

## **Reece Beekman vs NC State 01/24/2024 - Film**

Initially, Beekman was denied full court and prevented from initiating the offense. Virginia struggled to get into their sets due to a lack of ball handlers outside Beekman, leading to bad shots and inconsistent rhythm. As the game progressed later into the first half, NC State's pressure backed off of Beekman and he was able to control the tempo and create for himself and others. For example, at the 3:00 minute mark of the first half, he hit his big on a short roll, which led to a made floater. Beekman was able to get downhill and into the paint in the second half more often, but his bad shot selection played a part in NC State climbing back into the game. Whether he made or missed, several of his shots throughout the game were contested. At times, it seemed he was fishing for contact and fouls at the rim, but he would not always get calls. For example, at the 16:39 mark of the second half, he had an opportunity to shoot an open floater near the restricted area, but he took a dribble to get closer and shot and missed a contested layup against a big. On another possession a few minutes later, he was able to get into the paint and threw up another contested shot which was blocked.

Defensively, he got multiple steals and deflections on and away from the ball which helped Virginia get out in transition. His positioning away from the ball helps with rotations while his active hands and lateral quickness on the ball forces his man to make careless mistakes or give up the ball. One play that stood out to me was at the 13:48 mark of the first half on a BLOB, Beekman locked and trailed his man through a screen, beat him to the spot on the dribble, and got a deflection nearly getting a steal late in the shot clock. Late in the game NC State stormed back from a double-digit deficit and Virginia needed stops to prevent the comeback. While away from the ball, Beekman was in a good position and when his man was due to receive the ball he was immediately there while the ball was in transit. Beekman then got his hands in the passing lane, and the ball bounced off his man's knee leading to a turnover.

Beekman distributed the ball well and was able to get downhill and finish through contact which led to free throws. His positioning and active hands led to steals and deflections throughout the game. One area of improvement is for him to adjust his shot selection while attacking downhill and find ways to still be effective when he may not be able to create separation off the bounce.