



BASKETBALL

Opposite Table Foul-Reporting Mechanics

As we have started to prepare for the upcoming season, many have inquired about the rationale for, and the details of, the change to the mechanic for reporting fouls. This change is primarily designed for MHSAA Three-Person mechanics, though it will apply to MHSAA Two-Person mechanics as well. The reasons are two-fold: Balance in calling responsibilities and to reduce the number of extended conversations between coaches and officials that disrupt flow and take away the concentration of the official.

As a preview to this change from previous years, the following sections of the manual are shown below. While formatting may be different in the publication, this is the language that will be included:

2-PERSON SWITCHING AFTER FOULS:

A. General Provisions:

1. When a foul results in one or more free throws, after reporting the foul from within the reporting area, the ruling official will go **opposite table** to be the Trail official.
2. The four corners designating the reporting area are the top point of each free throw circle and points toward the scorer's table half-way to the sideline.
3. If the non-ruling official is the Trail, he replaces the ruling official, moving to the Lead position tableside to administer the free throw(s).
4. If the ruling official is the Trail on tableside, that official must move to the Trail position opposite table for the free throws and the Lead administers the free throw(s) from a tableside position.
5. The non-calling official should assist with identifying the free throw shooter as the ruling official is moving to the reporting area.
6. For detail of the mechanic following fouls not resulting in one or more free throws, see "Fouls, Dead Ball Switching".

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E. Dead Ball Switching:

1. Officials must switch positions on all fouls not followed by one or more free throws.
2. After fouls resulting in one or more free throws, the calling official reports the foul to table, then moves "opposite table" to Trail (as detailed in "FREE THROW, General Provisions).
3. The non-calling official, maintaining visual observance of all players on the court, moves around the players to Lead to prepare to administer the free throws.

3-PERSON SWITCHING AFTER FOULS:

A. General Provisions:

1. When a foul results in one or more free throws, after reporting the foul from within the reporting area, the ruling official will go **opposite table**.
2. The official opposite table replaces the ruling official.
3. The third official remains in the same position.
4. The four corners designating the reporting area are the top point of each free throw circle and points toward the scorer's table half-way to the sideline.
5. If the ruling official was in the Center position opposite table at the time of the foul, that official moves to the reporting area to report the foul, then moves back to the Center position opposite table for the free throw(s).
6. The non-calling officials must assist with identifying the free throw shooter as the ruling official is moving to the reporting area.
7. For detail of the mechanic following fouls not resulting in one or more free throws, see "Fouls, Dead Ball Switching".

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E. Dead-Ball Switching:

1. The non-calling officials are responsible for initiating a dead-ball switch while the calling official is proceeding to report the foul.
2. After proceeding to the reporting box to report the foul, the ruling official moves "opposite table" to either Trail or Center, and the official formerly "opposite table" replaces the ruling official.
3. "Long Report, No Long Switch": If a team control foul is ruled by the Lead in the front court and the subsequent throw-in will be administered on the endline opposite the table, he may do a "long report" by pausing briefly after the foul, stepping to a convenient location near the free throw line (allow the players to clear) and administer the resulting endline throw-in opposite table as the new Trail.
4. If a team control foul is ruled by the Lead in the front court and the subsequent throw-in will be administered on the endline nearer the table, partners will execute a standard dead-ball switch with the reporting official going opposite table. The ruling official reports the foul from within the reporting area, then moves to the Center position opposite the table. The official opposite the table replaces the calling official as new trail and administers the throw-in.