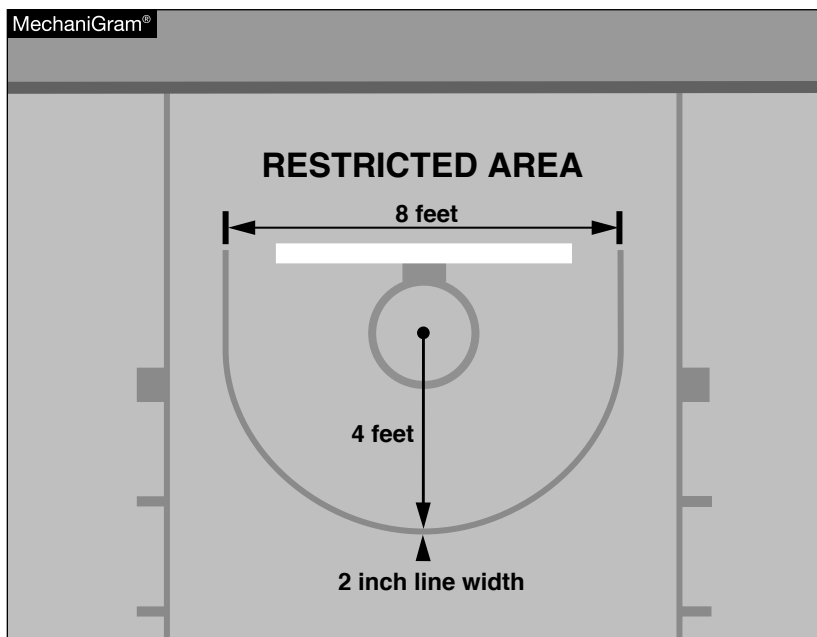


# Restricted Area/Secondary Defender Plays

**A. Rule.** The floor marking of the four-foot restricted-area arc is required for MSHSL Member Schools. A secondary defender cannot establish initial legal guarding position in the restricted area when defending a player who is in control of the ball (i.e. dribbling or shooting) or who has released the ball for a pass or try. When illegal contact occurs within the restricted area, such contact shall be called a blocking foul, unless the contact is a flagrant foul.



**Exception 1:** When the offensive player leads with a foot or unnatural knee or wards off with the arm OR when a player in control of the ball stops continuous movement toward the basket then initiates illegal contact with a secondary defender in the restricted area, this is a player-control foul.

**Exception 2:** If a secondary defender is positioned in the restricted area, the verticality rule(s) (4-31-3, 4-45, 10-7-11) shall apply if the defensive player jumps straight up in the air with hands and arms raised within his/her vertical plane and he/she attempts to block a shot. The verticality rule shall not apply if the defender remains grounded in the restricted area in which case all restricted-area rules apply.



**B. Mechanics.** When a player drives to the basket and past the area of dual responsibility, the L now has primary coverage for this play, especially since it involves a secondary defender. The T/C will have secondary responsibility.



**Signaling Sequence.** When a blocking foul occurs because the secondary defender was grounded in the restricted area, the official has two signaling sequences that can be utilized.

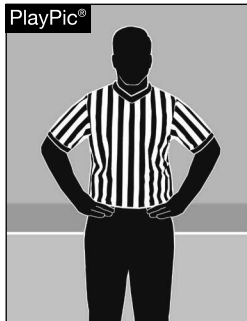
Fist in the air, signal block, point to the restricted area (below PlayPics Option 1) OR Fist in the air, point to the restricted area, signal block (Option 2).

**Help Each Other Out.** It is encouraged and recommended that the T/C provide help (if necessary) on such calls. If the non-calling officials can provide definitive information

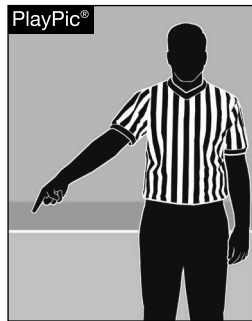
**Option 1**



**Fist in the Air**



**Signal Block**

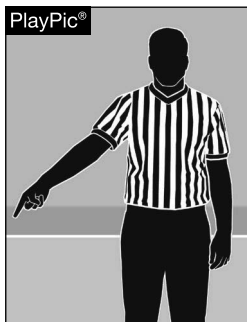


**Point to Court Below Basket**

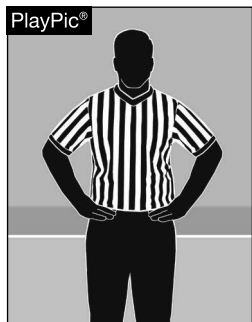
**Option 2**



**Fist in the Air**



**Point to Court Below Basket**



**Signal Block**

to the calling official (i.e., defender was legally positioned outside of the restricted area), the L will then determine if the call shall be switched.

If the ruling is switched, the calling official should put air back in the whistle and emphatically signal the change.

If a non-calling official provides information, the calling official has the option to remain with the call that was originally made on the court.

**Note:** If the foul called on the court is a blocking foul regardless of where the player was positioned, the calling official should not point to the restricted area when signaling the foul. That will alert the partners that a blocking foul is being called without reference to the restricted area.

The lead official is the primary official for ruling on the action by a secondary defender. Double whistles should be avoided on these plays, however, it is imperative that officials recognize that a double whistle is potentially possible in this situation. Give the "stop the clock" signal, but if at all possible, DO NOT give an immediate preliminary signal. In addition, if the block/charge play does not involve a secondary defender, do not point to the restricted access when making a blocking call since it does not apply.

**Reminder:** If the block/charge play involves a secondary defender, the L is primary on the play. T and C are secondary when the action involves a secondary defender. The L has the best chance to watch the secondary defender's positioning.

**C. Secondary Defender.** Refer to addendum rule 4-41 in the restricted area arc rule language document for a legal definition of a secondary defender.