

Member Boards have reported that the provisions in Rule 5, Sect 5, have been grossly violated and abused. Some coaches have the aversion to giving in their line up. They like to see the opposing line up handed in a few seconds before the game is scheduled to start, and then take their team off the floor for several minutes, give them their "assignments" and by the use of "psychology" of delay interfere with the spirit and morale of the other team. One Board reported a game in which team delayed the beginning, after the other team was ready to go, more than ten minutes. Obviously, such tactics do not help either the game or the interests of the spectators in it. If something isn't done about it there will be developed a condition simulating the "stalling" tactics of a few years ago. Perhaps legislation is not the best way to deal with these offenders. We recommend that consideration be given to the following:

The second sentence of Rule 5, Section 1 to read, He shall, give to the scorers, at least two minutes before the time for the game to begin, the lineup of the players of each team together with their numbers and respective positions. If either team is not on the floor ready to play at the specified times technical foul shall be awarded the offended team for each half minute (or fraction thereof) of delay after the first minute

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Many officials in different sections have reported that games have been won and lost because of the failure on their part to hear the timers signal. In some instances only horns were provided. In others gongs, and in still others pistols. In some instances the pistols have failed to function. Goal was made. This decided the game. Disputes arose. The only thing the official could do according to the rule was to allow the goal. Some officials followed the practice of requiring the timers to sound both the whistle and pistol at the same time. Even this is not fool proof. It is recommended that the second clause in the first sentence of Section 13, Rule five, read, and shall indicate with a pistol and whistle the expiration of the actual playing time in each half or quarter.

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Some players intentionally or accidentally shuffle both feet when they have possession of the ball. This gives them little or no advantage. Some officials are very strict in calling this violation-and rightly so, if they follow the interpretation of the rules. This often puts them in bad. Some sections report that often three steps are allowed. Perhaps the addition of a note to cover Sections 8 and 9, Rule 7, might help. The following is recommended:

Note: The moving or shuffling of both feet by the man in possession of the ball, after coming to a full stop, does not necessarily constitute a violation unless actual progress is made or an advantage is gained, such as dodging a guard, or acquiring a balance for a shot.