



# NATIONAL CLUB BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION

850 Ridge Avenue  
Suite 301  
Pittsburgh, PA 15212  
Office: (412) 321-8440  
Fax: (412) 321-4088

The following are the results of the UConn protests of their game against Fairfield on February 25th, 2017.

Games 3 was protested by UConn for an equipment/court violation.

**Requested action** – Replay Game or Forfeit game.

PROTEST: (Ron Slager President UConn Club Basketball)

“FAIRFIELD FAILED TO PRODUCE A VISBLE SCOREBOARD FOR THE GAMES TO BE PLAYED AND ATTEMPTED TO MAINTAIN A WORKING GAME CLOCK ON CELL PHONES OPERATED BY FRIENDS OF THE PLAYERS IN THE STANDS. THERE WAS NO WAY FOR THE TIME TO BE MONITORED IN A FASHION WHERE BOTH TEAMS COULD SEE AND CAUSED MANY ISSUES INVOLVING THE END OF HALVES AS WELL AS DOWN THE STRETCH OF THE CLOSE GAMES. FAIRFIELD WAS INFORMED THAT THIS WAS AGAINST LEAGUE RULES PRIOR TO THE FIRST GAME AND CLAIMED THEY COULD NOT PRODUCE A WORKING GAME CLOCK AND THIS WAS THE ONLY GYM TIME THEY COULD SECURE. THE GAMES WERE PLAYED AS SCHEDULED BUT MANY CONFLCITS REGARDING THE CLOCK AND HOW TIME REMAINING WAS ANNOUNCED FAIRLY TO BOTH SIDES. FAIRFIELD DID ATTEMPT TO USE A SWIMMING CLOCK THAT COUNTED UPWARDS IN AN HOURLY FASHION BUT WAS DISALLOWED BY REFEREES DUE TO INSUFFIENCY. FAIRFIELD WAS NOTIFIED OF THE PROTEST PRIOR TO ALL GAMES AND CLAIMED THERE WAS NOTHING THEY COULD DO TO CHANGE THE CIRCUMSTANCES. REFEREES AND THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR WERE NOTIFIED PRIOR TO ALL GAMES THAT EACH WOULD BE UNDER PROTEST.”

Evidence Submitted:



DEFENSE: (Sam Jensen President Fairfield Club Basketball)

“Since we are a new club team, we run a tight budget to cover our playing costs. Unfortunately, we are unable to afford a portable scorekeeping device. We are aware that we are required to have a visible clock, but we were under unusual circumstances. We had to use a timer which was given to the referees instead. Our



**NATIONAL CLUB**  
**BASKETBALL**  
**ASSOCIATION**

850 Ridge Avenue  
Suite 301  
Pittsburgh, PA 15212  
Office: (412) 321-8440  
Fax: (412) 321-4088

---

standard home court was occupied for a volleyball tournament, forcing us to use a gym exclusive to Fairfield's Athletics Department. Our hands were tied. UConn's captain, Mr. Slager, complained about our lack of an electronic clock, not prior to the first game, but almost halfway through it.

We object to this potential appeal because Fairfield Athletics has a policy prohibiting the use of the facility scoreboard by any programs outside of Varsity Athletics and our Prep School Athletics Department. Since we had to get the games in, both teams agreed to play under the given circumstances. Additionally, the use of a timer did not factor into any of the losses taken by either team. As you can see, besides one of the games, each team won by a significant margin (The last game Fairfield was up 10 with a minute to play). No clock issue factored into any of Fairfield's losses or wins. Fairfield had a potential game winning basket in the first game and the referees waved it off because they had control of the timer at the time.

The scores were: 60-59 UConn, 52-40 UConn, and then 68-61 Fairfield.”

#### NCBBA RULES RELEVANT TO THIS INVESTIGATION:

##### 14.00.00 (Scoreboard Requirements)

14.01.0 All **NCBBA Sanctioned Basketball Games** must feature a visible scoreboard which features a game clock and a team score tracker

14.01.1 It is NOT required that the scoreboard be capable of tracking Team Fouls, Time Outs, or Possession.

14.01.2 It is NOT required that the scoreboard feature a Shot Clock.

14.02.0 It is deemed sufficient if the scoreboard is located on the Scorer's Table rather than mounted above the court either at center court or at one end of the court.

##### 21.00.00 (Protests)

21.01.0 No protest ever shall be permitted on judgment decisions by the Officials.

##### 21.02.0 On Court Protests

21.02.1 On Court Protests consists of protests regarding Uniform Violations, Equipment Violations, Official decisions believed to be in violation of NCBBA rules, Official Qualifications, and ALL Roster Violations.

21.02.2 Any On Court protest by the coach of a competing team must be made at the time of the action or incident that caused the protest and before play is resumed.

21.02.2.1 If the game ends (legal contest) in a protest able situation, the offended team has until all players have left the court to voice its protest intentions.

21.02.2.2 All On Court protests must be made to the Referee.

21.02.2.3 All On Court protests must be reported to the NCBBA (via the NCBBA GAME PROTEST FORM) no later than midnight E.S.T. of the Tuesday following the “NCBBA Week” in which the protested game occurred.



# NATIONAL CLUB BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION

850 Ridge Avenue  
Suite 301  
Pittsburgh, PA 15212  
Office: (412) 321-8440  
Fax: (412) 321-4088

## INVESTIGATION:

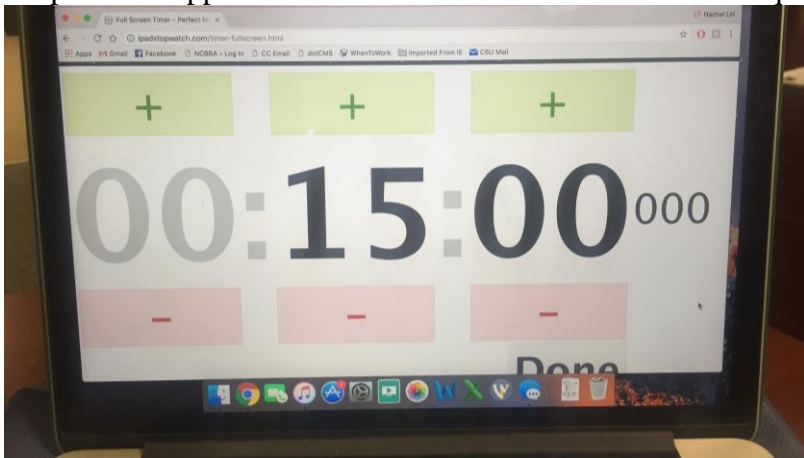
NCBBA NER Coordinator Rachel Weber, spoke to Referee Ellis who confirmed that UConn declared (at the conclusion of game 1) they were playing games 2 and 3 under protest for no visible game clock. He had to rely on Fairfield's clock operator who was using a hand held cell phone to keep track of the game time. He had to rely on the operator to honestly track the time and give periodic updates as to how much time was left making it difficult for him and his partner to officiate the contests.

## RULING:

Protest granted. While the NCBBA believes that the table top scoreboard was a legal means of tracking the score of the game, the use of a non-visible hand held cell phone was NOT a legal means of tracking the game clock. The NCBBA has ruled that Fairfield has the choice of replaying the contests or forfeiting the game to UConn. However, Fairfield has elected to forfeit because they are unable to host UConn in a replay of the contest prior to the conclusion of the NCBBA Conference season. UConn will be granted a 2-0 win.

## NOTE:

The NCBBA would like to point out that while it understands that some club teams have limited access to a formal scoreboard, there are other means by which to still host a legal contest within the rules of the NCBBA. Had an IPAD or Laptop screen been placed at the scorers table in full view of both teams and the officials a simple timer app or website could have been used as an adequate game clock. Example:



Sandy Sanderson

President  
National Club Basketball Association