a legal play? **Ruling** – This is legal. Rule 4-44-5 states that player must touch the playing court for a traveling violation to be ruled.

**Situation #3** – Are there color restrictions on knee pads? **Ruling** – Knee pads are considered leg sleeves; therefore, they must be black, white, beige, or the predominant color of the jersey and the same color for every player. A knee brace (Rule 3-5-3a, b, c - NOTE) does not need to meet color restrictions.

Any legal apparel worn by players in addition to the uniform MUST meet the color requirements and be the same color for EVERY player. Undershirts, however, must be same color as the game jersey.

**Situation #4** - A1 blocks a pass near the end line. The ball falls to the floor inbounds. A1, who is off balance, steps off the playing court, returns inbounds, secures control of the ball and dribbles. **Ruling** – Legal. A1 did not leave the court voluntarily and did not have control of the ball when he/she did. A1 may return to the playing court, regain inbound status and then regain control of the ball. (Rule 4-35-1a, 7-1-1, 9-3-3, Case Book 7.1.1 Situation B)

**Situation #5** – A1 blocks a pass near the side line and the ball goes into A1’s front court. A1’s momentum carries him/her out of bounds. He/she immediately returns inbounds, secures control of the ball, dribbles, shoots, and scores. Is this a legal play? **Ruling** – Legal. (4-35-1a; 7-1-2; 9-3, Case Book 7.1.1 Situation C)

**Situation #6** – A1’s throw-in is caught by A2 with 2 feet in the air. A2 jumped from the frontcourt, controlled the ball in the air, and while still in the air passed the ball to A3, who is in the backcourt. Is this a legal play? **Ruling** – No, this is a backcourt violation. The throw-in exception only applies to the player initially receiving the throw-in pass. Since the throw-in has ended, all backcourt rules apply. Had A2 just landed in the backcourt, there would have been no violation. (Rule 9-9-3, Case Book 9.9.1.E)

**Situation #7** – Can team members wear head phones during warm-ups, on the bench, between quarters, etc.? **Ruling** – This is illegal. Headphones are not appropriate equipment for the game of basketball. (Rule 3-5-1, 3-5-4-e: Head decorations and headwear, except those specified above (i.e. - headbands), are prohibited, Case Book 3.5 Situation A: While this situation references jewelry, you can substitute "decorative necklace" with "head phones" and the ruling is the same.

**Situation #8** - Alternating Possession Arrow – Reverse or No Reverse?  
Rule 6.4.5 states - *The opportunity to make an alternating possession throw-in is lost if throw-in team violates.* Team A has ball for throw-in to start 3rd quarter and is ruled for an out-of-bounds violation. Team A loses the ball due to the violation and the AP arrow is reversed to Team B. Rule 6.4.5 also states: *If either team fouls during an alternating possession throw-in, it does not cause the throw-in team to lose the possession arrow.* Team A has ball for throw-into start 3rd quarter. A1 commits blocking (team control) foul. Team A loses the ball but retains the AP arrow, which is not reversed.