

Richard Cheeks

From: Richard Cheeks <jrcheeks@windstream.net>
Sent: Tuesday, March 28, 2017 7:59 AM
To: 'memmert@ncaa.org'
Cc: Larry Vaught
Subject: Please Take 2 Minutes From Your Busy Schedule To Read This Fan Complaint

Dear Dr. Emmert,

I have never written you, or anyone else at the NCAA before. I have been a Kentucky fan for over 50 years, and I have been a huge college basketball fan. As a fan of the Kentucky program, I have felt on many occasions that my team did not get a fair shake from officials in many games, and as I look around college basketball's landscape, I see fans from other programs having similar feelings. So, I licked my fan-wounds are carried on with my support for my team.

However, after the game on Sunday between my Cats and North Carolina, I am no longer willing to simply remain silent. Mr. Higgins has been one of the most disgusting NCAA officials that I have observed over the years. His officiating has consistently demonstrated an anti-Kentucky bias. Each and every time I learn that Mr. Higgins will be officiating a Kentucky game, I cringe, and hope my team can find some way to overcome his overt efforts to cause my team to lose the game. However, the record is clear that he has the power and position to prevail the vast majority of the time, and he has.

Sunday evening was completely disgusting, as well as obvious to all who watched this game as unbiased observers. If you did not see this bias on display yourself, then that says all I need to know about your state of bias in the matter as well. If you do not understand the basis for my disgust, please watch the video at the link below.

<https://vimeo.com/210359968>

I can say with confidence that I am not alone in this view of the thievery that occurred during that basketball game's first half.

Finally, it is time for you to lead. However, I am convinced after quietly observing the NCAA from the sidelines for decades that a level playing field, a fair whistle, real concern for academic integrity, and the elimination of people from college sports that flaunt their disregard for the same is not a concern for you, or the NCAA that you purport to lead.

Best Regards,

J. Richard Cheeks, P.E., J.D.
Consulting Forensic Geotechnical Engineer