

Notre Dame star Hannah Hidalgo misses several minutes of Sweet 16 defeat while staff struggle to remove nose piercing



ISSY RONALD AND KEVIN DOTSON, CNN - 2024

No. 2 seed [Notre Dame](#) narrowly lost 70-65 to No. 3 Oregon State on Friday in the [Sweet 16](#), as its star player Hannah Hidalgo missed over four minutes of the game during which team staff struggled to remove her nose piercing.

After playing the first quarter and scoring four points, All-American freshman guard Hidalgo was off the court for nearly half the second quarter as team staff struggled to remove her nose piercing with pliers.

Hidalgo told [ESPN](#) after the game that one official had said she could wear the nose piercing if it was covered up, before another said she had to remove it in order to play the game.

“I think (the officials) were worried about the wrong things. They should have reffed the game.”



In the NCAA's [case book](#), which contains rulings to clarify

interpretations of the regulations, it stipulates that if a player is found to be wearing jewelry, **they must remove it at the first dead ball and cannot return until after it is removed.**

In simple terms – know the rules and abide by them.....