

2007-08 NCAA Women's Basketball

Rules Changes:

The rules changes below were approved by the Women's Basketball Rules Committee and by the Playing Rules Oversight Panel (PROP). Unless otherwise indicated, the rules changes will be implemented for the upcoming 2007-08 season. The stated rule references below represent current references in the 2007 rules book.

1. Hair Control Devices. Rule 3-5.15 (page 72). Any item that goes around the entire head, such as headbands or hair control devices, shall be of a single solid color, no more than 2 inches wide with only one institutional or manufacturer's logo and the dominant color of the game jersey or white, black or beige (women only). Hard items including but not limited to barrettes, beads and bobby pins are prohibited.

Rationale: Hair control devices did not meet previous headband rule requirements and were not clearly covered by rule. The statement that any item that goes entirely around the head clarifies what is permissible whether it be hair control devices or headbands thus making the rule consistent and enforceable. Adding the colors of beige (women only) and black to the permissible colors makes it easier for players to meet rule requirements.

2. Throw-In Ends. Rule 4-65.5 (page 102). A throw-in shall end when a passed ball is legally touched inbounds or out-of-bounds by another player on the playing court, before going out-of-bounds. **Rationale:** This makes the end of throw-ins consistent. Under the current rule, an alternating throw-in ended differently than any other throw-in. Since there is team control on a throw-in there is no need to distinguish between the different types of throw-ins.

3. Delay of Game. Rule 9-5.4 (page 157). If an opponent of the thrower-in has any part of her person over the inside plane of the sideline or endline before the ball has crossed that boundary line, a delay of game warning followed by a technical foul will be assessed. **Rationale:** Under the current rule, this is a violation. Stopping the game for a violation when there is no loss of possession for that violation gives the defensive team the advantage of delaying the game. Increasing the penalty will discourage this delay of game tactic.

4. Fouls and Penalties. Rule 10 (page 156). The rule regarding fouls and penalties (Rule 10) will be reorganized into four areas: personal fouls, administrative technical fouls, player/substitute technical fouls and bench personnel technical fouls; with the proper penalty to immediately follow. The rule will also be changed to consistently count technical fouls toward the categories of team-foul count, the five fouls toward an individual's disqualification and the two fouls toward an individual's ejection. **Rationale:** Under the current rule, there were some indirect technical fouls that counted neither toward the individual's five fouls for disqualification, the team foul count nor ejection. There were other indirect technical fouls that counted toward ejection only. This allowed players/teams to receive an indirect technical foul that did not count toward anything thus lessening the penalty. Under the approved rule

change(s), every technical foul assessed counts toward either an individual's five for disqualification, two fouls for ejection and/or the team foul count. All technical fouls count toward the team foul count. Those technical fouls assessed to an individual (player, coach or bench personnel) count directly to that person's five fouls for disqualification, two fouls for ejection and the team foul count. The only indirect technical foul is the technical foul assessed to a head coach for the actions of bench personnel. These rule changes require that all technical fouls count toward a foul count, thus encouraging accountability for decisions made.

5. **Legal Guarding Position. (Appendix III. Section 5).** The officiating guideline that made it an illegal guarding position for a defensive player to be positioned directly under the cylinder or the backboard when a dribbler became an airborne shooter has been revoked. **Rationale:** This will make the legal guarding position rule the same for all players on the entire court.