



2017-18 and 2018-19 Women’s Basketball Rules Changes

The following rules changes were approved by the NCAA Women’s Basketball Rules Committee and the Playing Rules Oversight Panel. They will be incorporated into the rules book for the 2017-18 and 2018-19 seasons.

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Rule	Page	Rules Change, Rationale
Court Diagram	16	To prohibit commercial advertising inside the 6-foot restraining area at each end line. Rationale: To preserve a uniform and clean look on the floor.
1-9.1	19	To extend the coaching box from 28 feet to 38 feet. Rationale: To permit coaches to better communicate with their players when play is at the opposite end of the playing court.
1-18	24	To permit LED lights at the scorers’ table which are synchronized with the LED lights on the backboards and game clocks. Rationale: To alert the officials, players and coaches when the game clock has stopped by mistake.
1-22.5	26	To permit words within the 15 percent tonal shift of the neutral zone(s). The institutional name, mascot, nicknames, logos, marks, and names intended to celebrate or memorialize persons, events, or other worthy causes are permitted. Commercial names, logos, marks, and slogans are prohibited. Rationale: To clarify the existing rule.
1-22.7.d	27	To change “American” flag to national flag. Rationale: To recognize that there are member NCAA institutions outside of the United States.
1-23.1	28	To permit a manufacturer’s logo on the undershirt. Rationale: Institutions are having difficulty obtaining undershirts that do not have a manufacturer’s logo.



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1-23.2 1-24.1.b 1-24.4	28 29 29	To permit undergarments (tights), headbands and wristbands, arm sleeves, and leg/knee sleeves to be white, black, beige, or any color contained in the game jersey. Rationale: To permit institutions to use any color in the game jersey for these items and make the colors consistent for these types of apparel.
4-16.2	47	Recommend that officials be permitted to penalize non-flagrant contact during the dead-ball period following a successful goal as a personal foul. Rationale: This will permit officials to properly penalize the action of the player when the status of the ball is not certain.
4-16.2.c 4-16.3.f	71 72	Recommend that flagrant 1 personal fouls and contact dead ball technical fouls be combined and renamed unsportsmanlike fouls. Two free throws are awarded to any player of the offended team and that team is awarded the ball for a throw-in at the division line. When the foul occurs before the start of the game, the game shall begin with a jump ball. A player assessed two unsportsmanlike fouls is disqualified. Rationale: To simplify the foul penalties for this type of foul and standardize the location of the throw-in.
4-16.2.d 4-16.3.e	71 72	Recommend that flagrant 2 personal fouls and flagrant 2 technical fouls be combined and renamed disqualifying fouls. Two free throws are awarded to any player of the offended team and that team is awarded the ball for a throw-in at the division line. When the foul occurs before the start of the game, the game shall begin with a jump ball. Rationale: To simplify the foul penalties for this type of foul and standardize the location of the throw-in.
4-31	54	To increase the size of the restricted-area arc from 3 feet to 4 feet. Rationale: To assist players and game officials by eliminating the confusion of two arcs on the playing court.



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4-35.1	54	To add a requirement that the screener must be inbounds while setting a screen. Rationale: To correct an omission of a current rule that fails to require a screener to be inbounds.
4-35.2.a	54	To amend the definition of a legal screener by requiring that the inside of the screener’s feet be no wider than the screener’s shoulder width. Rationale: To provide coaches, players and officials with a clear standard for when a screener’s stance is illegal.
5-10.2	63	Recommend that no less than .3 seconds must expire on the game clock when the ball is legally touched inbounds and the official immediately signals to stop the clock. Rationale: To create a minimum standard for timing purposes when the ball has been legally touched.
5-14.2	64	To permit the team that advances the ball to choose which side of the playing court to inbound the ball. It is recommended that a two-inch long by two-inch wide line be extended out-of-bounds from the sideline opposite the scorers’ table. Rationale: To permit more strategy when advancing the ball.
5-14.9.a.1, 2 5-14. 10.b.1, 2	65 65	To delete the requirement that when a team does not use a 30-second timeout in the first half, they lose a 30-second timeout. Rationale: Permits coaches to use timeouts as necessary and have additional opportunities to advance the ball at the end of the game.



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9-9	85	<p>Recommend that in order for a player who has been in the three-second lane to avoid a three-second violation, the player must place both feet on the playing court outside the lane.</p> <p>Rationale: To reduce physicality by requiring the offensive player to physically leave the lane and assist officials in adjudicating the play.</p>
9-10	85	<p>Recommend that there shall be no new 10-second backcourt count when the offensive team is granted a timeout.</p> <p>Rationale: To reward good defense and to potentially create additional possessions.</p>
10	90	<p>Recommend permitting the cancellation of equal foul penalties during the same dead-ball period.</p> <p>Rationale: Eliminate confusion and delays caused by “layered plays” and allow for efficient adjudication of these situations.</p>
10-4.8	98	<p>Recommend that any number of assistant coaches be permitted to leave the bench area when a fight may break out or has broken out.</p> <p>Rationale: Permits all coaches to assist in deescalating a volatile situation.</p>
11-2.1.d	102	<p>Recommend permitting officials to use a courtside monitor for a block/charge play in the last two minutes of the game that involves the restricted area arc and/or the LDB, relative to the location of the secondary defender and/or the offensive player.</p> <p>Rationale: Provide officials with an additional resource to make an accurate decision.</p>



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11-2.1.d	102	Recommend allowing officials to assess a player-substitute technical foul against a player who fakes being fouled, but only when discovered using a courtside monitor during a review for a flagrant foul by the opponent. Rationale: Penalize this unsporting act as it is becoming more prevalent.
11-2.1.d.2.b.1	103	Recommend excluding the dead ball timeframe when the game clock stops for a successful goal in the last 59.9 seconds of the game. Rationale: The current rule provides for a shorter timeframe to review an unobserved flagrant foul in the last minute of the game as opposed to the first 39 minutes. This will make the timeframe consistent throughout the game.
11-2.1.e	103	Recommend permitting officials to use a courtside monitor at any time during the game to determine whether the ball left the shooter's hands before the sounding of the shot-clock horn on successful tries only. Rationale: The current rules permit a review in the last two minutes of the game regardless of whether the try is successful or not. This has created inconsistent enforcement of the rule when the try is unsuccessful. Changing the rule will permit scoring plays to be properly reviewed.