

TUSCULUM

BASKETBALL

“DALYISMS” – from Chuck Daly, Hall of Fame & NBA World Champion Coach

Former NBA Coach Chuck Daly has a series of thoughts that he feels very strongly about in terms of offensive & defensive play. Two of those thoughts play a key role in our Motion Offense at Tusculum.

1. “Spacing is offense & offense is spacing.”

Spacing is key in all offensive systems, and motion is no different. The real key with spacing in motion is the re-establishment of spacing after screening, cutting, driving, or post feed action. Spacing opens the floor in order to attack the lane with penetration, cutting, and post feeding.

Keys to maintaining spacing within our motion offense:

- Fill The Top. Regardless of our motion alignment (regular, pairs, triangle). This allows for easier reversal, better screening angles, and high-low post feeding.
- LONG, hard cuts. Players should not drift or stop cuts because they didn't receive the ball. Finish all cuts to the rim with a post-up, a screen, or spaced to NBA 3.
- Utilize 2nd cuts and fill cuts.
- Replacement cut to eliminate clogging the floor.
- Back-up dribble to get the floor balanced and spaced -- “bounce it out”.

2. “A Defense Cannot Guard 2 Good Things in a Row.”

We have changed the phrasing of this idea to, “play in multiples”. In our offense every action has a natural movement that follows. The most common and important is the 2nd action of our screeners. Players have a tendency to stand & become stagnant after screening. We want a second action following every screen. The type of action that occurs varies based on the ability of the player screening. We also like to turn lane cuts into a next action. For example, some of our best action this year has occurred when a cutter curls through the lane off of a screen & turns his cut into a screen by setting a cross or back screen for a player on the opposite side of the floor.

Other examples of “playing in multiples” within our offensive system are to finish cuts to the rim with a Jordan cut – complete cut to rim then snap back to a post up. Screen the screener action is another method of getting the two good things in a row that Coach Daly believes is so difficult to defend.