



August 21, 2019

NCAA Men's and Women's Basketball Playing Rules Update Related to Use of Technology in the Bench Area for Coaching Purposes During Competition

In advance of the 2019-20 basketball season, this correspondence is to make you aware that during the upcoming two-year rules cycle, the NCAA Men's and Women's Basketball Rules Committees plan to consider and study potential rules changes involving the use of technology in the bench area for coaching purposes during competition.

In its efforts to obtain data and feedback, the men's and women's basketball rules committees are requesting that any Division I, II or III conference interested in experimenting during the 2019-20 season with using technology in the bench area during competition should submit a request to either Art Hyland (men's basketball secretary-rules editor) or Jon Levinson (women's basketball secretary rules editor). Their contact information is at the bottom of this document. Experimenting with rules related to technology on the bench will enhance the committees' efforts to make thoughtful and informed decisions for the next rules change cycle in 2021.

For a request to be considered by the men's and women's basketball rules committees for the 2019-20 season, the request must be submitted by a conference no later than October 1, 2019. Additionally, the request must meet the criteria listed on Page 2 of this memorandum.

Please note that the committees will only consider approving experimental rules requests involving the use of technology in the bench area for coaching purposes during competition for the 2019-20 season. Any experimental rules for future seasons will be considered after the rules committees have reviewed results from the 2019-20 season.

**NCAA Men's and Women's Basketball Rules Committees**

**NOTE: Below are the criteria that must be included from an NCAA conference to request permission to use technology in the bench area for coaching purposes during competition.**

For a request to be considered by the men's and women's basketball rules committees for the 2019-20 season, the request must be submitted by a conference no later than October 1, 2019. Additionally, the request must meet the following criteria/information:

- An outline of the conference's plan to use hand-held devices such as a laptop computer or tablet (or comparable devices, but not cell phones) to receive live data/statistics in the bench area during competition.

- That the technology partner must guarantee that the device being used remains in single app mode during competition. (e.g. all other app and communication would be deactivated while the game is in progress).
- Used only for regular-season conference games and/or conference tournament games (but not non-conference games even if the non-conference opponent is a member of a conference that has been granted permission to experiment with the rule).
- All conference members will be required to use the technology during the entire regular season and/or conference tournament.
- All conference members will be required to have the same hardware (e.g., type, number of devices).
- If one team's equipment fails to function, the opponent may not use the equipment during the outage.
- The conference will be required to submit data as deemed appropriate by the men's and women's rules committees following the 2019-20 season.
- *The experimental rules requests WOULD NOT permit:*
  - Institutions to record live competition or use live video from the bench.
  - Institutions to preload video or other footage to hand-held devices for use during competition (men's basketball).

Please do not hesitate to contact the men's and women's basketball secretary-rules editors Art Hyland ([art.hyland@comcast.net](mailto:art.hyland@comcast.net)) or Jon Levinson ([jonlevinson@icloud.com](mailto:jonlevinson@icloud.com)), respectively, should you have any questions or need any additional information.

Tad Boyle, Chair  
NCAA Men's Basketball Rules Committee

Lisa Campos, Chair  
NCAA Division I Women's Basketball Oversight Committee


Linda Cimino, Chair  
NCAA Women's Basketball Rules Committee

Judy MacLeod, Chair  
NCAA Division I Men's Basketball Oversight Committee.

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*This email was sent to NCAA Men's and Women's Basketball Conference Commissioners, Directors of Athletics and Head Coaches based on contact information in the [NCAA Directory](#). This email was also sent to Mr. J.D. Collins, Ms. Penny Davis, the NCAA Division I Men's and Women's Basketball Oversight*

*Committees, the NCAA Division I Men's and Women's Basketball Oversight Competition Committees, the NCAA Men's and Women's Basketball Rules Committees, NCAA Division I Conference Men's and Women's Basketball Sport Administrators, NCAA Divisions I, II and III Men's and Women's Conference Coordinators of Basketball Officials, Registered Basketball Officials and selected NCAA staff members.*



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