



2023-2024 MINNESOTA STATE HIGH SCHOOL LEAGUE

Closely Guarded Rule Changes

Definitions:

Rule 4 SECTION 10 CLOSELY GUARDED

A closely guarded situation occurs when a player in control of the ball in the player's team's frontcourt, is continuously guarded by any opponent who is with-in six feet of the player who is holding ~~or dribbling~~ the ball. The distance shall be measured from the forward foot/feet of the defender to the forward foot/feet of the ball handler.

Violations and Penalties:

Rule 9 SECTION 10

ART. 1. . . A player shall not, while closely guarded:

- a. In the team's frontcourt, hold the ball for five seconds ~~or dribble the ball for five seconds.~~
- b. In the team's frontcourt, control the ball for five seconds in an area enclosed by screening teammates.

~~ART. 2. . . A closely guarded count shall not be started during an interrupted dribble.~~

~~ART. 3. . . A closely guarded count shall be terminated during an interrupted dribble.~~

PENALTY: The ball is dead when the violation occurs and is awarded to the opponents for a throw-in from the designated out-of-bounds spot nearest the violation.

Rationale: With the adoption of the 35 second shot clock teams must attempt a shot with-in the 35 seconds. The closely guarded count for dribbling the ball becomes unnecessary.