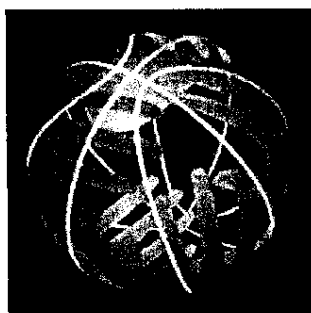


FIBA OFFICIAL BASKETBALL RULES
WORLD EDITION

CASEBOOK

Internacional Basketball Federation (FIBA)



2004

INTRODUCTION

International basketball is overseen by the International Basketball Federation (FIBA). Through its World Technical Commission, FIBA establishes, monitors and periodically reviews the rules of the game with a view to promoting consistency and fairness not only in the Olympic Games and World Championships but at all levels of basketball in each of the five FIBA zones.

The mandate of the Technical Commission is to ensure that the rules of basketball as presented in the Official Basketball Rules are as unambiguous and comprehensive as possible. This Official Basketball Rules Casebook has been created and approved by FIBA with a view to presenting practical situations that complement the specific articles of the rulebook.

Case situations contained in this document cannot be used in support of a protest of the outcome of a game. The *Official Basketball Rules* as well as is the *Official FIBA Interpretations* are the primary documents governing how basketball is to be played.

This casebook was written for FIBA by Fred Horgan, Official Rules Interpreter of FIBA Americas, in collaboration with Mr. Lubomir Kotleba, FIBA Sports Director and Mr. Valentin Lazarov, the senior member of the FIBA Technical Commission. Specials thanks for the staff of FIBA Americas for your strong cooperation with it.

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HOW TO USE THIS BOOK

The case situations presented in this FIBA Casebook are each preceded by two numbers (13-5, 31-9, 49-15, etc.) The first number tells what article of the Official Rules is being considered (13-5, 31-9, 49-15). The second number acts as a reference to where that case is found in the sequence of cases included in that section of the casebook (13-5, 31-9, 49-15).

Where it is appropriate to signify a home team or an offensive team/player, that team is designated as **team A, A5, coach A**. Where it is appropriate to signify a visiting team or a defensive team/player, that team is designated as **team B, B5, coach B**. Players (those team members on the court and participating at a given time) are designated with the numbers 1-5 (**A1, B2, A5**, etc.). Substitutes are designated with the numbers 6-12 (**A6, B8, A12**, etc.).

RULE ONE THE GAME

Article 1. Definitions

- 1-1** What is the difference between the terms “team's own basket” and “the opponent's basket”?

(Answer) A team's own basket is the basket that a team defends; the opponent's basket is the basket that a team attacks.

RULE TWO COURT AND EQUIPMENT

Article 2. Court and Dimensions

- 2-1** Does FIBA Rules permit any flexibility in the dimensions of a basketball court?

(Answer) Yes. The official dimensions of the basketball court for all main competitions of FIBA shall be 28 meters in length by 15 meters in width. For any other FIBA competition, the length and width of the court may be reduced, with the approval of the national authority, to no less than 26 meters by 14 meters.

- 2-2** What is the radius of the semi-circles that mark the 3-point field goal area?

(Answer) The 3-point field goal semi-circles shall have a radius of 6.25 meters, measured from a point directly below the centre of each basket and intersecting with an imaginary line extending from sideline to sideline and directly below the plane of each backboard. The ends of these semi-circles shall be connected to each end line with lines parallel to each side line.

- 2-3** Are the lines that mark each 3-point area considered a part of the 3-point area?

(Answer) No. The lines themselves are part of the 2-point area. (See also case situation 16-3)



2-4 What floor markings shall be used to designate the team bench areas?

(Answer) Each team bench area shall be designated as follows: (1) two lines that are extensions of each end line out-of-bounds for a distance of at least 2 meters; (2) two additional lines drawn out-of-bounds at right angles to the sideline, at least 2 meters in length and meeting the sideline at points 5 meters from the centre line.

2-5 Is it permissible for the inside of the centre circle to be painted in a color different from that of the restricted areas?

(Answer) No. These areas, if painted, must be of the same color.

2-6 Is there a maximum number of seats which shall be placed in a team bench area?

(Answer) Yes. The maximum number of seats shall be fourteen (14). This number will accommodate a coach, an assistant coach, a maximum of seven substitutes and a maximum of five team followers (see article 2.2.5 of *Official Basketball Rules*, as well as case situation 4-2).

RULE THREE TEAMS

Article 4. Teams, Players and Substitutes

4-1 Does the rulebook limit the number of team members who may be listed on the scoresheet and entitled to play in the game?

(Answer) Yes. The number of players shall be a maximum of twelve, with one of these players designated as the team captain.

4-2 Is there a limit to the number of individuals who may qualify as team followers and be permitted to sit on a team's bench?

(Answer) Yes. A maximum of five team followers is permitted. Each of these individuals must have a specific responsibility.

4-3 Team A wishes to list a second assistant coach on the scoresheet. Shall this be permitted?

(Answer) No. A team may list only one assistant coach on the scoresheet. This person shall replace the coach if the coach must leave the game for any reason. (See also case situation 7-2)

4-4 Is it permissible that teams wear shirts that do not have the same dominant color on the front and back?

(Answer) No.

4-5 A5 is wearing (a) a T-shirt with a dominant color different from that of A5's team shirt (b) a black undergarment that extends below light-colored shorts (c) a team shirt with colors different from other team members. Is this permissible?

(Answer) No, in (a), (b) and (c).

4-6 Are players required to have their shirts tucked into their playing shorts while participating in the game?

(Answer) Yes.

4-7 A5 is wearing protective material on A5's lower arm. The material is hard-surfaced but is covered with padding. Shall this equipment be considered legal?

(Answer) No; the rules provide, however, that special consideration be given to hard-surfaced material worn on the shoulder, upper arm, thigh, or lower leg when, in the judgment of the officials, the material is sufficiently padded.

4-8 Team A players appear on the court wearing shirts of a color different from that of their shorts. Is this permissible?

(Answer) Yes.



- 4-9** Team B, the visiting team, is wearing a shirt that appears to be of a darker color than the home team's shirt. The colors are clearly different and there is no likelihood that they will be confused. Both coaches agree to play the game. Is the permissible?

(Answer) Yes.

- 4-10** What numbers shall be worn by those participating in a main FIBA competition?

(Answer) The numbers worn by those participating in a main FIBA competition shall be 415. For games other than main FIBA competitions, national federations have the authority to approve any other set of 2-digit numbers.

Article 5. Players: Injuries

- 5-1** A3 appears to be injured. (a) Coach A (b) assistant coach A (c) other bench personnel enter(s) the playing court to assist A3, after which A3 quickly recovers without the need of assistance. Is A3 considered to have "received treatment", thereby necessitating the need for a substitution?

(Answer) Yes. Once someone from the team A bench area enters the court, A3 is considered to have received treatment, whether or not actual assistance is given.

- 5-2** Play is stopped because of an apparent injury to A5. (a) The coach (b) The assistant coach (c) The team doctor enters the court to attend to A5's injury. After ten seconds has passed, it is determined that A5 is able to continue participating. What procedure shall the officials follow in resuming play?

(Answer) In (a), (b) and (c), A5 must be substituted. If, however, coach A requests and is granted a charged time-out, A5 may continue to participate when play resumes.



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- 5-3** A4 is seriously injured and ten minutes is required before A4 can be removed from the playing court. After A4 has been removed from the court, coach A requests an additional minute (not a charged time-out) to instruct A10 who will replace A4. Shall the additional minute be granted?

(Answer) No. Coach A has had sufficient time to instruct A10. Play shall resume immediately.

- 5-4** A4 is injured and ten minutes is required before A4 can be removed from the playing court. Shall a time-out be charged to team A?

(Answer) No. The welfare of the injured player is the first consideration. Whatever time is justified to attend to A4's injury is acceptable.

- 5-5** A5 is injured when fouled while in the act of shooting for a field goal and cannot attempt merited free throws. (a) A10 enters the game to replace A5. (b) There are no team A substitutes available and A5 cannot continue to play. What shall be the procedure for awarding the free throws merited by A5?

(Answer) In (a), A10 shall attempt the free throws. In (b), the team A coach shall choose any team A player who is entitled to play. Play shall then resume with only four team A players.

- 5-6** The officials notice that B3 is bleeding. What procedure shall be followed as a result of the injury?

(Answer) The game shall be stopped. B3 must leave the game and may not participate until the bleeding has been stopped and the area affected or the open wound is appropriately covered. (See also case situation 5-7).



- 5-7** The game is stopped because the officials notice that B3 is bleeding. Coach B requests and is granted a charged time-out. At the end of the time-out, the bleeding has been stopped and the wound is appropriately covered. May B3 continue to participate without the need for a substitution?
(Answer) Yes.
- 5-8** A4 is designated as one of the five team A players who will start the game. A4 is then injured or becomes ill during the pre-game warm-up. The officials allow A10 to substitute for A4 as one of the designated starters. Shall team B be entitled to make one substitution for a designated starter as well?
(Answer) Yes.
- 5-9** The game is stopped because of an injury to A2. After more than one minute has passed, it is determined that the injury to A2 is not as serious as was feared and A2 is able to continue to participate. Team A (a) has a substitute available to replace A2 (b) does not have a substitute available to replace A2. Shall A2 be permitted to remain in the game?
(Answer) No in (a); after approximately 15 seconds has passed or after A2 has received treatment, A2 must be replaced with a substitute. Yes in (b); if no substitute is available, then A2 may remain in the game.
- 5-10** A10 enters the game as a substitute to replace A4. After A10 has entered and while the clock is still stopped, it is discovered that there is an injury to A5. A5 is not able to continue. A4 is the only team A player entitled to participate. May A4 re-enter the game at this time?
(Answer) Yes. Despite the fact that A4 left the game during the same stopped-clock period, A4 may re-enter the game because there are no other substitutes available. Not to permit A4 to re-enter would be to force team A to participate with only four players and therefore would be against the spirit of the rule.

(SEE ALSO CASE SITUATION 19-25)

**Article 6. Captain: Duties and Powers**

6-1 A5, designated on the scoresheet as the team A captain, leaves the game and is replaced by A10. Whose responsibility is it to notify the officials as to which player will now act as the team A captain?

(Answer) This shall be the responsibility of the team A coach.

6-2 Whose responsibility is it to notify the officials when a team wishes to lodge a protest?

(Answer) It shall be the responsibility of the team A captain. This shall not take place until immediately after the game is over. Guidelines for lodging a protest are provided in Appendix C of the *Official Basketball Rules*.

Article 7. Coaches: Duties and Powers

7-1 Coach A accidentally submits team numbers which are different from the numbers on the players' shirts. Shall a technical foul be charged?

(Answer) If the error is discovered before the start of the game, the numbers shall be changed on the scoresheet and no technical foul shall be charged. If, however, the error is not discovered until after the game has begun, the numbers shall be changed and a technical foul ("B") may be charged against the coach.

7-2 Coach A is disqualified. Who shall replace coach A from the team A bench?

(Answer) If an assistant coach is listed on the scoresheet, then the assistant coach shall assume the responsibilities of coach. If an assistant coach is not listed, then the team A captain shall also act as coach. (See also case situation 4-3)



- 7-3** The coach of team A (the home team) insists that the coach of team B (the visiting team) be the first to submit the names of the five team players who will start the game. Is this permissible?

(Answer) No. The home team coach (or the team A coach if the game is being played on a neutral court) shall be the first to submit that team's starting five players.

- 7-4** A5 is the team A captain as well as the coach of team A. A5 commits (a) a disqualifying foul (b) a fifth player foul. Shall A5 be permitted to continue to participate as coach?

(Answer) No in (a); A5 may no longer continue as coach. A5 must go to the team A dressing room or leave the building. Yes in (b); A5 may continue as coach. (See also Official Basketball Rules, Article 38, Disqualifying Foul)

- 7-5** After the game has begun, coach A requests that A12's name be added to the team A list on the scoresheet. Shall the addition to the scoresheet be permitted?

(Answer) No.

- 7-6** Is it permissible for both the coach and the assistant coach to remain standing within their team bench area at the same time during the game?

(Answer) No. No only the head coach may remain standing within the team bench area while the game is being played

- 7-7** Shall bench personnel other than the coach, the assistant coach, or a player wishing to enter the game as a substitute be permitted to communicate with the scorer, timer, or 24-second operator?

(Answer) No.

7-8 After the jump ball, A3 fouls B3. It is then discovered that A3 is not listed as one of team A's starting five. Shall a technical foul also be charged to A3?

(Answer) No technical foul shall be charged. A3 shall be permitted to remain as a player. If the error had been discovered before the jump ball, then A3 would have been required to leave the court to allow the proper team A player to begin the game.

RULE FOUR PLAYING REGULATIONS

Article 8. Playing time, tied score and extra periods

8-1 How long shall be (a) the interval of play before the game is scheduled to begin (b) the intervals of play before the second and fourth periods and any extra period (c) the interval of play before the third period?
(Answer) In (a), the interval shall be twenty minutes. In (b) the interval shall be two minutes. In (c), the interval shall be fifteen minutes.

8-2 When shall the interval of play end (a) to begin the first period (b) to begin the second period, third period and fourth period as well as any extra period?
(Answer) In (a), the interval shall end when the ball is legally tapped on the jump ball. In (b), the interval shall end when the ball touches or is legally touched by a player on the court on the alternating possession throw-in.

8-3 In an extra period, shall a team continue to play towards the basket it attacked during the fourth period?
(Answer) Yes.



- 8-4** At the same time as the signal sounds for the end of a period or extra period, a foul is called and A4 is awarded two free throws. At this moment coach A or coach B requests a substitution or a time-out. Shall the request be granted?
(Answer) No. Playing time for the period or game has been completed.

Article 9. Beginning and end of a period or the game

- 9-1** When shall the period (playing time) begin on the jump ball that begins the game?
(Answer) The period shall begin when the ball is legally tapped on the jump ball.
- 9-2** When shall the period (playing time) begin on the alternating possession throw-in that begin all periods other than the first period?
(Answer) The period shall begin when the ball touches or is legally touched by a player on the court following the release of the throw-in.
- 9-3** At which bench shall team A (the home team) sit during the game, and at which basket shall team A shoot during the first two periods of play?
(Answer) Team A shall sit at the bench that is to the left of the scorer's table. For the first half, team A's own basket shall be to the left of the scorer's table. Therefore team A shall shoot at the basket that is to the right of the scorer's table for these periods. Teams shall exchange baskets at the beginning of the third period.
- 9-4** When teams arrive on the court twenty minutes before the game is scheduled to begin, coach A and coach B agree to interchange assignments of basket and bench so that team A sits to the right of the scorer's table and shoots at the basket which is to the left of the scorer's table for the opening half of play. Is this permissible?
(Answer) Yes. This is permissible provided both coaches agree.

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No Air Basketball

9-5 Is it permissible for a game to begin if one or both teams have fewer than five players available?
(Answer) No. The *Official Basketball Rules* requires that a team must have five players on the court and ready to play at the time the game is scheduled to begin. (See also case situation 9-6).

9-6 When the game is to schedule to begin, team A has fewer than five players ready to play. The team A coach (a) provides an reasonable and acceptable explanation for the late arrival of the team A player(s) (b) cannot provide a reasonable and acceptable reason for the late arrival of the team A player(s). What procedure shall the official s follow?

(Answer) The starting of the game shall be delayed for a maximum of fifteen minutes. In (a), if a fifth team A player has not arrived on the court and is not ready to play by that time, the game shall be forfeited to team A, with the score recorded as 20 0 in favor of team B. If the required team A player(s) arrives on the court and is ready to play before fifteen minutes has passed, the game shall begin. In (b), if a fifth team A player has not arrived on the court and is not ready to play by that time, the game shall be forfeited to team A, with the score recorded as 20 0 in favor of team B. If the required team A player(s) arrives on the court and is ready to play before fifteen minutes has passed, a technical foul shall be charged to coach B (and recorded as a "B") after which the game shall begin.

9-7 Immediately after the beginning of a period, the officials realize that both teams are playing in the wrong directions. Shall the officials interrupt the game to correct the situation?

(Answer) Yes. Play shall be stopped as soon as possible without placing either team at a disadvantage. Teams shall exchange baskets and the game shall be resumed from the mirror-opposite place nearest to where the game was stopped. (See also case situation 9-8)



- 9-8** At the beginning of a period, team A is attacking the correct basket when B4 mistakenly dribbles in the wrong direction and scores a field goal. Shall the goal count for team A?
(Answer) Yes. Two points shall be credited to the captain of team A. (See also case situation 9-7)
- 9-9** The score is, team A 84, team B 87 when A3 is fouled while the ball is in the air on a successful shot for a 2-point field goal. Time expires for the fourth period while the ball is in the air. After time has expired, A5 commits a technical foul. A3 is awarded one free throw which is (a) successful (b) not successful. What procedure shall the officials follow concerning the A5 technical foul?
(Answer) In (a), the game is now tied and an extra period shall be played. A5's foul shall be considered to have occurred during an interval of play. The penalty for the foul shall be two free throws for team B, followed by possession of the ball for team B to begin the extra period. The team entitled to the next alternating possession shall not lose that right because of the technical foul. In (b), the game has ended. No foul shall be charged.

Article 10. Status of the ball

- 10-1** When shall the ball become live on (a) the jump ball (b) a throw-in (c) a free throw?
(Answer) In (a), the ball shall become live when it is legally tapped; in (b) and (c), the ball shall become live when it is placed at the disposal of the thrower-in or the free thrower.
- 10-2** The signal sounds to end a period. At the time of the signal, the ball is (a) still in the hands of A5 who is in the act of shooting for a field goal (b) in the air after having been released by A5 on the shot for a field goal. Shall the ball become dead immediately?



(Answer) Yes in (a); the ball shall become dead immediately. If the ball passes through the basket, the goal shall not count. No in (b); the ball shall remain live until the shot for a field goal has ended. If the ball passes through the basket the goal shall count.

- 10-3** B5 fouls A5 while A5 is in the act of shooting for a field goal. Immediately after the foul has occurred but before the ball has been released on the shot, (a) the signal sounds to end that period (b) the 24-second signal sounds. The ball subsequently enters the basket. What is the correct procedure for the officials to follow?

(Answer) In both, (a) and (b), the ball becomes dead immediately. No basket can be scored. The foul against A5 shall be penalized as a foul against a shooter. In (a), two (or three) free throws shall be awarded to A5, after which the interval of play shall begin. In (b), A5 shall be awarded two (or three) free throws and play shall resume following the free throws in the normal manner (throw-in or rebound).

- 10-4** A5 in the team A back court gains control of the ball following the jump ball. A5 then turns to the incorrect basket and attempts a shot. In the confusion, B5 fouls A5 (a) before the ball has left A5's hands (b) after the ball has left A5's hands. Shall the goal count if successful?

(Answer) No. In both (a) and (b), A5 is not considered to be in the act of shooting for a goal because A5 is not attempting the shot at the opponents' basket. The ball shall become dead when the foul occurs and the foul shall be charged. Team A shall either be awarded a throw-in at the sideline or end line place nearest to the where the infraction occurred or be awarded two free throws (if the foul follows the fourth player foul in that period).



10-5 A shot for a field goal is in the air when an official blows the whistle or the signal sounds to end the period. The ball is then touched by a player on either team (a) while it is on its upward flight (b) while it is on its downward flight but before it has touched the ring (c) after it has touched the ring but while it continues to have an opportunity to enter the basket. Shall the ball become dead immediately when touched?

(Answer) In (a), (b) and (c), the ball shall become dead immediately. In (b), goal tending has occurred; if the touch was by a defensive player, two (or three) points shall be awarded. In (c), interference has occurred; if the touch was by a defensive player, two (or three) points shall be awarded. (See also case situation 29-3)

Article 11. Location of a player and an official

11-1 The ball touches a player. Shall the touching of the player be considered the same as touching the floor where the player is standing?

(Answer) Yes.

11-2 The ball touches an official. Shall the touching of the official be considered the same as touching the floor where the official is standing?

(Answer) Yes.

11-3 The ball touches a player who has neither foot touching the floor. Shall the touching of the player be considered the same as contacting the place on the floor where that player was last touching before jumping into the air?

(Answer) Yes.

11-4 A5 is (a) straddling a sideline or end line (b) straddling the centre line when A5 touches or is touched by the ball. In each case, what is the status of the ball relative to inbounds or out-of-bounds or relative to frontcourt and backcourt?

(Answer) In (a), the ball is considered to go out-of-bounds when it touches A5. In (b), if the ball is coming from the team A backcourt, it is considered to have touched the frontcourt; if it is coming from the team A frontcourt, it is considered to have touched the backcourt.

- 11-5** A3 is holding the ball while being guarded by B3 who has one foot out-of-bounds. A3 then (a) touches B3 with a part of A3's body while pivoting (b) touches B3 with the ball. Has an infraction occurred in either situation?

(Answer) No in (a); an infraction has not occurred unless the officials judge that the contact was severe enough to merit the charging of a foul. Yes in (b); a violation has occurred. B3 causes the ball to go out-of-bounds when the ball contacts B3 who is touching the out-of-bounds area. A throw-in shall be awarded to team A and the sideline or end line place nearest to where the infraction occurred.

- 11-6** On (a) a pass (b) a rebound, A5 and B5 jump to catch the ball. Both players return to the floor with their hands firmly on the ball but A5 has one foot out-of-bounds. Has a violation occurred?

(Answer) No in both (a) and (b). A held ball occurred when the players were in the air. This is a jump ball situation. An alternating possession throw-in shall be awarded to the team entitled to the next alternating possession. The throw-in shall be administered at the sideline or end line place nearest to where the infraction occurred. (See also case situation 30-5)

Article 12. Jump ball and alternating possession

- 12-1** What is a jump ball and when shall a jump ball be administered?

(Answer) A jump ball is a procedure for causing the ball to become live by tossing it in the centre circle between any two opponents (the jumpers) to a height greater than either jumper can reach by jumping. A jump ball shall be administered to begin the first period of play.



12-2 What is a jump ball situation?

(Answer) A jump ball situation is any of seven circumstances that might occur once the ball has become live to begin each period or extra period. A list of these situations is provided in article 12-3 of the *Official Basketball Rules*.

12-3 How shall the ball become live following a jump ball situation?

(Answer) Following a jump ball situation, the ball shall become live when placed at the disposal of the thrower-in for the alternating possession throw-in.

12-4 How shall the officials determine which team is entitled to the next alternating possession throw-in?

(Answer) The officials shall determine the team entitled to the next alternating possession throw-in by observing the alternating possession arrow. This arrow shall signify the team entitled to the throw-in by pointing in the direction of their opponents' basket.

12-5 A1 is the first player to establish control of the ball following the jump ball. What procedure shall be followed in setting the alternating possession arrow?

(Answer) Immediately after A1 has gained control of the ball, the alternating possession arrow shall be set so as to point in the direction of the team A basket, signifying that team B is entitled to the ball on the next jump ball situation. On all subsequent jump ball situations in the game, the arrow shall be re-set in the opposite direction once the alternating possession ends.

12-6 When shall an alternating possession throw-in (a) begin (b) end?

(Answer) An alternating possession throw-in shall begin when the ball is at the disposal of a player for the throw-in. It shall end when (1) a violation is committed by the throw-in team (2) the ball touches or is legally touched by a player on the court (3) the ball lodges on the basket support during that throw-in.

- 12-7** After the ball has left the official's hand on the jump ball but before the ball is legally tapped, a violation is committed by a team A player. How shall the violation affect the setting of the alternating possession arrow in the first period?
(Answer) A throw-in shall be awarded to team B. Therefore team B will be the first team to gain control of the ball in that period. Team A shall be entitled to the next alternating possession throw-in. The alternating possession arrow shall be set as soon as the ball is placed at the disposal of team B for the throw-in and shall show team A as entitled to the alternating possession throw-in on the next jump ball situation. (See case situation 12-9)
- 12-8** During the jump ball, a foul is committed by A4 (a) before the ball is legally tapped (b) after the ball has been legally tapped but before it has touched or been touched by another player on the court. What procedure shall the officials follow in each situation?
(Answer) In (a), the foul has been committed during an interval of play. Two free throws shall be awarded to the fouled player, after which the jump ball shall be repeated to begin the period. In (b), the foul has occurred during playing time; team B shall be awarded possession of the ball for a throw-in. If the foul is technical, unsportsmanlike or disqualifying, it shall carry the appropriate penalty (See case situations under article 36, 37, 38)
- 12-9** During the jump ball, A4 commits a violation after the release of the ball but before the ball has been legally tapped. A throw-in is awarded to team B. During the throw-in, a violation is committed by thrower-in B3. Shall the penalty be a new throw-in awarded to team A?
(Answer) Yes. However, because this throw-in is the result of a normal violation rather than during an alternating possession throw-in that follows a jump ball situation, the alternating possession arrow shall not be changed and will continue to show team A as entitled to the next alternating possession throw-in. (see also case situations 12-7, 12-15)



12-10 After the official has entered the centre circle to administer the jump ball, shall a player be permitted (a) to move to a position around the centre circle (b) to move from a position around the centre circle (c) to move around the centre circle?

(Answer) Yes. There are no restrictions on movement around the perimeter of the centre circle.

12-11 Jumper A4 does not have (a) one foot near the centre line in the centre circle (b) both feet within the half of the centre circle nearer to the team A basket. Is A4's position legal?

(Answer) No. To be in a legal jumping position, both of these restrictions must be observed.

12-12 During a jump ball, A1 taps the ball (a) with both hands simultaneously (b) while the ball is still on its upward flight on the toss. Is this a legal tap?

(Answer) Yes in (a); no in (b). In (b), the ball may not be touched until it has reached its highest point on the toss.

12-13 During a jump ball, A2 taps the ball twice. Is this permitted?

(Answer) Yes. To tap the ball a third time, however, would be a violation.

12-14 Jumper A3 legally taps the ball after which the ball touches the floor without having touched a non-jumper. A3 then gains control of the ball. Has A3 committed a violation?

(Answer) No. Once the legally tapped ball has touched a non-jumper, an official, or the floor, it is legal for a jumper to gain control of the ball.

12-15 Jumper A5 violates during a jump ball. Team B is awarded a throw-in because of A5's violation. Shall the alternating possession arrow be set for team A?



(Answer) Yes. Team B is the first team to gain control. Therefore the alternating possession arrow shall be set for team A. (see also case situation 12-7, 12-9)

12-16 After the ball has been legally tapped on a jump ball but before either team can establish control, A4 and B4 are involved in (a) a held ball (b) a double foul. How shall play resume?

(Answer) In, both (a) and (b), the jump ball shall be repeated. An alternating possession throw-in cannot be awarded because neither team has established control of the ball. The jump ball shall be contested between A4 and B4. Whatever time has passed on the game clock between the legal tapping of the ball and the held ball or double foul situation shall not be changed.

12-17 Team A is awarded an alternating possession throw-in. Before the throw-in ends, a foul is committed by a player on either team. How shall this foul affect the alternating possession arrow?

(Answer) The committing of a foul does not cause a team to lose its right to the alternating possession arrow. Team A shall continue to have the right to the next alternating possession.

12-18 During the interval of play (a) before the first period (b) before any period following the first period, an unsportsmanlike foul is committed by A1. What shall be the penalty for this foul?

(Answer) In (a), two free throws shall be awarded to a team B player, after which the first period shall begin with the jump ball. In (b), two free throws shall be awarded to a team B player, followed by possession of the ball for team B to begin the following period. In (b), the team entitled to the next alternating possession shall not lose the right to that alternating possession because of the foul.

12-19 How shall the ball become live to begin any period other than the first period?



(Answer) The team entitled to the next alternating possession throw-in when the previous period ended shall be awarded a throw-in at the centre line extended, opposite the scorer's table. The player making the throw-in shall have one foot on either side of the centre line extended and shall be entitled to pass the ball to any player, regardless of whether that player is in the frontcourt or the backcourt.

- 12-20** Team A is awarded an alternating possession throw-in. On the throw-in, the ball lodges on the basket support. How shall play resume?

(Answer) When the ball lodges on the basket support, team A's alternating possession throw-in ends and a new jump ball situation takes place. Team B shall be awarded an alternating possession throw-in at the end line place nearest to where the jump ball situation occurred but not directly behind the backboard.

- 12-21** Team A is entitled to the alternating possession throw-in that will begin a period. (a) Before the ball is at the disposal of the thrower-in (b) After the ball is at the disposal of the thrower-in but before it has touched a player on the court (c) After the ball has touched a player on the court, a foul is committed. Has this foul occurred during an interval of play?

(Answer) Yes in (a) and (b); no in (c).

- 12-22** During the jump ball but before the ball is legally tapped, jumper A5 commits a violation. Team B is awarded a throw-in. May either team be granted a substitution or a charged time-out at this time?

(Answer) No. A substitution or a charged time-out shall not be granted because playing time has not yet started.

- 12-23** Team A is entitled to the next alternating possession. On the next jump ball situation, the officials erroneously award the throw-in to team B. The error is discovered (a) before the throw-in ends (b) after the throw-in ends. Shall the error be corrected?

(Answer) Yes in (a); no in (b). In (b), the error cannot be corrected once the ball touches or is touched by an inbounds player. However, team A shall not lose its right to the next alternating possession because of the error.

(SEE ALSO CASE SITUATION 42-16)

Article 13. How the ball is played

13-1 On a throw-in by A4, the ball is deliberately punched with a closed fist by B5. Is this a violation?

(Answer) Yes. It is a violation to contact the ball with a closed fist.

13-2 On a pass from A2 to A3, B3 (a) deliberately (b) accidentally contacts the ball with the leg or foot. Has B3 committed a violation?

(Answer) Yes in (a); no in (b).

Article 14. Control of the ball

14-1 When is (a) a player (b) a team considered to be in control of the ball?

(Answer) In (a), a player is considered to have control of the ball when that player is either holding a live ball or dribbling. Player control also includes when the ball has been placed at the disposal of a player for a free throw or a throw-in. In (b), team control begins when player control is first established. Team control continues until the ball becomes dead, a shot for a goal or a free throw has left the shooter's hand(s), or a player on the opposing team gains control.

14-2 On a throw-in or free throw awarded to A4, A4 intentionally delays by not taking the ball from the administering official. What procedure shall the official follow?

(Answer) The official shall immediately place the ball at the disposal of A4 by putting it on the floor near A4. The official shall then begin counting the five seconds within which A4 must release the ball.



Article 15. Player in the act of shooting

15-1 When is a player considered to be in the act of shooting for a field goal?

(Answer) A player is considered to be in the act of shooting for a field goal when that player starts the movement normally preceding the release of the ball. The act of shooting ends when the ball is released on the shot. An exception is in reference to an airborne shooter, in which case the act of shooting does not end until the shooter has returned both feet to the floor after releasing the ball on the shot. It is also necessary that the act of shooting be a continuous movement from beginning to end.

15-2 When does a shot for a field goal (a) begin (b) end?

(Answer) In (a), a shot for a goal shall begin at the same time as the act of shooting begins. In (b), a shot for a field goal ends when (1) the ball touches the ring or enters the basket (2) it is clear the ball will not touch the ring or enter the basket (3) the ball is touched by a player on either team after a referee blows the whistle or the signal sounds to end a period. In (3), provisions governing goal tending and interference shall apply. (see also case situations under article 31)

15-3 A4 is in the act of shooting for a field goal. Before the ball has left A4's hand(s) on the shot, (a) A4 is fouled by B4 (b) A2 is fouled by B2 (c) B2 is fouled by A2. A4's continuous motion is not interrupted and the shot for a field goal is released, after which the ball passes through the basket. Shall the goal count?

(Answer) Yes in (a) and (b), no in (c). A foul committed by a teammate of the shooter causes the ball to become dead immediately.

15-4 In the case of an airborne shooter, shall team control end at the same time as the act of shooting ends?

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(Answer) No. Team control shall end as soon as the ball is released. The act of shooting ends when the shooter has returned both feet to the floor.

- 15-5** A3 jumps in attempting a shot for a field goal but while airborne is forced by the team B defense to toss the ball from the left hand to the right hand before releasing the ball on the shot. Does this action end the act of shooting?
(Answer) No.

Article 16. Goal: When made and its value

- 16-1** What shall determine the value of a field goal?
(Answer) The value of a field goal shall be determined by the location where the ball last touched or was touched by a player (or last touched the floor) before entering the basket. This applies to a shot, a pass or a tap.
- 16-2** A4 in the team A backcourt attempts a long pass or a shot for a field goal. The ball strikes the floor in the 3-point area of team A's front court and bounces into the basket. Shall A4 be credited with three points?
(Answer) Yes. The ball last touched the 3-point area before entering the basket.
- 16-3** When releasing a shot for a field goal, A5's foot is touching the 3-point line. The shot for a goal is successful. Shall three points be credited to A5?
(Answer) No. The 3-point line is itself a part of the 2-point area. (See also case situation 2-3)
- 16-4** A3 erroneously attempts a shot for field goal at the team A basket from the team A 3-point area. The ball passes through the basket. Shall three points be awarded to team B?
(Answer) No. Two points shall be awarded to team B. For a goal to count as three points, it must be scored in the opponents' basket.



- 16-5** The ball is deflected by A4 and enters the basket from below. The ball then on its upward flight (a) passes completely through the basket (b) passes partially but not completely through the basket. Has a violation occurred?

(Answer) Yes in (a); no in (b). In (b), play shall continue uninterrupted.

- 16-6** While an A5 shot for a 3-point field goal is in its upward flight, B5 who is in the 2-point area jumps and contacts the ball. The ball then passes through the basket. Shall three points be awarded?

(Answer) No. The touching of the ball by B5 causes the shot for a goal to become a 2-point attempt.

- 16-7** While an A5 shot for a 2-point field goal is in its upward flight, B5 jumps from the 3-point area and legally contacts the ball. The ball then passes through the basket. Is this a 2-point attempt?

(Answer) No. This is a 3-point attempt because the ball was last touched by B5 who was in the 3-point area.

- 16-8** On A3's shot for a field goal, the ball enters the basket but remains in the basket rather than passing through it. Shall the goal count?

(Answer) Yes.

- 16-9** A shot for a 3-point field goal by A4 has touched the ring and is bouncing above it when (a) it is touched by A2, after which it passes through the basket (b) it is touched by B2, after which it passes through the basket. How many points shall be awarded?

(Answer) In both, (a) and (b), the touching the ball changes the status of the shot to a 2-point attempt. Two points shall be awarded. In (b), the two points shall be awarded to the captain of team A.

- 16-10** A3 (a) accidentally (b) deliberately scores a field goal in the team A basket. Shall two points be awarded to team B?

(Answer) Yes in (a); no in (b). In (b), a violation has occurred. A throw-in shall be awarded to team B at the free throw line extended near the team A basket. (See also case situation 16-9)

Article 17. Throw-in

- 17-1** After five seconds has passed on a throw-in by A5, the ball (a) has not yet been released on the throw-in (b) has been released on the throw-in but has not yet touched a player on the court. Has a violation occurred?

(Answer) Yes in (a); no in (b).

- 17-2** A5 is awarded a throw-in from an end line (a) following a travel violation by B3 (b) following a successful free throw or field goal by a team B player. Shall A5 be permitted to make the throw-in from an out-of-bounds place directly behind the backboard?

(Answer) No, in (a) yes, in (b). In (b), it would be a disadvantage to A5 if the throw-in were not permitted.

- 17-3** A3 is awarded a throw-in. While holding the ball, A3's hand(s) crosses the plane of the boundary line so that the ball is over the in-bounds area, at which time B4 grabs the ball that is in A3's hands. Has B4 committed a violation?

(Answer) Yes. Even though the ball was over the in-bounds area, the violation is by B4 for interfering with the throw-in. A warning should also be given to B4 as well as communicated to the coach of team B. This warning shall apply to all team B players for the rest of the game. A repetition of the action by any players of the team B, may result in a technical foul. (See also case situation 17-14)

- 17-4** Shall there be situations when the officials will not hand the ball to a player who is to make a throw-in?

(Answer) Yes. Following the scoring of a field goal or a final free throw, the officials will not handle the ball unless a time-out or substitution is awarded, or an interruption of play occurs, before the throw-in. The officials also will not handle the ball after interference is committed by the defense on a shot for a field goal.



- 17-5** On a throw-in by A1, shall A1 be permitted to hand (rather than pass) the ball to A2 who is in-bounds?
(Answer) No. This would be a violation by A1.
- 17-6** Before touching a player on the court on an A4 throw-in, the ball touches (a) the front of the backboard (b) the edge of the backboard (c) the back of the backboard (d) the floor in-bounds. Has A4 committed a violation?
(Answer) No, in (a) (b) and (d) yes, in (c).
- 17-7** A4 is awarded a throw-in because of a team B dribble violation. After being handed the ball, A4 moves (a) more than one meter back from the sideline or end line (b) more than one meter parallel to the sideline or end line. Has A4 committed a violation?
(Answer) No, in (a) yes, in (b).
- 17-8** A5's throw-in (a) goes out-of-bounds without touching a player on the court (b) is blocked by B5 after the ball has left A5's hand(s) but returns to A5 while A5 is still out-of-bounds (c) lodges on the basket support (d) passes through the basket. What procedure shall the officials follow in resuming play?
(Answer) In (a) and (b), a throw-in shall be awarded to team B at the place of the original throw-in. In (c), this is a jump ball situation; an alternating possession throw-in shall be awarded to the team entitled to the next alternating possession. In (d), the goal shall not count; a throw-in shall be awarded to team B at the free throw line extended.
- 17-9** A1 is awarded a throw-in. The out-of-bounds area at the sideline where the throw-in will take place has a depth of less than one meter. Shall players be required to take positions no closer to the player making the throw-in than one meter until the ball leaves the player's hand(s) on the throw-in?
(Answer) Yes.

- 17-10** A4 is out-of-bounds for a throw-in that follows the scoring of a field goal or a final successful free throw. A2 also steps out-of-bounds at the same end line and receives a pass from A4. A2 then passes the ball in-bounds to A3. A2 has released the ball before a total of five seconds has passed. Is this a legal throw-in?
(Answer) Yes. There is no limit to the number of teammates (or the number of passes between them) on or beyond the end line after a field goal or a final successful free throw. This is permissible only on a throw-in that follows the scoring of a field goal or a final free throw, even if the granting of a time-out or the allowing of a substitution occurs before the throw-in can take place.
- 17-11** A1 is awarded a throw-in at a sideline (a) in team A's backcourt (b) in team A's frontcourt. A1 takes two or more small steps in the same direction in making the throw-in but does not move a distance greater than one meter. Is this a legal throw-in?
(Answer) Yes in both (a) and (b).
- 17-12** On a throw-in from A3 to A4, the ball passes over the top of the backboard. Shall the ball become dead immediately?
(Answer) No. It is legal for the ball to pass over a backboard.
- 17-13** Before the official can place the ball at the disposal of A5 for a throw-in, the captain of team B requests a delay to allow team B to adjust to team A's offensive positions. Shall the delay be permitted?
(Answer) No. Once the official is satisfied that an acceptable and fair period of time has passed, the ball shall be placed at the disposal of the thrower-in.
- 17-14** On an end line throw-in following a team B field goal, A4 steps out-of-bounds with the ball. A5 then steps out-of-bounds on the same end line. A4 attempts to pass the ball to A5. While the ball is in the air on the pass, B5 reaches through the plane of the end line and deflects the ball. Has B5 committed a violation?



(Answer) Yes. B5 has interfered with the throw-in. A warning shall be given to B5 and communicated to coach B. Any repetition of this action by a team B player may result in a technical foul for delay of the game. (See also case situation 17-3)

- 17-15** When a warning is given to a player for an action or a behavior which could lead to a technical foul, shall that warning also be communicated to the coach and apply to that team for the rest of the game?

(Answer) Yes.

- 17-16** A2's throw-in goes to B2 who is touching the opposite sideline. Has A2 committed a violation for causing the ball to go out-of-bounds?

(Answer) No. The violation is by B2. A throw-in shall be awarded to team A at the sideline place where B2 was out-of-bounds.

- 17-17** A3 commits a travel violation while in the act of shooting for a field goal, after which the ball passes through the basket. Where shall the resulting team B throw-in take place?

(Answer) The ball becomes dead when the violation occurs. Therefore a dead ball has passed through the basket. Whenever a dead ball passes through a basket, the throw-in shall take place at the free throw line extended near that basket. (See also case situation 17-23)

- 17-18** While the ball is in the hands of a thrower-in, a defensive player (a) accidentally (b) deliberately reaches through the plane of the boundary line and contacts the ball. Has interference with the throw-in occurred?

(Answer) Yes in both (a) and (b). A warning shall be given to the offending player and communicated to that team's coach, after which a technical foul for delay of the game may be charged for a repetition of the action by any player on that team. (See also case situation 17-14)



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- 17-19** Is it a violation for a thrower-in to step on (but not over) the boundary line?
(Answer) No. The boundary line itself is part of the out-of-bounds area. A violation occurs only if the thrower-in crosses the farther edge of that boundary line.
- 17-20** In attempting a throw-in, A5 touches the in-bounds area with a foot but immediately returns that foot to the out-of-bounds area before releasing the ball on the throw-in. Has A5 committed a violation?
(Answer) Yes. Team B shall be awarded a throw-in at the place of the original throw-in.
- 17-21** A4 has the ball out-of-bounds during a throw-in that follows a field goal. A5 also steps out-of-bounds at that end line. A4 bounces the ball to A5 who then passes the ball in-bounds. Does a throw-in violation occur when the ball touches the floor out-of-bounds on the bounce pass from A4 to A5?
(Answer) No. A bounce pass is permitted.
- 17-22** Substitute A10 is at the scorer's table awaiting a substitution opportunity. The next opportunity is (a) a throw-in resulting from a team A violation (b) a throw-in resulting from a team B violation (c) a jump ball situation. Shall the substitution be permitted?
(Answer) Yes in (a), (b) and (c).
- 17-23** While A3 is in the act of shooting but before the ball has been released on the shot for a field goal, the ball becomes dead because of (a) a team control foul (b) a violation by A3. The dead ball then passes through the basket. Where shall the resulting throw-in take place?
(Answer) The throw-in shall take place at the free throw-line extended. This procedure will emphasize to the scorer that the goal does not count. (See also case situation 17-17)



Article 18. Charged time-out

18-1 How many time-outs shall be available to each team?

(Answer) Each team shall be entitled to two time-outs in the first half (first period and second period) and three time-outs in the second half (third period and fourth period). These time-outs may be taken at any time in the appropriate half. Each team shall also be entitled to one time-out during each extra period.

18-2 When does an opportunity for a time-out (a) begin (b) end?

(Answer) In (a), a time-out opportunity begins once the ball becomes dead and the clock is stopped, and the official has ended communication with the scorer's table. A time-out opportunity also begins following an opponent's field goal, provided the request for that time-out was made before the ball again becomes live. In (b), a time-out opportunity ends once the ball is placed at the disposal of a player for a first (or only) free throw or for a throw-in.

18-3 Team A has used its time-outs in a half. Coach A4 requests that an additional time-out be granted at the expense of a technical foul. Shall the additional time-out be granted?

(Answer) No. Additional time-outs may not be granted.

18-4 While team A is in control of the ball, coach A requests a time-out, after which coach B also requests a time-out. The ball next becomes dead as the result of (a) a team A field goal (b) an A4 traveling violation (c) a double foul. To whom shall the time-out be granted?

(Answer) In (a), the time-out shall be granted to coach B. In (b) and (c), the time-out shall be granted to coach A.



18-5 During a time-out, how shall teams is notified when it is time to return to the playing court in preparation for resuming play?

(Answer) The signal shall sound 50 seconds after the granting of the time-out, after which the referee shall blow the whistle. All players are required to return to the playing court at that time.

18-6 Team A is granted a time-out. When the signal sounds after 50 seconds has passed, (a) team A (b) team B requests a time-out. Shall the time-out be granted?

(Answer) Yes.

18-7 Playing coach A1 is participating on the court when A1 requests a time-out by going directly to an official rather than to the scorer. Shall the time-out be granted at the next opportunity?

(Answer) No. The request must be made to the scorer.

18-8 A time-out request is made by coach A. The ball next becomes dead as the result of a foul by B4. This is B4's fifth foul. Shall the time-out be granted immediately?

(Answer) No. The officials shall first be sure that the B4 foul has been properly communicated to the scorer and that B4 has been notified that B4 may no longer participate. After a substitute for B4 has entered the game, the time-out shall be granted.

18-9 Free throws are awarded to A2. Coach A requests a time-out (a) before the ball is placed at the disposal of A2 for the first free throw (b) after the ball has been placed at the disposal of A2 for the first free throw and before the completion of the final successful free throw (c) after the completion of the final successful free throw but before the ball has again become live. Shall the time-out request be granted?



(Answer) In (a), the time-out shall be granted immediately. In (b) and (c), no time-out shall be granted. Time-outs may not be granted once the ball has been placed at the disposal of the player who will attempt the first free throw. This restriction shall continue until the ball again becomes dead after the starting of the clock following the completion of the free throws. An exception to this would be if a foul were committed by either team before the ball has become live on the final throw-in or if a violation were to occur which will result in a throw-in. (See also case situation 18-20)

18-10 While the ball is live, it is necessary for the officials to stop the game because of (a) water on the floor (b) an equipment problem. The stoppage is not connected with either team. At this time, either team requests a time-out. Shall the time-out be granted?

(Answer) Yes. If it is necessary for the officials to stop the game other than for a foul or a violation, either team may be granted a time-out. In, (a) if the cause for the stoppage is a deliberate act, a technical foul may be charged.

18-11 Both coaches request a time-out at the next opportunity. The ball then becomes dead as the result of a double foul, after which a time-out is granted. Shall both coaches be charged with a time-out?

(Answer) No. Assuming both coaches were entitled to a time-out at the time the ball became dead, the time-out shall be charged to the coach who made the first request.

18-12 While the ball is live and in the control of team A, (a) A1's shoe comes off (b) A1 loses a contact lens (c) B1 loses a contact lens. A1 or B1 requests a stoppage in play to retrieve the shoe or find the lens. Shall the stoppage be permitted?

(Answer) Yes in (a), (b) and (c). In (a) and (b), team A shall have only whatever time is remaining on the 24-second clock; in (c), team A shall be given a new 24-second period.



18-13 May a team that has been granted a time-out choose to end that time-out before the 50-second signal sounds?

(Answer) No. Players shall not return to the playing court before the signal sounds for the 50-second warning.

18-14 During a charged time-out, it is permissible for players to sit on the team bench while conferring with the coach or assistant coach?

(Answer) Yes.

18-15 While team B is in control, coach A requests a time-out, but only if team B scores a field goal. Shall a time-out be granted under this circumstance?

(Answer) No. A coach may not place conditions on a time-out request. Once a request is made, the time-out shall be granted at the next opportunity.

18-16 Is it permitted that any time-out(s) not used in a first half continue to be available in the second half?

(Answer) No. Unused time-outs may not be carried into a second half or extra period.

18-17 Once a time-out has been requested, it is permitted for the coach to cancel that time-out request?

(Answer) Yes. This is permitted provided the cancellation request is communicated to the scorer before the scorer's signal has sounded to notify the officials of the original request.

18-18 A2 is fouled while in the act of shooting for a field goal. While the ball is in the air, the signal sounds to end the period. The shot is successful and A2 is awarded one free throw. Coach A now requests a time-out. Shall the time-out be granted?

(Answer) No. Playing time for the period has expired. A2 shall be awarded the free throw, after which the period shall end.



18-19 Coach A requests a time-out. The ball next becomes dead as the result of a fifth foul committed by a player. While the officials are communicating the foul to the scorer, players immediately go to their respective benches rather than wait for the time-out to officially begin? Is this permissible?

(Answer) Yes. Teams are permitted to go to their respective team bench areas as soon as the game clock is stopped and they become aware that a time-out has been requested.

18-20 A3 is awarded two free throws. After A3's first free throw but before the completion of the second free throw, a foul is committed. Coach B now requests a time-out. Shall the time-out be granted immediately?

(Answer) The time-out shall not be granted until A3 has completed the second free throw resulting from the original foul. (See also case situation 18-9)

18-21 A time-out opportunity has just ended when Coach A runs to the scorer's table and loudly requests a time-out. The scorekeeper reacts by erroneously sounding the signal, after which the official blows the whistle and interrupts the game. Shall the time-out be granted?

(Answer) No. Even though a time-out opportunity would normally be created when the official blows the whistle to interrupt the game, the request by coach A was made too late and therefore the time-out shall not be granted.

18-22 On the jump ball, jumper A2 commits a violation by tapping the ball before it has reached its highest point on the toss. A throw-in is awarded to team B. Before the ball has been placed at the disposal of the thrower-in, (a) Coach A (b) Coach B requests a time-out. Shall the time-out be granted?

(Answer) No in both (a) and (b). Playing time has not yet begun and therefore a time-out can not be granted.

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- 18-23** A2 releases a jump shot, after which the signal sounds to end the period. After the signal has sounded but before A2 has returned both feet to the floor, B3 fouls A2. The shot for a goal is not successful and A2 is awarded two free throws. A time-out is now requested by (a) Coach A (b) Coach B. Shall the time-out be granted?

(Answer) No in both (a) and (b). Playing time for the period has ended and therefore a time-out can not be granted.

- 18-24** Coach B requests a time-out at the next opportunity. A4 then attempts a shot for a goal, during which the 24-second signal sounds while the ball is in the air on the shot. The ball then touches the ring. Has a time-out opportunity been created because the 24-second signal sounded and the ball touched the ring?

(Answer) No. The sounding of the 24-second signal does not stop the game clock and therefore a time-out shall not be granted.

(SEE ALSO CASE SITUATIONS UNDER *PLAYERS: INJURY*: ARTICLE 5, AS WELL AS CASE SITUATIONS 8-4, 12-22, 19-22, 19-23, 19-24)

Article 19. Substitutions

- 19-1** Does the *Official Basketball Rules* give a specific time limit for the administration of a substitution?

(Answer) No. The only provision is that the substitution must take place as quickly as possible.

- 19-2** Following the first of two free throws awarded to A1 but before the ball has been placed at the disposal of A1 for the second free throw, a technical foul is committed. (a) A10 (b) B10 now asks to enter the game as a substitute. Shall the substitution be permitted at this time?

(Answer) No. A substitution shall not be permitted until after A1 has completed the final free throw.

- 19-3** Shall a substitution for the free thrower be permitted after the free throws have been completed?



(Answer) A substitution for the free thrower shall be permitted provided the substitution request was made before the substitution opportunity ended for the first free throw and provided the final free throw is successful or the ball remains dead after the last or only free throw. (See also case situation 19-6, 19-22)

- 19-4** Before the substitution opportunity ends for the first of two free throws awarded to A5, A10 asks to substitute for A5, if A5's final free throw is successful. If team B also wishes to substitute, what restriction shall be placed on the team B request?

(Answer) Team B may substitute provided the request is made before the ball becomes live for the final free throw and provided the final free throw is successful or the ball remains dead after the last or only free throw.

- 19-5** Is it necessary that a substitute report to the scorer and be acknowledged by an official before entering the game?

(Answer) Yes. An exception, however, would be if the substitution were during a charged time-out, in which case it is acceptable that the substitute report only to the scorer.

- 19-6** A10 has requested to substitute for free thrower A5 if A5's final free throw is successful. A5 commits a violation on the final free throw. Shall the substitution be permitted?

(Answer) Yes. A violation has occurred and therefore a substitution is permitted.

- 19-7** A10 enters the game as a substitute, after which a throw-in is awarded to A4. A4 then commits a throw-in violation, after which B10 enters the game as a substitute. A11 now asks to substitute for A10. Shall the substitution be permitted?

(Answer) No. A10 must remain in the game until the game clock has started and again stopped. A substitute may not enter the game and then leave it during the same stopped-clock period. (See also case situations, 19-13 and 44-3)

19-8 After a substitute has been acknowledged by an official, must that substitute remain outside the boundary line until the person being replaced leaves the court?

(Answer) No. Once the substitute has been acknowledged by an official, that substitute may enter the court.

19-9 A1 is awarded one free throw but commits a violation on the attempt. Before the ball can again become live, a technical foul is committed. May substitutes from either team enter the game at this time?

(Answer) Yes.

19-10 Three free throws are awarded to A4. Before the ball can become live for the first free throw, a technical foul is charged to coach B. After the completion of the free throws but before the ball can again become live for the first free throw resulting from the technical foul, a substitution is requested by either team. Shall the substitution be permitted?

(Answer) Yes. In situations where more than one set of free throws is to be administered, the substitution rule shall be applied to each set individually.

19-11 During the last two minutes of play for a fourth period or an extra period, A5 scores a field goal and the game clock is stopped. (a) A10 (b) B10 (c) Both A10 and B10 wish to enter the game as a substitute(s). Shall the substitution(s) be permitted?

(Answer) No, in (a); yes in (b) and (c). (See also case situation 19-17)

19-12 A shot for a field goal is in the air when the 24-second signal sounds. The shot is successful. (a) A10 (b) B10 is at the scorer's table waiting to enter the game as a substitute. Shall the substitution be permitted at this time?

(Answer) No. The game clock continues to run because no violation has occurred.



- 19-13** Because of an injury to A5, A10 enters the game as a substitute to attempt free throws awarded to A5. Before the ball can become live for the first free throw, A11 asks to substitute for A10 if A10's final free throw is successful. Shall the substitution be permitted?
(Answer) No. A10 must remain a player until a clock-running phase of the game has passed. (See also case situation 19-7)
- 19-14** Following a violation that will result in a throw-in, shall either team be permitted to make a substitution?
(Answer) Yes.
- 19-15** During a substitution situation, when does a player become a substitute and the substitute become a player?
(Answer) A player becomes a substitute and the substitute becomes a player when the official acknowledges the substitution by beckoning that substitute onto the court. In the case of a substitution during a time-out, it shall take place when the substitute reports to the scorer.
- 19-16** On a shot for a field goal by A1, B1 commits interference. (a) A8 (b) B8 (c) A8 and B8 are waiting at the scorer's table to enter the game as substitutes. Shall the substitution(s) be permitted?
(Answer) Yes. (See also case situation 19-17)
- 19-17** On a shot for a goal by A1 during the final two minutes of the fourth period, B1 commits interference. (a) A8 (b) B8 (c) A8 and B8 are waiting at the scorer's table to enter the game as substitutes. Shall the substitution(s) be permitted?
(Answer) No in (a); yes in (b) and (c) (See also case situation 19-13, 19-16, 19-24)
- 19-18** Team A is awarded an alternating possession throw-in. Shall either team be permitted to substitute at this time?
(Answer) Either team shall be permitted to substitute.



19-19 The officials judge that team A is taking too long to make a substitution. A warning has already been given to coach A. Team A has no time-outs remaining. May coach A be charged with a technical foul?

(Answer) Yes.

19-20 While the game is being played it is discovered that one team has more than five players on the court. What procedure shall be followed by the officials to correct this situation?

(Answer) If the team with only five players is in control of the ball, play shall not be stopped until the ball becomes dead or that team has shot for a goal, lost control of the ball or withheld the ball from play. If the team with six players on the court is in control of the ball, play must be stopped immediately. The player who has entered (or remained in) the game illegally must be removed from the game and a technical foul shall be charged against that team's coach. All points scored by the extra player while participating are valid and all fouls committed by that player are considered as player fouls.

19-21 During the jump ball that begins the game but before the ball is legally tapped, jumper A5 commits a violation. The ball is awarded to team B for a throw-in. Before the ball can be placed at the disposal of the thrower-in, either team requests a substitution. Shall the substitution be permitted?

(Answer) No. A substitution may not be granted because playing time has not yet begun.

19-22 Free throw shooter A5 commits a violation on a last or only free throw. May A10 now enter the game as a substitute for A5, even if A10 did not make the request for the substitution before the ball was at the disposal of A5 for the first (or only) free throw?

(Answer) Yes. Following a violation, either team may substitute. (See also case situation 19-3)



19-23 A substitution opportunity has ended when coach A10 runs to the scorer's table, loudly requesting a substitution. The scorer reacts and erroneously sounds the signal. The official blows the whistle to interrupt the game. Shall the substitution be permitted

(Answer) No. The substitution shall not be permitted because the request was made too late. The game is resumed immediately.


19-24 On a shot for a goal by A2 during the last two minutes of play, B4 commits interference (or goal tending). A8 is at the scorer's table waiting to enter the game as a substitute. On the resulting throw-in, (a) A5 (b) thrower-in B3 commits a violation. Shall the substitution be permitted at this time?

(Answer) No, in (a); yes in (b). In (b), the violation by the throwing-in team has caused a change in possession and therefore the substitution shall be permitted. (See also case situation 19-17)

19-25 A4 is injured and is unable to resume play after approximately fifteen seconds has passed. A10 enters the game to replace A4, after which Coach A now requests a time-out. After fifty seconds of the time-out has passed, A4 has recovered and asks to remain in the game. Shall A4 be permitted to remain in the game?

(Answer) No. A substitution has already been made for A4. A4 shall not be permitted to re-enter until a clock-running phase of the game has passed.

(SEE ALSO CASE SITUATIONS 5-9, 5-10, 8-4, 12-22)

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Article 20. Game lost by forfeit

20-1 (a) Coach A (b) Coach B refuses to submit at the required time either the list of team members or the names of the five players who will start the game for that team. Shall this be penalized with a technical foul?

(Answer) Yes in both (a) and (b). It is important, however, that the action be deliberate rather than a simple oversight. If the coach chooses to submit the required names immediately, then the game shall begin with the administration of the technical foul, followed by the jump ball that begins the first period. If the coach chooses not to comply, then the game shall be forfeited.

20-2 Following a time-out or an interruption of play, a team refuses to return to play when asked to do so by an official. Is this reason for that team to forfeit the game?

(Answer) Yes. The coach shall first be charged with a technical foul, after which a continued refusal to comply shall result in forfeit.

20-3 Team A is leading in the scoresheet when it forfeits the game. How shall the score be recorded?

(Answer) The score shall be recorded as 20 0 for the opponents.

Article 21. Game lost by default

21-1 When is a team considered to have lost a game by default?

(Answer) A team loses by default when the number of players on that team is fewer than two.



21-2 The score is (a) team A 75, team B 70 (b) team A 70, team B 75. Team A is then reduced to one player and must default the game. How shall the score be recorded?

(Answer) In (a), the score shall be recorded as 2 0 in favor of team B. In (b), the score at the time of the default shall be maintained.

RULE FIVE VIOLATIONS

Article 23. Player out-of-bounds and ball out-of-bounds

23-1 A live ball touches (a) the top or bottom edge of a backboard (b) a side edge of a backboard (c) the back of a backboard. Shall the ball become dead immediately?

(Answer) No in (a) and (b); yes in (c).

23-2 When is the ball considered to have gone out-of-bounds?

(Answer) The ball goes out-of-bounds when it touches (a) a player or any other person who is out-of-bounds (b) the floor or any object on, above or outside the boundary line (c) the backboard supports, the back of the backboards or any object above the playing court.

23-3 When is a player considered to be out-of-bounds?

(Answer) A player is considered to be out-of-bounds when that player contacts the floor or any object, but not a player, on, above or outside the boundary line.

23-4 A2 ends a dribble near a sideline and is immediately guarded by B2. In guarding A2, B2 has one foot touching the boundary line. A2 now (a) touches B2 with the ball (b) touches B2 with an arm while pivoting. Shall A2 be charged with a violation?

(Answer) No in both (a) and (b). In (a), the ball is caused to go out-of-bounds by B2 because B2 is touching the out-of-bounds area when contacted by the ball. The ball becomes dead and a throw-in shall be awarded to a team A player at the sideline place nearest to the infraction. In (b), the touching of B2 by A2 does not cause either A1 or the ball to go out-of-bounds; therefore a violation has not occurred and the ball remains live.

23-5 While holding a live ball, A4 is being closely guarded by B4. A4 throws the ball off the leg of B4 so that the ball goes out-of-bounds. Shall a throw-in be awarded to A4?

(Answer) Yes.

23-6 While holding a live ball, A4 is being closely guarded by B4. (a) To avoid a closely guarded violation (b) To avoid an 8-second or a 24-second violation, A4 throws the ball off B4's leg after which the ball goes out-of-bounds? A throw-in is awarded to A4. Shall team A be also given a new 8-second and/or 24-second period?

(Answer) No. Team A shall have only whatever time was remaining in the 8-second and/or 24-second period(s). (See also case situations under articles 28 and 29)

Article 24. Dribbling

24-1 A4 (a) has not yet dribbled (b) has completed a dribble when A4 throws the ball against a backboard and catches it again before the ball has touched another player. Is this action legal?



(Answer) Yes in (a); the action is considered to be a legal dribble. If a player bounces the ball off a backboard it is considered the same as bouncing the ball off the floor. No in (b); A4 has committed a violation by beginning a new dribble. To bounce the ball against a backboard is the same as to bounce the ball on the floor.

- 24-2** After A5 has released the ball on a shot for a field goal, A5 realizes that the ball will fall short of the basket. A5 catches up to the ball and retrieves it before it has touched the floor or another player. Shall A5 be now permitted to shoot, pass or dribble?

(Answer) Yes. Both player control and team control end with the release of the ball on the shot for a field goal. When A5 again controls the ball, it is a new team control situation.

- 24-3** When is a player considered to have fumbled the ball?

(Answer) A player is considered to have fumbled the ball when, after establishing control, the player accidentally loses that control.

- 24-4** A4 fumbles the ball during a dribble. After the fumble, A4 catches up to the ball and resumes the dribble. In resuming the dribble, the ball (a) comes to rest in A4's hand(s) (b) does not come to rest in A4's hand(s). Has a violation occurred?

(Answer) Yes in (a); an illegal second dribble occurs when A4 resumes dribbling. No in (b); the action is legal.

- 24-5** (a) B3 taps the ball from the hands of A2 (b) B3 deflects a pass from A2 to A5 by tapping the ball to the floor. Does either of these actions by B3 qualify as a dribble?

(Answer) No. Tapping the ball in this manner does not qualify as control.

- 24-6** After ending a dribble, A4 attempts a pass. While the ball is in the air on the pass, it is deflected back to A4 by a defensive player. May A4 now begin a new dribble?

(Answer) Yes. The ball was touched by another player after A4's control ended.



- 24-7** Dribbler A5 taps the ball over the head of a defensive player, runs around that player and (a) catches the ball before it has touched the floor or another player (b) catches the ball after it has touched the floor or another player (c) continues a dribble before the ball has touched the floor or another player (d) continues the dribble after the ball has touched the floor or another player. Is the action legal in each situation?
(Answer) The action in (a) and (c) is a violation. A5 must allow the ball to touch the floor or another player before again touching it. In (b) and (d), the action is legal. (See also case situation 25-2)

Article 25. Traveling

- 25-1** A pass from A4 to A5 strikes A5's fingertips but A5 is unable to control the ball immediately. While unsuccessfully attempting to gain control of the ball, A5 takes more than two steps. Has A5 committed a traveling violation?
(Answer) No. A5 cannot commit a traveling violation unless control of the ball has first been established.
- 25-2** B1 is guarding A1 who receives the ball while standing still, with both feet on the floor. A1 tosses the ball over the head of B1, runs around B1 and catches the ball (a) before (b) after it has touched the floor. Has A1 committed a traveling violation?
(Answer) Yes in (a); no in (b). (See also case situation 24-7)
- 25-3** While holding a live ball, A3 falls to the floor but does not roll or slide along the floor. Has A3 committed a traveling violation?
(Answer) No. If A3 were to roll or slide, however, a traveling violation would occur.



- 25-4** While A4 is in the air on a shot for a field goal, A4 has the shot blocked by B4 while the ball is still in the hand(s) of A4. In blocking the shot, B4 has both hands firmly on the ball so neither A4 nor B4 is in total control. Both A4 and B4 return to the floor with the hand(s) of both players firmly in contact with the ball. Has a traveling violation occurred?

(Answer) No. This is a jump ball situation. Play shall resume with an alternating possession throw-in for the team entitled to the next alternating possession. (see also case situation 25-6 as well as case situations under article 12)

- 25-5** A5 has one foot touching the floor when receiving the ball on a pass. After receiving the ball, A5 places the other foot on the floor. A5 then pivots, using (a) the first foot (b) the second foot as the pivot foot. Has A5 committed a traveling violation?

(Answer) No, in (a); yes in (b).

- 25-6** While A2 is in the air on a shot for a field goal, A2 has the shot blocked by B3. In blocking the shot, B3 does not have a hand(s) firmly on the ball. Both A2 and B3 are still in contact with the ball when they return to the floor. Has a traveling violation occurred?

(Answer) Yes. The contact by B3 was not adequate enough to cause a jump ball situation. (See also case situations 25-4, 25-10, 25-12)

- 25-7** A5 is lying on the floor when A5 gains control of a loose ball. A5 then stands while still holding the ball. Is this a traveling violation?

(Answer) Yes.

- 25-8** A3 (a) ends a dribble while quickly moving with one foot on the floor (b) receives a pass while quickly moving and with one foot on the floor. In a continuous motion, A3 jumps off that foot and lands on both feet simultaneously. Shall A3 now be permitted to pivot?

(Answer) No in both (a) and (b). (See also case situations 25-9, 25-11 and 25-12)



25-9 A4 receives the ball on a pass while both feet are off the floor. A4 then (a) comes to a stop on both feet simultaneously (b) in a continuous motion lands on one foot, jumps off that foot and lands on both feet simultaneously (c) in a continuous motion lands on one foot, jumps off that foot and returns to the floor with the right foot followed by the left foot (d) in a continuous motion lands on both feet simultaneously, jumps and again lands on both feet simultaneously. Shall A4 be now permitted to pivot?

(Answer) Yes in (a); no in (b), (c) and (d). In (b), A4 may shoot, pass or begin a dribble but may not pivot. In (c) and (d), the action itself is illegal and A4 has committed a traveling violation. (See also case situations 25-8, 25-11 and 25-12)

25-10 A5 has both feet off the floor when A5 releases a shot for a field goal. After the ball has left A5's hand(s), it is blocked by B5 so as to return to A5 while A5 still has both feet off the floor. A5 again gains control of the ball, after which A5 returns to the floor with the ball. Has A5 committed a traveling violation?

(Answer) No. Team control ended when A5 released the ball on the shot for a field goal. When A5 again gained control, a new team control situation began.

25-11 A2 ends a dribble while in the air. In a continuous motion, A2 returns to the floor with one foot, jumps off that foot and lands on both feet simultaneously. Is there a restriction to the distance A2 is permitted to cover before coming to a stop?

(Answer) No.

25-12 While A4 is in the air with both feet off the floor, A4's shot for a goal is blocked before the ball has left A4's hand(s). A4 returns to the floor with the ball. Is this a traveling violation?

(Answer) Yes.

**Article 26. Three seconds**

- 26-1** A3 has the ball out-of-bounds for a throw-in. A5 is in the team B restricted area for more than three seconds before A3 releases the ball on the throw-in. Shall a 3-second violation be called on A5?

(Answer) No. The 3-second restriction does not apply to throw-in situations.

- 26-2** A throw-in is awarded as the result of a 3-second violation. Where that throw-in shall be administered?

(Answer) The throw-in shall be administered at the end line at the place nearest to where the infraction occurred but not immediately behind the backboard.

- 26-3** What are the boundaries of the 3-second area?

(Answer) The boundaries of the 3-second area shall be the free throw line, the end line and the lines connecting the ends of the free throw line to the end line. The 3-second area shall not include the semi-circle behind the free throw line.

- 26-4** A1 has one foot touching the restricted area. A1 lifts that foot before more than three seconds has passed but does not place the foot on the floor outside the restricted area. A1 then returns the foot to the restricted area. Shall the official begin a new 3-second count?

(Answer) No. The original 3-second count shall continue. In order for the count to end, A1 must place both feet on the floor outside the restricted area.

- 26-5** Shall the 3-second rule apply to when the ball is in control of a team in either its frontcourt or its backcourt?

(Answer) No. The 3-second rule shall apply only when there is team control of the ball while it is in that team's frontcourt.



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- 26-6** A4 has been in the restricted area for two seconds when A4 receives the ball, pivots toward the basket and shoots for a field goal. The entire action takes an additional two seconds before the release of the ball on the shot. Shall a 3-second violation be called on A4?

(Answer) No. If a player who has been in the restricted area for less than three seconds receives the ball and initiates a shot for a goal or moves directly to the basket in initiating a shot for a goal, then the 3-second count shall be suspended to allow the shot to be completed. If, however, A4 stops before releasing the ball and begins another attempt(s) for a field goal, or if A4 doesn't shoot but chooses to pass or dribble, then the 3-second violation shall be called immediately.

- 26-7** A4 has been in the restricted area for two seconds but is attempting to leave the area. In leaving the area, A4 takes two additional seconds. Shall a 3-second violation be charged?

(Answer) No. If a player has been in the restricted area for less than three seconds and is attempting to leave the area, the 3-second count shall be suspended to permit that player to leave. If, however, the player ends the attempt to leave while the ball is still in the control of team A, then a 3-second violation shall be called immediately.

- 26-8** A3 has been in the restricted area for two seconds but is attempting to leave the area. After two additional seconds has passed, A3 is still attempting to leave the area when a teammate releases the ball on a shot for a field goal. A3 realizes that the shot has been released, turns in the direction of the backboard and gains control of the rebound. Has A3 committed a 3-second violation?

(Answer) No. Once a shot for a goal is released, team control ends and a 3-second violation cannot be called.

***Article 27. Closely guarded player***

- 27-1** Shall the “closely guarded player” rule apply to situations in both the frontcourt and the backcourt?

(Answer) Yes.

- 27-2** In order for a closely guarded violation to be called, must the defending player be making aggressive attempts to obtain control of the ball?

(Answer) No. The defending player, however, must be in a normal guarding position; that is, either attempting to gain control of the ball or attempting to prevent a pass.

Article 28. Eight seconds

- 28-1** After dribbling in the team A backcourt for five seconds, A1 fumbles the ball but retrieves it after an additional two seconds has passed. Shall the 8-second count continue while the ball is out of the control of A1 because of the fumble?

(Answer) Yes. The fumble by A1 does not cause a loss of team control.

- 28-2** A4 is dribbling in the team A backcourt when the ball is tapped from A4's control by B4, after which A4 again gains control. Shall the 8-second count continue during the loss of control by A4?

(Answer) Yes. The tapping of the ball by a defensive player does not end team control. (See also case situation 24-5)

- 28-3** A2 is awarded a throw-in in the team A backcourt as the result of a team B field goal or violation. When shall the 8-second count begin on the throw-in?

(Answer) The count shall begin when the ball is first controlled by a team A player on the court.



- 28-4** Team A has been in control of the ball in the team A backcourt for six seconds when the ball is tapped out-of-bounds by a defensive player also in the team A backcourt. On the resulting throw-in, the ball is first controlled in the backcourt by A3. Shall team A now have only two seconds remaining to cause the ball to move into the team A frontcourt?
(Answer) Yes. If an 8-second count is interrupted because the ball was caused to go out-of-bounds by the defensive team, the offensive team shall have only whatever time was remaining in the original 8-second count to move the ball to the team A frontcourt.
- 28-5** After team A has been in control of the ball in the team A backcourt for five seconds, A2 passes to A3. B2 then commits a violation by deliberately contacting the ball with B2's leg. A throw-in in the backcourt is awarded to team A, after which A3 is the first to gain control of the ball in the backcourt. Shall team A have only three seconds to move the ball into the team A frontcourt?
(Answer) No. The action by B2 was itself a violation. This is different than having the ball become dead because it has gone out-of-bounds. Team A shall be awarded a new 8-second period to move the ball into the team A frontcourt. (See also case situation 29-5)
- 28-6** The official calls an 8-second violation against team A but coach A objects that the 24-second clock shows only seven seconds has passed. Has an 8-second violation occurred?
(Answer) Yes. The official, not the 24-second operator, is entitled to decide when the 8-second period has terminated.
- 28-7** Team A has been in control of the ball for 4 seconds in the team A backcourt when a held ball is called. The resulting alternating possession throw-in is awarded to team A. Shall a new 24-second period begin when the ball is placed at the disposal of the thrower-in?
(Answer) No. Team A shall have only 4 seconds to cause the ball to move into the team A frontcourt.



Article 29. Twenty-four seconds

29-1 When shall the 24-second device be (a) started (b) stopped?

(Answer) In (a), the 24-second device shall start whenever a player first establishes control of the live ball on the court following a throw-in, a last (or only) free throw, or the jump ball. In (b), the 24-second count shall end when the ball becomes dead, *or* an opponent gains control of the ball, *or* on a shot for a when goal the ball touches the basket ring or enters the basket.

29-2 After the ball has left a shooter's hand(s) on a shot for a field goal but before the ball has touched the ring or entered the basket, the 24-second signal sounds. Shall an official blow the whistle immediately?

(Answer) No. The official shall withhold the whistle to see if the ball touches the ring or enters the basket on the shot for a field goal. If the ball touches the ring or enters the basket, then the sounding of the 24-second signal shall be ignored and play shall continue without interruption. If the ball fails to touch the ring or enter the basket as a result of the shot but an opponent of the shooter is the first to gain clear control of the ball, then the 24-second signal shall be ignored and play shall continue. If the ball fails to touch the ring and a teammate of the shooter is the first to gain clear control of the ball, the whistle shall be blown immediately and a 24-second violation be called. The opponents shall be awarded a throw-in at the sideline or end line place nearest to where the shot for a goal was released.

29-3 A4 releases a shot for a goal. The ball is still in its upward flight when the 24-second signal sounds. After the signal has sounded and (a) while the ball is still in its upward flight (b) after the ball has completed its upward flight, it is touched by a player on either team. Shall the ball become dead immediately?

(Answer) Yes in both (a) and (b). In (b), goal tending or interference has also occurred. (See also case situation 10-5)



- 29-4** A4 is dribbling the ball when a double foul is called against A2 and B2. There is five seconds remaining on the 24-second clock when the double foul occurs. An alternating possession throw-in is awarded to (a) team A (b) team B. Shall a new 24-second period begin when the ball touches a player on the court on the throw-in.

(Answer) No in (a); if a team that was in control of the ball is awarded an alternating possession throw-in, that team shall have only whatever time was remaining in the 24-second period at the time the jump ball situation occurred. Yes in (b).

- 29-5** After team A has had control of the ball for fifteen seconds, a team B player (a) punches the ball with a closed fist (b) deliberately strikes the ball with a foot (c) taps the ball out-of-bounds. A throw-in is awarded to team A. Shall team A also be awarded a new 24-second period?

(Answer) Yes in (a) and (b); no in (c). In (a) and (b), the two situations noted are themselves violations and cause the ball to become dead immediately. In (c), the action of tapping the ball is legal; the ball does not become dead until it has gone out-of-bounds. Team A is awarded a throw-in with nine seconds remaining in the 24-second period. (See also case situation 28-5)

- 29-6** With ten seconds remaining on the 24-second clock, A3 is holding the ball near a sideline or end line while being guarded by B3 and B4. B3 is touching the out-of-bounds area. (a) B3 touches the ball while it is still in the control of A3 (b) B4 taps the ball from A3's hand(s) causing it to go out-of-bounds. A throw-in is awarded to team A. Shall team A also be given a new 24-second period?

(Answer) No in both (a) and (b). Team A shall continue to have ten seconds remaining in the 24-second period.

- 29-7** With five seconds remaining in the 24-second period, a shot for a field goal by A4 fails to touch the ring or enter the basket. The 24-second operator erroneously resets the 24-second clock. The ball is next controlled by (a) A5 (b) B5. What shall be the correct procedure for the official to follow?

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(Answer) In (a), the game shall be stopped immediately and the 24-second device reset to show five seconds remaining in the 24-second period. Team A shall be awarded a throw-in at the sideline or end line place nearest to where the game was interrupted. In (b), the error shall be ignored because a new 24-second period begins when B5 establishes control.

- 29-8** Team A is entitled to the ball with ten seconds remaining on the 24-second clock when the game is stopped (a) to attend to injured A2 (b) to attend to injured B2 (c) to search for A4's contact lens (d) to search for B4's contact lens (e) because of an action not connected with either team. When play resumes, shall team A have only ten seconds remaining in the 24-second period?

(Answer) Yes in (a) and (c); no in (b), (d) and (e). In (b), (d) and (e), team A shall be given a new 24-second period.

- 29-9** A shot for a goal by A2 touches the ring and (a) is controlled by A4 (b) is not yet controlled by a player on either team. The 24-second signal then sounds in error. Team B is entitled to the next alternating possession throw-in. Shall an alternating possession throw-in be awarded to team B?

(Answer) No. The signal shall be ignored and play shall continue. In (a), the officials may interrupt play if they judge that team A has been disadvantaged, in which case the 24-second device shall be corrected and a throw-in awarded to that team.

- 29-10** While A2 is in control of the ball with five seconds remaining in the 24-second period, a technical foul is committed by A4. A technical foul is then committed by B4. The officials rule that the penalties for the A4 and B4 technical fouls cancel each other. A throw-in is awarded to team A. Shall team A also be awarded a new 24-second period?

(Answer) No. Team A shall have only five seconds remaining in the 24-second period.

29-11 After a shot for a goal has touched the ring and before either team can gain control of the ball, the 24-second signal sounds in error. Shall the officials blow the whistle?

(Answer) No. Play shall be allowed to continue uninterrupted, unless the officials judge that one team has been placed at a disadvantage.

29-12 With ten seconds remaining on the 24-second clock, a shot for a field goal by A4 misses the ring, after which a held ball is called before either team can gain clear control. How shall play resume?

(Answer) This is a jump ball situation. A throw-in shall be awarded to the team entitled to the next alternating possession throw-in. If team A is the team entitled to the next alternating possession throw-in, then team A shall have only whatever time was remaining on the 24-second clock. Even though team control ended when the ball left the shooter's hand on the shot for a goal, the 24-second clock continued to run. If team B is awarded the throw-in, then a new 24-second period shall begin.

(SEE ALSO CASE SITUATION 31-17, 39-6, 39-7)

Article 30. Ball returned to the backcourt

30-1 What guidelines shall the officials use in judging if a ball has been returned illegally to the backcourt?

(Answer) The following guidelines must be observed:

- (a) A team must be in control of the ball
- (b) the ball must have been in that team's frontcourt
- (c) the ball must have then moved to that team's backcourt
- (d) a player on that team must have been the last to touch the ball before it returned to the backcourt
- (e) a player on the same team must be the first to touch the ball after it returned to the backcourt



30-2 In team A's frontcourt, B4 deflects (a) a shot for a field goal (b) a pass from A3 to A4. The ball returns to the team A backcourt where it is then controlled by A5. Has the ball been illegally returned to the backcourt?

(Answer) No in both (a) and (b). In (a), control ended when the ball was released on the shot for a field goal. In (b), a team A player was not the last to touch the ball before it left the frontcourt.

30-3 Shall the centre line be considered a part of the backcourt?

(Answer) Yes.

30-4 A5 is crossing the centre line while dribbling from the backcourt to the frontcourt. How shall the rule regarding illegally returning the ball to the backcourt apply to A5?

(Answer) Special consideration must be given to a dribbler who is in continuous forward motion while crossing the centre line. If, however, the dribbler ends forward motion while still dribbling, then the guidelines presented in case situation 30-1 shall be strictly enforced. This applies especially to situations where the dribbler encounters defensive pressure.

30-5 A5 is holding the ball in team A's frontcourt near the centre line when B5 places both hands firmly on the ball in an attempt to gain control. As A5 and B5 struggle with the ball with neither player having clear control, A5 touches the backcourt. Has a violation taken place?

(Answer) No. A held ball occurred when A5 and B5 each had both hands firmly on the ball. This is a jump ball situation. Play shall resume with an alternating possession throw-in for the team entitled to the next alternating possession at the sideline place nearest to where the held ball occurred.

30-6 Team A illegally returns the ball to the backcourt. Where the resulting throw-in shall be administered?

(Answer) The throw-in shall be administered at the sideline or end line place in the team B frontcourt (other than directly behind the backboard) nearest to where the violation occurred; that is, nearest to the place where the ball first touched (or was touched by) a team A player.

- 30-7** Team A is in control of the ball in the team A backcourt. When is the ball considered to have moved into the team A frontcourt?

(Answer) The ball moves into the team A frontcourt when it touches (a) any part of the frontcourt including the net, ring or backboard (b) any player who is touching the frontcourt (c) an official who is touching the frontcourt.

- 30-8** On a throw-in from out-of-bounds in the team A frontcourt, A1 passes the ball to a teammate in the team A backcourt. Has the ball been illegally returned to the backcourt?

(Answer) Yes.

- 30-9** A2 passes to A3 who is straddling the centre line. In what court is the ball when it touches A3?

(Answer) If A2 is in the frontcourt when the ball is passed to A3, then the ball returns to the backcourt. If A2 is in the backcourt when the pass is made, then the ball moves into the frontcourt. Although it is possible for a player to be in both the backcourt and the frontcourt simultaneously (that is, straddling the centre line), the ball must always be in one court or the other but never both.

- 30-10** On a team A throw-in at the centre line extended opposite the scorer's table resulting from (a) a technical foul assigned to a coach (b) a technical foul assigned to a player (c) an unsportsmanlike foul (d) a disqualifying foul, is it permissible for the ball to be passed to a team A player in the backcourt?

(Answer) Yes.



30-11 On the jump ball, jumper A4 legally taps the ball to A5 who is in the team A frontcourt. A5 touches the ball but does not control it, after which the ball is then controlled by A2 in the team A backcourt. Has the ball been illegally returned to the backcourt?

(Answer) No. Team A did not have control of the ball while the ball was in team A's frontcourt.

30-12 On a pass from A4 in the team A backcourt to A5 in the team A frontcourt, B5 leaps from the team B frontcourt, catches the ball while in the air and then lands in the team B backcourt. Has the ball been illegally returned to the backcourt?

(Answer) Yes. When B5 catches the ball while in the air, it is the same as catching the ball while in the team B frontcourt. When B5 then lands in the team B backcourt, the violation occurs.

30-13 A5 is standing in the team A backcourt near the centre line. A5 now dribbles in the team A frontcourt. A5 has not moved from A5's original position in the team A backcourt. Has the ball been illegally returned to the backcourt?

(Answer) Yes.

30-14 A4 in team A's backcourt attempts a pass to A2 in the frontcourt. The ball strikes an official who is touching the frontcourt and returns to A4 who is still in the team A backcourt. Has the ball been illegally returned to the backcourt?

(Answer) Yes.

Article 31. Goal tending and Interference

31-1 For an offensive player, what constitutes (a) goal tending (b) interference?

(Answer) (a) An offensive player commits goal tending when that player touches the ball while the ball is on its downward flight above the level of the ring on a shot for a goal and while the ball has a reasonable chance of entering the basket. (b) An offensive player commits interference when that player touches the basket (ring and/or net) or backboard while the ball is touching the basket ring on a shot for a goal.

31-2 For a defensive player, what constitutes (a) goal tending (b) interference?

(Answer) (a) A defensive player commits goal tending when that player touches the ball while the ball is on its downward flight above the level of the ring on a shot for a goal and while the ball has a reasonable chance of entering the basket. (b) A defensive player commits interference when that player touches the basket (ring and/or net) or backboard while the ball is touching the basket ring on a shot for a goal, or touches the ball or basket while the ball is within the basket on a shot for a goal.

31-3 (a) An offensive player (b) A defensive player commits goal tending or interference. Shall the officials handle the ball when play resumes?

(Answer) In (a), an official shall handle the ball by placing it at the disposal of the opponents for a throw-in at the free-throw line extended nearest to where the offensive goal tending or interference occurred. In (b), the appropriate official shall signal that the goal counts but an official shall not handle the ball following the violation.

31-4 Both teams commit interference at approximately the same time while the ball is touching the ring on a shot for a field goal. How shall play resume?

(Answer) No goal can be scored. This is a jump ball situation. Play shall resume with an alternating possession throw-in for the team entitled to the next alternating possession throw-in, at a place on the end line nearest to the infraction (but not directly behind the backboard).



31-5 While the ball is above the ring on (a) a shot for a field goal by A2 (b) a free throw (c) a rebound, a player reaches through the basket from below and contacts the ball. Is this a violation?

(Answer) Yes in (a), (b) and (c). In (a), two (or three) points shall be awarded; in (b), one point shall be awarded. In (c), a throw-in shall be awarded to the opponents from the end line place nearest to where the violation occurred. For the procedure for resuming play, see case situation 31-3 (See also case situation 31-14, 31-17).

31-6 A4 is fouled by B4 while A4 is in the act of shooting for a field goal. While the ball is (a) still in its upward flight on the shot (b) on the basket ring or bouncing above the ring after having touched the ring, a player on either team touches the ball. Has interference occurred?

(Answer) No in (a); the ball has been legally touched. The ball becomes dead immediately, after which the B4 foul is penalized. Yes in (b); interference occurs when the ball is touched after it has touched the ring following the blowing of the whistle by an official, as long as the ball still has an opportunity to enter the basket. (See also case situation 10-3)

31-7 The game clock signal sounds to end a period while the ball is in the air on a shot for a field goal. After the game clock signal has sounded, the ball is (a) touched by a player while it is still on its upward flight (b) touched by a player after it has touched the ring and while it still has an opportunity to enter the basket. Has interference occurred?

(Answer) No, in (a); yes in (b). In both, (a) and (b), the ball becomes dead immediately. In (b), players may not touch the ball after the game clock signal has sounded to end a period and after the ball has touched the ring, as long as the ball still has an opportunity to enter the basket. (See also case situation 10-3)

31-8 A5's last free throw has touched the ring and is bouncing above it when (a) A4 taps the ball into the basket (b) B4 taps the ball away from the basket. Has an interference violation occurred?

(Answer) No in both (a) and (b); in (a), A4 shall be credited with two points.



31-9 A lay-up attempt by A2 touches the backboard while on its upward flight and totally above the level of the ring. The ball is then contacted by B2 (a) while the ball is still in its upward flight (b) while the ball is on its downward flight. Has interference occurred?

(Answer) Yes in both (a) and (b); once the ball has touched the backboard on a shot for a field goal, it may not be touched by a player on either team until the ball touches the ring or clearly will not enter the basket.

31-10 A1's shot for a field goal is in the air when B1 contacts the backboard and causes it to vibrate. The ball (a) enters the basket (b) falls obviously short of the basket (c) contacts the ring but bounces away from the basket because of the vibration of the backboard. Has interference occurred?

(Answer) In (a), the goal shall count; no interference has occurred. In (b), the vibration of the backboard shall be ignored because that vibration had no influence on the shot for a goal. In (c), interference has occurred. Two (or three) points shall be awarded to A1. (See also case situation 38-4)

31-11 A5's last free throw is (a) on its way to the basket (b) on the basket ring (c) bouncing above the basket ring (d) within the basket. The ball is now touched by B4. Has interference occurred?

(Answer) Yes in (a) and (d); no in (b) and (c). Once the ball has touched the ring (but is not within the basket) on a last free throw, any player may touch the ball.

31-12 The ball is within the team B basket on an A4 shot for a field goal when the ball is contacted by A5. The contact causes the ball to be deflected out of the basket. Shall A4 be credited with two (or three) points?

(Answer) No. The contact with the ball by A5 was legal and the ball did not pass through (or remain in) the basket. No goal has been scored.



31-13 B5 commits interference while the ball is on the way to the basket during an A4 free throw attempt. How many points shall be credited to A4?

(Answer) One point shall be awarded.

31-14 A last free throw by A3 has touched the ring and is bouncing above it when B3 reaches through the basket from below and contacts the ball. Shall a point(s) be awarded to team A?

(Answer) No. This action is a rebound violation (not interference with the ball). A throw-in (and a new 24-second period) shall be awarded to team A at the end line place nearest to where the violation occurred but not behind the backboard. (See also case situation 31-5, 31-17).

31-15 On the first of two free throws, may a player on either team touch the ball once the ball has touched the ring?

(Answer) If the ball continues to have an opportunity to enter the basket, this would be interference with the free throw. One point would be awarded.

31-16 While the ball is touching the ring as the result of a shot for a field goal by A2, A4 causes the backboard and ring to vibrate. The official judges that the vibration causes the ball to enter the basket. Has offensive interference occurred?

(Answer) Yes. The goal shall not count. Team B shall be awarded a throw-in at the foul line extended.

31-17 The ball is above the ring as the result of a pass by A2 when B2 reaches through the basket and touches the ball. Does this action constitute interference or goal tending?

(Answer) No. This action is a violation but it is not considered to be interference or goal tending. Team A shall be awarded the ball for a throw-in (as well as a new 24-second period) from the end line place nearest where the violation occurred (but not behind the backboard) (See also case situation 31-5).

(SEE ALSO CASE SITUATION 19-17)

(FOR VIOLATIONS DURING A JUMP BALL OR ALTERNATING POSSESSION, SEE CASE SITUATIONS 12-7, 12-10 AND 12-17)



RULE SIX FOUL

Article 34. Personal foul

34-1 What are the characteristics of a personal foul?

(Answer) (1) A personal foul is a foul committed by a player. (2) The foul must involve contact. (3) The contact must be against an opponent.

34-2 Defensive player B1 moves to a position on the floor directly in the path of dribbler A4. A4 does not have the time and distance to stop or to change direction and collides with B1. At the moment of the contact, B1 has both feet on the floor and is facing A4. The contact occurs on the torso of B1. Which player shall be considered responsible for the contact?

(Answer) The responsibility for the contact rests with A4. B1 has the right to any position on the floor in the path of A4. Because A4 was in control of the ball, it is not necessary that B1 allow a special time or distance in establishing a defensive position. A player with the ball must expect to be guarded.

34-3 A2 is in the air after releasing the ball on a shot for a 2-point field goal. Before A2 can return to the floor, A2 is fouled by B2. The shot for a goal is not successful. How many free throws shall be awarded?

(Answer) A2 shall be awarded two free throws. A player who is in the air on a shot for a field goal continues to be in the act of shooting until that player returns both feet to the floor.

34-4 What is a team control foul?

(Answer) A team control foul is any personal foul (other than unsportsmanlike or disqualifying) that is committed by a player of the team in control of the ball. Free throws are not awarded for a team control foul. If a personal foul is judged to be unsportsmanlike or disqualifying, or if the foul is a technical foul, that foul shall not be considered team control but shall carry the penalty provided in articles 36, 37 and 38 respectively.

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- 34-5** A3 is dribbling while being closely guarded by B3. A4 moves to a stationary position that is out of B3's field of vision, after which B3 takes two steps before colliding with A4 and both players fall to the floor. May (a) A4 (b) B3 be charged with a foul?

(Answer) No, in (a); yes in (b). Because the screen is set outside the field of vision of B3, the only requirement is that A4 give B3 room to stop or change direction at the moment the screen is set.

- 34-6** While A4 is in the act of shooting for a field goal but before the ball has left A4's hand(s), (a) A5 fouls B5. This is the fifth team foul in the period for team A (b) B5 fouls A5; this is the fifth team foul in the period for team B. The shot for a goal is successful. Shall the goal count?

(Answer) No in (a); the foul by A5 causes the ball to become dead immediately, provided it has not yet left the hand(s) of A4. No free throws shall be awarded because this is a team control foul. Yes in (b); A5 shall be awarded two free throws.

- 34-7** While A4 is in the act of shooting for a field goal but before the ball has left A4's hand(s), (a) A5 fouls B5; this is the fifth team foul in that period for team A (b) B5 fouls A5; this is the fifth team foul for team B in that period. The shot for a goal is not successful. How shall play resume in each situation?

(Answer) In (a), the foul by A5 is a team control foul. A throw-in shall be awarded to team B at the sideline or end line place nearest to where the infraction occurred. In (b), A5 shall be awarded two free throws.

- 34-8** While A4 is in the act of shooting for a field goal but before the ball has left A4's hand(s), (a) A5 fouls B5; this is the third team foul in that period for team A (b) B5 fouls A5; this is the third team foul in that period for team B. The shot for a goal is not successful. How shall play resume?



(Answer) In (a), this is a team control foul. A throw-in shall be awarded to team B at the sideline or end line place nearest place to where the infraction occurred. In (b), a throw-in shall be awarded to team A at the sideline or end line place nearest to where the infraction occurred.

- 34-9** Dribbler A4 realizes that B4 has established a legal guarding position in A4's path. A4 changes direction to avoid B4. B4 then reacts to A4's change of direction by moving to maintain defensive position on A4. Contact occurs between A4 and B4 on B4's torso. At the time of the contact, B4 is moving and has only one foot touching the floor. Shall B4 be responsible for the contact?

(Answer) No. Once a player has established a guarding position, that player is permitted to move in order to maintain the position. To establish a guarding position, the player must have both feet on the floor, but to maintain a guarding position it is not necessary to have either foot touching the floor.

- 34-10** Before A1 jumps on a shot for a field goal, B1 takes a legal guarding position on the floor in front of A1. A1 releases the ball on the shot and then fouls B1 while returning to the floor. This is the fifth team foul for team A in that period. Shall free throws be awarded?

(Answer) Yes. Team control ended when the ball was released on the shot for a field goal. Free throws shall therefore be awarded.

Article 35. Double foul

- 35-1** What are the characteristics of a double foul?

(Answer) A double foul is a situation where (1) two opponents commit (2) personal fouls (3) against each other (4) at approximately the same time.



- 35-2** A1 and B1 are involved in a double foul. At the time of the double foul, (a) team A has control of the ball (b) team A is entitled to control of the ball (c) neither team A or team B has control of the ball or is entitled to control (d) team A has scored a field goal. How shall play resume following the charging of fouls to A1 and B1?

(Answer) In (a) and (b), play shall resume with a team A throw-in at the sideline or end line place nearest to where the infraction occurred. Team A shall have only whatever time was remaining in the 24-second period at the time the foul occurred. In (c), this is a jump ball situation. Play shall resume with an alternating possession throw-in at the place nearest to where the infraction occurred. In (d), play shall resume with a team B throw-in from the end line.

- 35-3** A2 and B2 commit a double foul. A2's foul is judged to be unsportsmanlike. Shall free throws be awarded to either A2 or B2?

(Answer) No. Free throws are never awarded as the result of a double foul.

- 35-4** While the ball is in the air on a shot for a field goal, a double foul occurs. The shot for a goal is not successful. A4 then commits a technical foul and coach B is also charged with a technical foul. Shall play resume with an alternating possession throw-in?

(Answer) Yes. This is a special situation as covered under article 42. In determining penalties in special situations, the double foul is charged to the appropriate players but is ignored in deciding what penalties are to cancel each other and which ones shall remain to be administered. In the situation given, the double foul penalty is ignored and the foul penalties resulting from the technical fouls cancel each other. (See also case situations under article 42)

- 35-5** A4 is in the act of shooting when a double foul occurs between A4 and B4. The ball then enters the basket. The lead official calls a charging foul against A4 but the trail official calls a defensive foul against B4. How shall play resume?



(Answer) This is a double foul. The goal shall not count. The game shall resume with a throw-in from the free throw line extended by team A because team A controlled the ball at the time the double foul occurred. (See also case situation 35-6)

- 35-6** A4 is in the act of shooting when there is physical contact between A4 and B4. The lead official calls an offensive foul on A4 and the trail official calls a defensive foul on B4. The ball enters the basket. Shall the goal count?

(Answer) This is a double foul. The basket shall not count. Because team A was in control of the ball at the time of the double foul, play shall resume with a throw-in for team A at the sideline or end line place nearest to where the double foul occurred (See also case situation 35-5).

Article 36. Unsportsmanlike foul

- 36-1** What are the characteristics of an unsportsmanlike foul?

(Answer) An unsportsmanlike foul is a player contact foul that the officials judge is not a legitimate attempt to directly play the ball within the spirit and intent of the rules.

- 36-2** B3 commits an unsportsmanlike against A3. At the time of the foul, (a) A5 has control (b) A5 is in the act of shooting on a successful shot for a field goal (c) A3 is in the act of shooting on a successful shot for a field goal (d) A3 is in the act of shooting on an unsuccessful shot for a field goal (e) A5 is holding a live ball out-of-bounds for a team A throw-in. What shall be the penalty in each situation?

(Answer) In (a), (b) and (e), A3 shall be awarded two free throws. In (c), A3 shall be awarded one free throw. In (d), A3 shall be awarded two (or three) free throws. In each situation, play shall resume with a throw-in for team A at the centre line extended opposite the scorer's table.

- 36-3** While team A is in control of the ball, A5 commits an unsportsmanlike foul on B5. Shall A5's foul be considered a team ?



(Answer) No. An unsportsmanlike foul shall carry its own penalty and shall never be considered a team control foul. B5 shall be awarded two free throws and play shall resume with a team B throw-in at the centre line extended opposite the scorer's table.

- 36-4** While A2 has possession of the ball for the first of two free throws, (a) A4 (b) B4 commits an unsportsmanlike foul. What is the correct procedure for the officials to follow?

(Answer) In both, (a) and (b), the ball becomes dead immediately. The offender shall be charged with an unsportsmanlike foul. A2 shall be permitted to complete the original free throws with all rebound places remaining vacant. Following A2's last free throw, the penalty for the unsportsmanlike foul shall be administered.

- 36-5** While A4 is clearly in the air on a shot for a field goal, B4 moves under A4 so that A4 collides with B4 when returning to the floor. May an unsportsmanlike foul be charged to B4?

(Answer) Officials should be especially alert for any contact situations that could lead to injury. If such a situation occurs as the result of an action that is not a direct attempt to play the ball, then an unsportsmanlike foul may be charged.

- 36-6** A4 is in control of the ball when A4 deliberately fouls B1. Shall an unsportsmanlike foul be called on A4?

(Answer) Yes. B1 shall be awarded two free throws, after which team B shall be awarded a throw-in at the centre line extended opposite the scorer's table.

**Article 37. Disqualifying foul****37-1** What are the characteristics of a disqualifying foul?

(Answer) A disqualifying foul is a foul that involves flagrantly unsportsmanlike behavior. A disqualifying foul may be charged at any time. Though the most common disqualifying fouls involve contact, any flagrantly unsportsmanlike infraction against article 38 (Technical Foul) shall also be considered disqualifying.

37-2 A3 commits a fifth foul and must leave the game. Is A3's fifth foul considered as a disqualifying foul?

(Answer) No. In order for a foul to be considered disqualifying, the guideline presented in case situation 37-1 and article 37 of the *Official Basketball Rules* must be met.

37-3 During a first period of the game, A4 is charged with a disqualifying foul. This is A4's first foul of the game. Shall A4 be required to go to the team A dressing room or leave the building?

(Answer) Yes. A disqualifying foul may occur at any time during the game and need not be preceded either by a warning or by previous fouls.

37-4 A5 is charged with a second unsportsmanlike foul. Shall the second unsportsmanlike foul be considered a disqualifying foul?

(Answer) Yes. A5 must go to the team A dressing room or leave the building.

37-5 A4 punches B4. This is A4's second personal foul. Is this a disqualifying foul?

(Answer) Yes.

37-6 A4 commits blatantly unsportsmanlike behavior by spitting on the floor in reaction to the judgment of an official. Is this a disqualifying foul?

(Answer) Yes.



Article 38. Technical foul

38-1 After a fifth foul is committed by B5, B5 is notified of being no longer entitled to participate. B5 later enters the game as a substitute. What is the penalty for B5's act?

(Answer) When the illegal participation by B5 is discovered, the game shall be stopped at the first opportunity, without placing team A at a disadvantage. B5 shall be removed from the game and a technical foul shall be charged to coach B. However, any points scored by B5 during the illegal participation shall count and any foul committed by B5 shall be treated as a player foul (See also case situations 38-16, 38-17).

38-2 After releasing the ball on a shot for a field goal, A2 hangs on the basket ring so as to have the ring support A2's weight. The officials judge that A2's action was not an attempt to prevent an injury. Is this considered to be a technical foul?

(Answer) Yes. (See also case situation 38-8)

38-3 During an interval of play, A4 changes the number recorded for A4 on the scoresheet. May a technical foul be charged to A4?

(Answer) A4 must report the change of number to both the scorer and an official before again participating in the game. Otherwise, a technical foul may be charged.

38-4 During a shot for a field goal by A5, B5 contacts the backboard, causing the backboard and the basket ring to vibrate. Is this a technical foul?

(Answer) No. (See also case situation 31-10)

38-5 In order to avoid a defensive player, A4 runs out-of-bounds and around the player before returning to the in-bounds area. The official warns A4 and coach A that the action is not to be repeated. A4 again goes out-of-bounds to avoid a defensive player. Shall a technical foul be charged to A4?



(Answer) Yes. To permit a player to use the out-of-bounds in this way would be to give that player an unfair advantage and because a warning has been given a technical foul shall be charged.

38-6 Whenever a player is given a warning that could lead to a technical foul, shall the warning also be communicated to the coach of that team?

(Answer) Yes. This warning shall be communicated to the coach and shall apply to that team for the entire game.

38-7 A2 jumps to gain control of the ball and then passes to A3. A2 then lands out-of-bounds but immediately returns to the in-bounds area, after which A2 receives a pass from A3. Shall A2 be charged with a technical foul for leaving the playing court to gain an advantage?

(Answer) No. If a player's jumping causes that player to go out-of-bounds, no infraction has taken place.

38-8 Is it permissible for A4 to hang from the ring if the intent, in the judgment of the officials, is to avoid injury to A4 or to another player?

(Answer) Yes. (See also case situation 38-2)

38-9 In order to distract A1, B4 waves a hand(s) in front of A1's eyes. May a technical foul be charged to B4?

(Answer) Yes. (See also case situation 38-11)

38-10 With ten seconds remaining in the third period, A5 scores a field goal, after which B4 takes the ball out-of-bounds for a throw-in. While the ball is in the hand(s) of B4, A5 taps at the ball and is warned by an official. The warning is also communicated to coach A. A5 then taps at the ball again. Shall a technical foul be charged to A5?

(Answer) Yes.

38-11 While A4 is in the act of shooting for a field goal, B4 attempts to distract A4 by stamping heavily on the floor or shouting at A4. The shot for a field goal is (a) successful (b) not successful. May B4 be charged with a technical foul?



(Answer) In (a), the goal shall count and B4 shall be given a warning. In (b), a technical foul may be charged to B4 (See also case situation 38-9).

38-12 When shall bench personnel be permitted to leave the team bench area?

(Answer) (a) A coach or assistant coach may leave the team bench area to request a time-out, to seek information about the score or number of fouls, to assist the officials when a fight has broken out or threatens to break out, or to attend to an injured player after having received permission from an official. (b) A substitute may approach the scorer's table to request entering the game. (c) A trainer or team doctor may leave the team bench area to attend to an injured player.

38-13 A technical foul is committed by substitute A10 for disrespectfully addressing the officials. How shall this foul be recorded?

(Answer) The foul shall be charged to coach A and shall be recorded as a "B".

38-14 Unsportsmanlike behavior is demonstrated by the team A doctor. Shall a technical foul be charged to coach A and recorded as a "B"?

(Answer) Yes. All fouls committed by bench personnel (other than the coach) shall be assigned to the coach and recorded as a "B". Any foul involving unsportsmanlike behavior committed by the coach personally shall be recorded as a "C".

38-15 Coach B is charged with (a) a second technical foul for coach B's personal unsportsmanlike conduct (b) a third technical foul for unsportsmanlike behaviour by bench personnel (c) a technical foul for personal unsportsmanlike conduct followed by two technical fouls for infractions by bench personnel. Shall coach B be required to go to the team B dressing room or leave the building?



(Answer) Yes. When coach B has been assigned either two technical fouls for coach B's personal unsportsmanlike conduct *or* a total of three technical fouls for a combination of personal unsportsmanlike conduct and unsportsmanlike behaviour attributed to bench personnel, then coach B shall be disqualified and must go to the team B dressing room or leave the building.

- 38-16** B3 commits a fifth foul. B10 enters the game for B3 but B3 is not notified that the fifth foul has been committed. Later in the game, B3 re-enters as a substitute. B3 then commits a sixth foul, after which the error of having permitted B3 to participate is discovered. Shall a technical foul be charged to either B3 or to coach B?

(Answer) No. Because B3 was not notified when the fifth foul was committed, a technical foul shall not be charged. B3's sixth foul shall be treated as a player foul. B3 must leave the game immediately and be replaced with a substitute. If, however, B3 had been notified at the time of the fifth foul, then a technical foul would also be charged to coach B. The foul by B3 would still be treated as a player foul. In either case, points scored, free throws awarded and fouls committed while B3 was participating after re-entering shall be considered valid (See also case situation 38-1).

- 38-17** While the game is being played, it is discovered that team A has more than five players participating. What procedure shall the officials follow?

(Answer) If team A is in control of the ball (or neither team is in control of the ball) at the time of the discovery, the game shall be stopped immediately. One team A player must leave the playing court. A technical foul shall be charged to coach A. If team B is in control of the ball at the time of the discovery, the officials shall withhold the whistle until team B shoots for a goal, an infraction occurs, or until the opponents gain control. The game shall then be stopped and a team A player must leave the playing court. A technical foul shall be charged to coach A.



38-18 During a dead ball, A1 appears to be seriously injured. Without waiting for the permission of the officials, the team A doctor comes onto the court to attend to A1. Shall a technical foul be charged to coach A?

(Answer) No. In this situation the team doctor may come onto the playing court immediately. The most important concern is for the welfare of the injured player. It is not necessary that the doctor wait for the permission of the officials.

38-19 Near the end of the third period, A5 is fouled while in the act of shooting for a field goal. The shot for a goal is not successful. Before the ball can become dead following the foul, the signal sounds to end the period. A5 is awarded two free throws. After the first free throw but before the remaining free throw(s) has been completed, a technical foul is charged to B5. Shall this technical foul be considered to have happened during playing time?

(Answer) No. The signal sounded to end the period before the technical foul by B5. Despite the fact that free throws remain to be administered, the B5 foul still occurs during an interval of play. At the beginning of the fourth period two free throws shall be awarded to a team A player, after which the game shall resume with a team A throw-in at the centre line extended opposite the scorer's table. The team entitled to the next alternating possession shall not lose the right to that possession because of the foul.

38-20 During the warm-up before the third period, A3 grasps the ring. A3 as well as coach A (a) have received (b) have not received a warning for the same action during the pre-game warm-up. May a technical foul be charged?

(Answer) Yes in (a); the warning given to A3 during the pre-game warm-up applies to the half-time interval as well. A3 shall be charged with a technical foul during an interval of play. Team B shall be awarded two free throws before the beginning of the third period, after which the period shall begin with a throw-in for team B at the centre line extended opposite the scorer's table. The team entitled to the next alternating possession shall not lose that right because of the foul. No in (b); however, a warning will now be given



38-21 A4 commits a technical foul during an interval of play.

How shall the following period begin?

(Answer) Two free throws shall be awarded to any designated starter on the opposing team. If the following period is the first period, that period shall then begin with a jump ball. If the following period is any period other than the first period, it shall begin with a throw-in for the opponents at the centre line extended opposite the scorer's table. For all periods after the first period, the team entitled to the next alternating possession shall not lose that right because of the foul.

38-22 Technical fouls are charged to both A5 and B5 during an interval of play. What penalties result from these fouls and how shall the following period begin?

(Answer) These fouls shall count toward the five fouls for each player leading to that player's disqualification (see case situations under article 40). The fouls shall also count as team fouls leading to the penalty situation in the following period (see case situations under article 41). The penalties for these fouls shall cancel each other. If the fouls occurred in the interval of play preceding the first period, that period shall begin with a jump ball. If the fouls occurred in the interval of play before any period other than the first period, that period shall begin with an alternating possession throw-in for the team entitled to the next alternating possession.

38-23 The signal sounds to end the fourth period with the score (a) team A - 80, team B 80 (b) team A 80, team B 79. After the signal has sounded, A2 fouls B2. What is the correct procedure for the officials to follow?

(Answer) In (a), the action has occurred during an interval of play. A2 shall be charged with a disqualifying foul. The foul shall count as one of the team fouls accumulated by team A. Two free throws shall be awarded to B2, followed by a throw-in for team B at the centre line extended opposite the scorer's table to begin the extra period. The team entitled to the next alternating possession shall not lose that right because of the foul. In (b), the game is over and therefore a foul cannot be charged. The officials shall note the situation on the back of the scoresheet and refer it to the organizing body of the competition for further action.



38-24 A4 is a player-coach. During an interval of play A4 is charged with a technical foul because of (a) hanging on the ring during the warm-up (b) unsportsmanlike behavior. How shall the technical foul be recorded on the scoresheet?

(Answer) In both, (a) and (b), the technical foul shall be recorded as one of A4's player fouls. It shall count toward the five fouls that would lead to A4's leaving the game as well as count toward the team penalty situation in the following period.

38-25 A technical foul is committed (a) in the interval of play before the first period (b) in the interval of play before any period other than the first period. Who shall be eligible to attempt the resulting free throws?

(Answer) In (a), the free throws shall be attempted by any opponent who has been designated as one of that team's starting five players. In (b), the free throws shall be attempted by any opponent, provided that opponent remains in the game as a player for the next clock-running phase of the game.

38-26 A4 is in the act of shooting for a field goal when B4 tries to distract A4 by shouting at A4 or by stamping heavily on the floor. The shot for a goal (a) is not successful (b) is successful. May a technical foul be charged to B4?

(Answer) Yes in (a); no in (b). In (b), however, a warning shall be given to B4.

Article 39. Fighting

39-1 During a fight situation, coach A (a) leaves the team bench area but makes no attempt to help in restoring or maintaining order (b) leaves the team bench area and attempts to help in restoring or maintaining order. Shall a disqualifying foul be charged to coach A?

(Answer) In (a), a disqualifying foul shall be charged to coach A. Team B shall be awarded two free throws and a throw-in at the centre line extended opposite the scorer's table, unless the penalty is influenced by other foul penalties awarded during the same stopped-clock period (see case situations under article 42). In (b), no penalty shall be charged.

39-2 During a fight situation, A10 as well as B10 and B11 leave the team bench areas. What shall be the penalties for these players' leaving the team bench area and what procedure shall be followed in resuming play?

(Answer) Coach A and coach B shall each be charged with single technical fouls. A10, B10 and B11 shall be disqualified and must go to their respective dressing rooms or leave the building. The fouls shall be recorded as "B" fouls for their respective coaches and shall not count as part of the team fouls in that period. The penalties for these fouls shall cancel each other, unless influenced by other fouls charged during the same stopped-clock period.

39-3 A technical foul is charged to a coach for leaving the team bench area during a fighting situation. Shall this foul count as a team foul leading to the penalty situation in that period?

(Answer) No.

39-4 During a fighting situation, (a) a substitute on the team A bench (b) a team A follower leaves the team bench area to help restore or maintain order. Shall a technical foul be charged and the person required going to the team dressing room or leaving the building?

(Answer) Yes. Only the coach or the assistant coach may leave the team bench area during a fight situation.

39-5 (a) Team A is has control of the ball or is entitled to a throw-in when a fight situation develops (b) Neither team has control of the ball (or is entitled to a throw-in) when a fight situation develops. Two team A substitutes and one team B substitute are disqualified for leaving the team bench area. After order is restored, it is determined that all foul penalties are cancelled under article 42. Shall play resume with an alternating possession throw-in?

(Answer) No in (a); team A shall be awarded a throw-in. Yes in (b); this is a jump ball situation. Assuming that all penalties are canceled by equal penalties awarded to the opponents, play shall resume with an alternating possession throw-in. (see also case situations 39-6, 39-7, 39-8)



- 39-6** Team A is in control of the ball with five seconds remaining in the 24-second period when a fight situation breaks out or threatens to break out. The officials eventually determine that all penalties resulting from the situation cancel each other. Team A is awarded a throw-in to resume play. Shall team A have only five seconds remaining in the 24-second period?

(Answer) Yes. If a team is in control of the ball at the time a fight breaks out or threatens to break out, that team shall have only whatever time was remaining on the 24-second clock when play resumes.

- 39-7** Team A has had control of the ball for 15 seconds when a situation occurs which may lead to a fight. A10, A11 and B10 are then disqualified for leaving their respective team bench areas. How shall play be resumed?

(Answer) Single technical fouls shall be charged to coach A and coach B. A10, A11 and B10 must go to their respective dressing rooms or leave the building. The penalties for the coach A technical foul and the coach B technical foul shall cancel each other. Because team A was in control of the ball when the fighting situation occurred, play shall resume with a throw-in for team A and only nine seconds remaining in the 24-second period.

- 39-8** Team A is in control of the ball when a situation occurs which may lead to a fight. The officials disqualify members of both teams for leaving the team bench area. Team A is then awarded a throw-in. Shall the throw-in be administered at the centre line extended, opposite the scorer's table?

(Answer) Yes.

(FOR FOULS COMMITTED DURING A JUMP BALL OR AN ALTERNATING POSSESSION, SEE CASE SITUATIONS 12-8, 12-9, 12-18, AND 12-21)



RULE SEVEN GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 40. Five fouls by a player

40-1 What is a player foul?

(Answer) A player foul is a foul committed by any member of either team who qualifies as a player; that is, any team member who is playing on the court during playing time. During an interval of play, this would also include any team member entitled to play in the following period. In a situation when an excluded player (after committing a fifth foul) is playing illegally, a foul committed by that excluded player shall also be recorded as a player foul. (See also case situation 38-16)

40-2 Is there a time limit for replacing a player who has committed a fifth foul?

(Answer) Yes. After a player has committed a fifth foul, that player must be replaced within thirty seconds. If a team takes more than thirty seconds to make a substitution, then a time-out may be charged.

40-3 After A1 has been charged with four personal fouls, A1 commits a technical foul. Shall the technical foul be considered A1's fifth foul and A1 no longer be entitled to participate as a player?

(Answer) Yes. When a player has been charged with five fouls, personal or technical, that player may no longer participate.

40-4 A5 commits a fifth foul. The officials judge that team A has taken an unacceptable period of time without completing a substitution. Team A has no time-outs remaining. May a technical foul be charged?

(Answer) Yes.



Article 41. Team fouls: Penalty

41-1 What is a team control foul?

(Answer) A team control foul is a personal foul committed by a player while that player's team is in control of the ball, or is entitled to control of the ball in a dead ball situation.

41-2 While team A is in control of the ball, A5 commits (a) a personal foul which is not unsportsmanlike or disqualifying (b) a technical, unsportsmanlike or disqualifying foul. Shall free throws be awarded?

(Answer) In (a), this is a team control foul. No free throws shall be awarded. In (b), free throws shall be awarded and play shall resume with a team B throw-in at the centre line extended opposite the scorer's table.

41-3 While the ball is at the disposal of A2 for a throw-in, A4 fouls B4. Is this a team control foul?

(Answer) Yes. On a throw-in situation, team control begins when the ball is at the disposal of the player who is to make the throw-in.

41-4 While A5 is in the air on a shot for a field goal, A5 fouls B4 who is in a legal guarding position. The contact occurs (a) before A5 has released the ball on the shot for a goal (b) after A5 has released the ball on the shot for a goal. This is the fifth team foul for team A in that period. Shall free throws be awarded in either situation?

(Answer) In (a), no free throws shall be awarded. The foul by A5 is a team control foul. In (b), B4 shall be awarded two free throws. In the case of an airborne shooter, the act of shooting continues until both feet have returned to the floor but team control ends with the release of the ball on the shot for a goal.

41-5 B4 fouls A4. A4 is not in the act of shooting and the foul is not unsportsmanlike, or disqualifying. This is the (a) fourth (b) fifth player foul for team B in that period. Shall free throws be awarded?



(Answer) In (a), free throws shall not be awarded. Team A shall be awarded a throw-in at the sideline or end line place nearest to where the infraction occurred. In (b), A4 shall be awarded two free throws. The penalty situation begins on the fifth player foul (that is, after the fourth player foul) in each period. Extra periods shall be considered extensions of the fourth period in applying the penalty situation.

- 41-6** While A3 is in the act of shooting for a field goal but before A3 has released the ball on the shot, (a) A5 fouls B5 (b) B5 fouls A5. The shot for a field goal is successful. This is the fifth player foul for that team in the period. What is the correct procedure for the officials to follow?

(Answer) In (a), the ball shall become dead when the foul occurs. The goal shall not count. This is a team control foul. Because a dead ball has passed through the basket, team B shall be awarded a throw-in at the free throw line extended. In (b), the A3 goal shall count. A foul by a defensive player shall not cause the ball to become dead if committed while an opponent is in the act of shooting. A5 shall be awarded two free throws. (See also case situation 19-21))

Article 42. Special situations

- 42-1** During the same interval of play or stopped-clock period, a number of infractions occur involving both teams. What procedure shall the officials follow in penalizing these infractions and resuming play?

(Answer) The following procedure shall be used in determining what penalties shall be administered and how play will eventually resume.

- (a) Players, coaches or bench personnel who committed fouls shall have these fouls entered on the scoresheet.



- (b) The officials shall determine the order in which the fouls occurred and the penalty which would normally result from each foul. If a violation preceded the foul(s), then the throw-in penalty resulting from that violation shall also be included in this step (see case situation 42-3).
- (c) Any double foul penalty shall be cancelled.
- (d) If a penalty awarded to one team is balanced by the same penalty awarded to the opponents, then these two penalties shall be cancelled. Penalties available for canceling shall be determined by the order in which the infractions occurred
- (e) Penalties awarded to one team that are not cancelled by the same penalty awarded to the opponents shall be maintained and administered in the order in which they occurred. If possession of the ball for a throw-in is a part of any penalty remaining to be administered other than the last penalty, that possession shall be forfeited.
- (f) An entire penalty shall remain available for cancellation only until the ball first becomes live for the administration of that penalty.
- (g) If all penalties cancel each other and no penalties remain to be administered, then play shall resume as outlined in case situation 42-7.

42-2 Officials call fouls on both A5 and B5 at approximately the same time but cannot agree on which foul occurred first. What procedure shall be followed in determining the order of the penalties?

(Answer) Two fouls cannot occur simultaneously. It is the responsibility of the officials to determine which foul occurred first. If the officials cannot agree, then it shall be the responsibility of the referee to make the final decision. Penalties shall then be administered (or cancelled) in the order in which they occurred.

42-3 Shall the awarding of a throw-in as a result of a violation be taken into consideration when determining what penalties are to be administered or cancelled in special situations?

(Answer) Yes.

42-4 A4 is awarded two free throws as a result of a fifth player foul by team B in a period. Before the ball can become live for the first free throw, (a) a technical foul is called on A5 (b) A5 commits an unsportsmanlike foul against B5. What procedure shall the officials follow in resuming play?

(Answer) In (a), a technical foul shall be charged to A5. The two free throws awarded to A4 shall be administered, during which all rebound places shall remain vacant. Following the A4 free throws, any team B player shall then be awarded two free throws (with rebound places to remain vacant), followed by a throw-in for team B at the centre line extended opposite the scorer's table. In (b), A5 shall be charged with an unsportsmanlike foul. A4's free throws shall be administered, during which the rebound places shall remain vacant. Following the A4 free throws, B5 shall be awarded two free throws (with rebound places to remain vacant) followed by a throw-in for team B at the centre line extended opposite the scorer's table.

42-5 During the second period, A5 commits a fifth foul and is notified by an official that A5 may no longer participate. During the fourth period, A5 enters the game as a substitute but the error is not discovered until B3 has committed an unsportsmanlike foul. The officials remove A5 from the game and charge a technical foul to coach A. Shall the penalties for the unsportsmanlike foul and the coach A technical foul cancel each other?

(Answer) Yes. The technical foul charged to coach A because of the illegal participation by A5 shall be considered to have happened at the time of its discovery.



42-6 Do the rules place a limit on the number of free throws that may be awarded during the same stopped-clock period or interval of play?

(Answer) No.

42-7 In a special situation, the officials find that all penalties cancel each other. How shall play resume?

(Answer) Play shall resume as follows:

- (a) if a goal was scored immediately before the special situation developed, then the opponents of the scoring team shall be awarded a throw-in from the end line
- (b) if a team was in control of the ball before the special situation developed, and if this penalty has not been cancelled by a similar penalty awarded to the opponents, then that team shall be awarded a throw-in and the 24-second clock shall not be re-set
- (C) if no goal was scored and neither team was in control of the ball, then this is a jump ball situation and play shall resume with an alternating possession throw-in.

42-8 B1 fouls A1 and A1 is awarded two free throws. (a) Before the ball can become live for A1's first free throw (b) after the ball has become live for A1's first free throw, coach A as well as coach B commits technical fouls. How shall play be resumed?

(Answer) In both, (a) and (b), the technical fouls shall be charged to coach A and coach B. The penalties for these fouls shall cancel each other. A1 shall be permitted to complete the free throws resulting from the B1 foul, after which play shall resume normally with a throw-in or a rebound.

42-9 A4 commits an unsportsmanlike foul against B4, after which B5 is charged with a technical foul. Shall the penalties for these fouls cancel each other?



42-10 Possession of the ball for a throw-in is awarded to team B as a result of a violation. Under what circumstances would team B lose this right to possession?

(Answer) If any player on either team commits a foul while team B is entitled to the throw-in but before the ball becomes live on that throw-in, the right to the throw-in shall be forfeited.

42-11 Possession of the ball for a throw-in is awarded to team B as a result of (a) a technical foul (b) an unsportsmanlike foul (c) a disqualifying foul. Under what circumstances would team B lose this right to possession?

(Answer) In (a), (b) and (c), if an opponent commits a foul which carries the same penalty, the penalties cancel each other; if any player on either team commits a foul which does not carry the same penalty, then any free throws shall be maintained but the right to possession shall be forfeited.

42-12 While in the act of shooting on a successful shot for a field goal, A3 is fouled by B3 and B4. How many free throws shall be awarded to A3?

(Answer) The officials must determine which of the fouls occurred first. Once this has been decided, then the second foul shall be ignored unless unsportsmanlike or disqualifying. If the second foul is to be ignored, then A3 shall be awarded one free throw; if, however, the second foul is judged to be unsportsmanlike or disqualifying, then the appropriate penalty would be administered following the administration of one free throw.

42-13 Two free throws are awarded to A4. After the first free throw but before the ball can become live for the second free throw, (a) A5 and B5 commit a double foul (b) A5 and B5 commit technical fouls. What procedure shall the officials follow in resuming play?



(Answer) Fouls shall be charged to A5 and B5. In (a), the penalty for the double foul shall be ignored because this is a special situation. In (b), the penalties for the technical fouls shall cancel each other. A4 shall be awarded the last free throw, after which play shall resume normally with a rebound or a throw-in.

- 42-14** B2 commits an unsportsmanlike foul on A2 while A2 is in the act of shooting for a 2-point field goal. The shot for goal is not successful. Before the ball can again become live for the first free throw, technical fouls are charged to coach A and then coach B. Shall the penalties for the two technical fouls cancel each other?

(Answer) No. The penalty for the unsportsmanlike foul by B2 shall cancel the penalty resulting from the coach A technical foul. Penalties that cancel each other are determined by the order in which they occurred. Play shall resume two free throws followed by possession of the ball as a result of the coach B technical foul.

- 42-15** A4 is awarded two free throws. After the first free throw, technical fouls are committed by A1 and B1. How shall play resume?

(Answer) The fouls shall be charged but the penalties shall be canceled. A4 shall attempt the second free throw and the game shall resume as after any last or only free throw.

- 42-16** A3 attempts a jump shot for a 2-point field goal. While the ball is in the air, the 24-second device signal sounds. After the signal, B4 commits an unsportsmanlike foul on A4. The ball then misses the ring. How shall play resume?

(Answer) The penalty for the B4 foul would normally be two free throws followed by a throw-in for team A. The penalty for the 24-second violation would normally be a throw-in awarded to team B at the free throw line extended. This is a special situation, however. A3 shall be awarded two free throws but team A's right to possession shall be cancelled because it is not the last penalty to be administered. Play shall resume with a throw-in awarded to team B at the free throw line extended.

(SEE ALSO CASE SITUATIONS 35-4, 39-5)

Article 43. Free throws

43-1 When free throws resulting from a technical foul are administered, shall players be permitted to occupy rebound places during the free throws?

(Answer) No. Rebounding activity does not follow the administering of a technical foul. Therefore there is no reason for players to occupy rebound places.

43-2 After the ball has been released on a last free throw by A5, it is touched by B5 (a) while it is in its upward flight (b) while it is on its downward flight but before it has touched the ring (c) after it has touched the ring but before it has entered the basket (d) after it has entered the basket. Has B5 committed a free throw violation?

(Answer) Yes in (a), (b) and (d); B5 has interfered with the free throw. A5 shall be awarded one point. In (a) and (b), a technical foul shall also be charged to B5 and team A shall be awarded two additional free throws followed by a throw-in for team A at the centre line extended opposite the scorer's table. No in (c); the action by B5 is legal.

43-3 A4 is awarded one free throw. After the ball has been placed at the disposal of A4 for the free throw, A4 takes more than five seconds before releasing the ball on the shot. Has A4 committed a violation?

(Answer) Yes.

43-4 A4 is awarded one free throw. After the ball has been placed at the disposal of A4 but before the ball is released on the shot, (a) a team A player (b) a team B player (c) both a team A player and a team B player enter(s) the restricted area. Has a violation occurred?



(Answer) In (a), the action by the team A player shall be ignored if A4's free throw is successful. If the attempt is not successful, then a violation shall be called and the ball awarded to team B at the free throw line extended. In (b), the action by the team B player shall also be ignored if the free throw attempt by A4 is successful. If the attempt is not successful, a replacement free throw shall be awarded. In (c), the action by both players shall be ignored if the A4 free throw is successful. If the free throw is not successful, then a double violation has occurred, resulting in a jump ball situation. Play shall resume with an alternating possession throw-in for the team entitled to the next alternating possession.

- 43-5** On a free throw by A5, B5 speaks very loudly in the direction of A5 (a) while A5 is in the act of shooting the free throw but before the release of the ball (b) after the release of the ball on the free throw. The free throw is not successful. Has B5 committed a disconcertion violation?

(Answer) Yes in (a); no in (b). In (a), a substitute free throw shall be awarded. In (b), the free thrower cannot be disconcerted once the ball has been released on the free throw attempt. At the discretion of the officials, a technical foul could also be charged to B5 for unsportsmanlike behavior.

- 43-6** During free throw activity, team B chooses not to occupy rebound places to which it is entitled. Are team A players permitted to occupy these places?

(Answer) No. Rebound places may be occupied only by players of the team entitled to those places. Otherwise, the places shall remain vacant.

- 43-7** A last free throw by A5 has touched the ring and is bouncing above it when A4 taps the ball into the basket. How many points shall be awarded?

(Answer) A4 shall be awarded two points. Once the ball touches the ring, the free throw ends.



43-8 On a last (or only) free throw, at what point shall players in rebound places be permitted to touch the restricted area?

(Answer) Players in rebound places may touch the restricted area once the ball has left the shooter's hand(s) on the free throw.

43-9 On a last (or only) free throw, how long must players who are not occupying rebound places remain behind the 3-point line and behind the free throw line extended?

(Answer) Players not occupying rebound places must remain behind the 3-point line and behind the free throw line extended until the ball touches the ring.

43-10 A5 is awarded one free throw. A5 deliberately attempts to have the ball bounce off the front of the ring (but not enter the basket) to create a rebound situation. Is this a violation?

(Answer) No.

43-11 Once the ball has been placed at the disposal of a free thrower, may either a teammate or an opponent move into a rebound place reserved for that player's team?

(Answer) No. Once the ball has been placed at the disposal of the free thrower, all other players must either be occupying rebound places or be behind the 3-point line and behind the free throw line extended.

43-12 A1 is awarded a free throw. After releasing the ball on the free throw attempt but before the ball has touched the ring, A1 touches the playing court outside the free throw semi-circle. Has A1 committed a violation?

(Answer) Yes.

43-13 After the ball is placed at the disposal of a free thrower shooter on a last (or only) free throw attempt, a player on either team enters the neutral zone that separates the first two rebound places. Is this a violation?

(Answer) Yes. If the free throw is not successful and if an advantage is gained by this action, then a violation shall be called. If the free throw is successful, the action shall be ignored.



43-14 In a situation where free throw violations are committed by the free throw shooter as well as by an opponent of the shooter, shall the free throw shooter's violation be the only one penalized?

(Answer) Yes. The free throw shooter's violation shall always take precedence.

Article 44. Correctable errors

44-1 Does the rulebook limit the number of situations that are considered "correctable errors"?

(Answer) Only four situations are considered to be correctable errors under article 44. These are (1) awarding an unmerited free throw(s) (2) permitting the wrong player to attempt a free throw(s) (3) failure to award a merited free throw(s) (4) officials erroneously awarding or canceling a point(s).

44-2 How long shall one of the four errors listed in article 44 remain correctable?

(Answer) The error shall remain correctable until the ball has become live following the first dead ball after the game clock has started following the error.

44-3 B3 fouls A3, after which A10 substitutes for A3. Team B is then granted a time-out. Before the ball can again become live following the time-out, the scorer realizes that the B3 foul was the fifth player foul for team B in that period. Shall A10 attempt the free throws resulting from the foul?

(Answer) No. A3 shall re-enter the game to attempt the free throws. This is an exception to article 19 of the *Official Basketball Rules*, requiring that a player who has left the game for a substitute shall not re-enter until after a clock-running phase of the game has passed.



44-4 B1 fouls A1. This is the third team B player foul in that period. Team A then is granted a time-out. Following the time-out, the officials erroneously award the throw-in to team B and the error is not realized until after the clock has started following the throw-in. Is the error correctable?

(Answer) No. This is not one of the four correctable errors.

44-5 After A4 is fouled, the officials do not realize that team B is in the penalty situation and fail to award two free throws. After the resulting throw-in, A5 commits a dribble violation and a throw-in is awarded to B5. (a) Before (b) After the ball is placed at the disposal of B5 for the throw-in, the error is discovered. Is the error correctable?

(Answer) Yes in (a); A4 shall be awarded two free throws and play shall resume with a team B throw-in at the point of interruption. In (b), the error is no longer correctable.

44-6 A3 accidentally scores a field goal in the team A basket. Is this a correctable error?

(Answer) No. Two points shall be awarded to team B.

44-7 While A2 is dribbling, A2 is fouled by B2. This is the fourth team B player foul in that period. A2 is erroneously awarded two free throws. A2 is successful on (a) both free throws (b) the last free throw. The error is discovered following the last free throws but before the game clock has again started. What procedure shall the officials follow in correcting the error?

(Answer) The free throws scored by A4 shall be cancelled. Team A shall be awarded a throw-in at the sideline or end line place nearest to where the original foul occurred.

44-8 A2 is fouled by B2 and is awarded two free throws. Before the ball is placed at the disposal of A2 for the first free throw, a time-out is awarded. After the time-out, A4 is erroneously awarded the free throws merited by A2 and both free throws are successful.



The error is discovered following the last free throw but before the game clock has again started. What procedure shall the officials follow in correcting the error?

(Answer) The free throws scored by A4 shall be cancelled. Team A shall be awarded a throw-in at the sideline or end line place nearest to where the original foul occurred.

- 44-9** While dribbling, A2 is fouled by B2. This is the fourth team B player foul in that period. A2 is erroneously awarded two free throws and is successful on one or both of them. The error is discovered (a) after the game clock has again started and while team A is in control (or entitled to control) (b) after the game clock has again started and while team B is in control (or entitled to control). What procedure shall the official follow in correcting the error?

(Answer) The free throw(s) scored by A2 shall be cancelled. In (a), team A shall be awarded a throw-in at the sideline or end line place nearest to where the original foul occurred. In (b), this is a jump ball situation.

- 44-10** A2 is awarded two free throws. Before the ball is placed at the disposal of A2 for the first free throw, a time-out is awarded. After the time-out, A4 is erroneously awarded the free throws merited by A2 and both free throws are successful. The error is discovered after the clock has started and while neither team is in control of the ball. What procedure shall the officials follow in correcting the error?

(Answer) The free throws scored by A4 shall be cancelled. Team A shall be awarded a throw-in.

- 44-11** While dribbling, A2 is fouled by B2. This is the fourth team B player foul in that period. A2 is erroneously awarded two free throws. A2 is successful on one or both free throws. After the clock has started (but before the clock has again stopped) following the error, (a) A2 (b) B2 is fouled and is awarded free throws. The original error is now discovered. What procedure shall the officials follow in correcting the error?

(Answer) The free throw(s) scored by A4 shall be cancelled. In both (a) and (b), free throws awarded as the result of the subsequent foul shall be administered, after which team A shall be awarded a throw-in at the sideline or end line place nearest to where the original foul occurred?

44-12 A2 is awarded two free throws. Before the ball is placed at the disposal of A2 for the first free throw, a time-out is awarded. After the time-out, A4 is erroneously awarded the free throws merited by A2. One or both free throws are successful and the game continues. After the game clock has started (before the clock has again stopped) following the error, (a) A2 (b) B2 is fouled and is awarded free throws. The error is now discovered. What procedure shall the officials follow in correcting the error?

(Answer) The free throws scored by A4 shall be cancelled. In both (a) and (b), free throws awarded as the result of the subsequent foul shall be administered, after which team A shall be awarded a throw-in at the sideline or end line place nearest to where the original foul occurred?

44-13 A2 is fouled but team A is awarded a throw-in rather than the two free throws to which A2 is entitled. The error is discovered while team A is in control of the ball and without a change in possession having taken place following the error. What procedure shall the officials follow in correcting the error?

(Answer) A2 shall be awarded the two free throws to which A2 is entitled. After the last free throw, play shall resume in the normal manner as after any last free throw.

44-14 A2 is fouled but team A is awarded a throw-in rather than the two free throws to which A2 is entitled. Team A scores on the possession, after which the error is discovered. Shall the error be corrected?

(Answer) No. The error shall not be corrected.



RULE EIGHT OFFICIALS, TABLE OFFICIALS, COMMISSIONERS: DUTIES AND POWERS

Article 46. Referee: Duties and powers

46-1 What shall be the procedure used by the referee in choosing a game ball?

(Answer) It shall be the home team's responsibility to provide at least two used balls for the officials to examine in selecting the game ball. If the referee determines that a suitable used ball is not available from the home team, the best quality ball available shall be chosen.

46-2 During play, an incident occurs which is not specifically referred to within the rules. How shall the officials address this situation?

(Answer) Article 46 of the *Official Basketball Rules* empowers the referee to make a ruling, based on the spirit and intent of fair play and the philosophy of the rules, relative to any incident or situation which is not specifically referred to within the *Official Basketball Rules*. This is commonly referred to as the "elastic powers" rule.

46-3 Shall the commissioner have the power to overrule a decision made by the referee?

(Answer) No. In the event of a disagreement, the referee shall make the final decision.

46-4 Shall it be the responsibility of the referee to administer the jump ball that will begin the first period as well as the alternating possession throw-in that will begin each remaining period?

(Answer) Yes.



46-5 The officials are unable to hear the sounding of the signal that ends a period. At the same time, a goal is scored. What procedure shall be followed to address the situation?

(Answer) It is the responsibility of the officials to determine if the sounding of the signal preceded the release of the ball on the shot for goal. If they cannot decide, then they shall consult with the table officials and with the technical commissioner (if present). After proper consultation has taken place, it shall be the responsibility of the referee to make a final decision. If the signal sounded before the release of the ball on the shot for goal, then the goal shall not count. If, however, the release of the shot for goal preceded the sounding of the signal, then the goal shall count. (See also case situation 46-6)

46-6 The officials are unable to hear the sounding of the signal that ends (a) the game (b) a period with an additional period of play remaining to be played. At approximately the same time, a foul is committed. What procedure shall be followed to address the situation?

(Answer) The officials shall follow the same procedure outlined in case situation 46-5 above. It shall be the responsibility of the referee to make the final decision. In (a), if the referee decides that the signal preceded the committing of the foul, then the foul shall be ignored. If, however, it is determined that the foul preceded the sounding of the signal, then the foul shall be penalized appropriately. In (b), if the sounding of the signal preceded the committing of the foul, the foul shall be ignored unless technical, unsportsmanlike or disqualifying. If technical, unsportsmanlike or disqualifying, it shall be penalized as would any foul that occurs during an interval of play. If the committing of the foul preceded the sounding of the signal, the foul shall be penalized as would any foul committed during playing time.

46-7 Fourteen seconds remain in the fourth period and the score is team A 81, team B 80. Following a team A violation, team B is awarded a throw-in and the timekeeper fails to start the game clock, after which the ball is controlled by B5 in team B's frontcourt.



The coach of team A now alerts the timekeeper to the fact that the clock has not yet started and the timekeeper starts the clock immediately. B5 then dribbles to the basket and with eight seconds remaining on the game clock scores a field goal. Coach A brings to the attention of the officials the error with the game clock and insists that game time would have expired if the game clock had been started at the proper time. Coach A insists that the goal by B5 be cancelled and that the game be considered completed. What procedure shall the officials follow in responding to coach A's request?

(Answer) The officials shall consult with the table officials to determine if an error did indeed occur. If yes, they must have definite information with respect to how much time passed. If it is determined that the basket was scored during playing time, the basket shall be valid and the game clock shall be adjusted accordingly. If it is determined that the basket was scored after playing time expired, the basket shall be canceled and the game shall be over.

- 46-8** With one second remaining to be played in a period, team A is awarded a throw-in. After the throw-in, the ball touches backboard and rolls out-of-bounds without having touched a player on the court. The timekeeper erroneously starts the clock when the ball touches the backboard. Time for the period expires before the game clock can be stopped. Coach B brings to the attention of the officials the fact that the clock had been started in error. The timer acknowledges the error and informs the officials that one second remained on the clock at the time of the error. Shall one second be put on the clock and a throw-in be awarded to team B?

(Answer) Yes. The officials have definite information concerning how much time has passed.

- 46-9** While A3 is dribbling toward the basket, the referee calls a foul against B4 and the umpire calls a 3-second violation against A4. Shall the decision of the referee take precedence over the decision of the umpire?

(Answer) No. The referee and the umpire must immediately consult to determine which infraction, the foul or the violation was the first to occur. If it is determined that the foul preceded the violation, the violation shall be ignored. If it is determined that the violation preceded the foul, the foul shall be ignored unless technical, unsportsmanlike or disqualifying.

- 46-10** Is it permissible for the referee to use video to determine if a goal was scored or a foul or violation was committed?
(Answer) No.

Article 47. Officials: Duties and powers

- 47-1** Either team A or team B does not arrive on the court until eighteen minutes before the game is scheduled to begin. Shall the jurisdiction of the officials not begin until both teams have arrived on the court and have begun the warm-up?
(Answer) No. The jurisdiction of the officials shall begin with their arrival on the court twenty minutes before the game is to begin.
- 47-2** Shall the jurisdiction of the officials end when the ball becomes dead to complete the final period of play?
(Answer) Yes. However, the administration of the game by the officials shall not end until the referee signs the scoresheet following the end of playing time.
- 47-3** Unsportsmanlike conduct is committed by A5 after the game has ended but before the scoresheet has been signed by the referee. How shall the situation be addressed?
(Answer) Because the game has been completed, the officials cannot assign a foul for this action. The referee shall submit a detailed summary of the incident on the back of the scoresheet, to be sent to the governing body of the competition.
- 47-4** The officials observe unsportsmanlike conduct by a team member (a) twenty-five minutes before the game is to begin (b) following the sounding of the signal that ends the game. What is the proper procedure for the officials to follow?
(Answer) In (a) and (b), no foul can be charged. The jurisdiction of the officials begins no sooner than twenty minutes before playing time is scheduled to begin. It ends when the signal sounds to end the game. It is the responsibility of the referee, however, to note the unsportsmanlike conduct on the back of the scoresheet to be sent to the governing body of the competition.



47-5 When are the officials permitted to adjust the time showing on the game clock?

(Answer) Such an adjustment is permitted only when the officials are certain that an error was made by the timekeeper in either the starting or the stopping of the clock. The officials also must have exact information on how much time did or did not pass as a result of that error.

47-6 The score is team A 84, team B 87 when A3 is fouled while attempting a successful shot for a 2-point goal. Time expires for the fourth period while the ball is in the air. After time has expired, A5 commits a technical foul. A3 is awarded one free throw which is (a) successful (b) not successful. What procedure shall the officials follow concerning the A5 technical foul?

(Answer) In (a), the game is now tied and an extra period shall be played. A5's foul shall be considered to have occurred during an interval of play. The penalty for the foul shall be two free throws for team B, followed by a throw-in for team B at the centre line extended opposite the scorer's table to begin the extra period. The team entitled to the next alternating possession throw-in shall not lose this right because of the foul. In (b), the game has ended. No foul shall be charged.

47-7 Following the completion of playing time, the captain of team A notifies the officials that team A wishes to protest the result of the game. What procedure shall the officials follow as a result of team A's wish to protest?

(Answer) The captain shall sign the scoresheet on the line provided for such a protest. It shall then be the responsibility of the referee or of the commissioner, within one hour, to report the protest to the governing body of the competition. For detailed protest procedure, see Appendix C (Protest Procedure) in the *Official Basketball Rules*.



47-8 With the score team A 58, team B 60, A1 is fouled while in the act of shooting for a 2-point goal. While the ball is in the air on the shot for a goal, the signal sounds to end the game. The shot is not successful. A1 now flagrantly insults an official. What procedure shall the officials follow?

(Answer) A1 shall be awarded two free throws. If A1 is not successful on both free throws, then the game shall end and A1's conduct be noted on the back of the scoresheet. If A1 is successful on both free throws, then A1 shall be charged with a disqualifying foul. After the administration of two free throws and the two minute interval that precedes the extra period, the game shall continue with a throw-in by team B. The team entitled to the next alternating possession shall not lose the right to that possession because of the A1 disqualifying foul.

47-9 In a game involving only two officials, what procedure shall be followed when an official is injured?

(Answer) There shall be a delay of no more than ten minutes to determine if the injured official is able to continue. If the injured official cannot continue and if a qualified replacement official acceptable to the other official is available, the game shall continue with two officials. If no such replacement official is available, then the game shall continue with one official.

47-10 After the signal has sounded to end (a) a period other than the last period (b) the last period, B2 commits a foul. Shall the foul be ignored in each situation?

(Answer) In (a), the foul is ignored unless technical, unsportsmanlike or disqualifying. If so, it shall be considered to have occurred during an interval of play and shall be penalized accordingly. In (b), the foul shall not be penalized because the game has ended. If B2's foul would have qualified as unsportsmanlike or disqualifying, the officials shall note the incident on the back of the scoresheet.



- 47-11** During the last two minutes of play, a field goal is scored by A4. After passing through the basket, the ball rolls far away from the court. Shall the nearest official blow the whistle to notify the timekeeper to stop the game clock?
(Answer) No. The game clock is already stopped because a basket has been scored. The team against whom the field goal has been scored may substitute or request a time-out. However, if the official were to blow the whistle, both teams would be able to substitute or request a time-out and this is not within the spirit of the rules.

Article 48. Scorer and assistant scorer: Duties

- 48-1** What display shall be used by the scorer to signify the number of team fouls committed in a period?
(Answer) Two red foul markers shall be available to the scorer. A suitable electronic device is also permissible. For instructions on the deployment of these markers, see case situation 48-4.
- 48-2** How shall the scorer communicate the number of fouls committed by a player during the game?
(Answer) Five player foul markers shall be available. Each marker shall be numbered from 1 5. Markers with the numbers 1 4 shall be black, against a white background; the marker with the number 5 shall be red, against a white background (See Equipment Appendix). For instruction on the use of player foul markers, see case situation 48-4.
- 48-3** Team B believes that only three fouls have been committed by B3 but the scoresheet shows B3 as having committed four fouls. The team B captain brings this to the attention of the officials. Shall the number of fouls assigned to B3 be changed?

(Answer) The officials shall consult with the scorer and, if necessary, other table official to determine if an error has occurred. If definite information is found to show that such an error did occur, then the correction to the scoresheet shall be made. Otherwise, the number of fouls as recorded on the scoresheet shall be considered correct.

- 48-4** B5 (a) commits a foul other than a fifth foul (b) commits a fifth foul (c) commits team B's fourth team foul in a period. How shall these fouls be signaled by the scorer?

(Answer) In (a), the scorer shall signal the foul by raising a player foul marker with the number corresponding to the number of fouls committed by B5. The player foul marker shall have the number designated in black against a white background. In (b), the player foul marker shall display the number "5" in red, against a white background. In (c), the number of the foul shall be displayed as in (a) and (b). In addition, a red team foul marker shall be displayed at the end of the scorer's table nearer to the team B bench. The team foul marker shall be displayed as soon as the ball becomes live following the foul.

- 48-5** A5 and B5 are involved in a double foul. In the confusion, the scorer fails to realize that this is B5's fifth foul in the game. As a result, B5 is not notified that the fifth foul has occurred. The game resumes with B5 participating as a player. The error is now discovered (a) while B5 is still participating as a player (b) while B5 is on the bench as the result of a substitution. What procedure shall the officials follow to correct the situation?

(Answer) B5's continued participation in the game cannot be penalized because B5 was not notified of the fifth foul. In (a), B5 shall be removed from the game at the first opportunity, without placing either team at a disadvantage. All points scored by B5 shall count; any foul committed by B5 while continuing to participate shall be treated as a player foul and be penalized accordingly. If free throws have been awarded to B5 at the time of the discovery of the error, then B5's substitute shall attempt the free throws. After a substitute for B5 has entered the game, the game shall continue from the point of interruption. In (b), coach B and B5 shall be notified that B5 may no longer participate.



48-6 The scorer commits the error of crediting A3 with only two points following a 3-point goal. May this error be corrected by the referee, provided the referee is satisfied that the error has occurred?

(Answer) Yes. The error may be corrected at any time by the referee before the signing of the scoresheet. After the scoresheet has been signed, no change may be made.

48-7 Who shall be responsible for operating the alternating possession arrow?

(Answer) This shall be the responsibility of the scorer.

Article 49. Timekeeper: Duties

49-1 When shall the timekeeper start the game clock on the jump ball that begins the game?

(Answer) The game clock shall be started when the ball is legally tapped.

49-2 When shall the game clock be started on a throw-in, or following an unsuccessful free throw when the ball is to remain live.

(Answer) The game clock shall be started when the ball first touches or is touched by a player on the court.

49-3 Shall the game clock be stopped following the scoring of a field goal in the final two minutes of play during a fourth period or an extra period?

(Answer) Yes.

49-4 Team A requests a time-out, after which team B scores a goal. Because of excessive noise the officials do not hear the timekeeper's signal for the time-out. Play continues until (a) team A scores a field goal (b) team B scores a field goal. What procedure shall the officials follow?



(Answer) As soon as first team B field goal is scored, the timekeeper must stop the game clock and use every means possible to obtain the attention of the officials such as to throw a ball(s) onto the court. Team A shall then be awarded a time-out. In both (a) and (b), the goals scored while the game clock was stopped shall not count. All fouls (unless technical, unsportsmanlike or disqualifying), time consumed and additional activity shall be cancelled. Play shall resume following the time-out with a team A throw-in at the end line behind the team A basket but not directly behind the backboard.

- 49-5** Team A requests a time-out, after which team B scores a field. Because of excessive noise the officials do not hear the timekeeper's signal for the time-out. Play continues until (a) A4 commits a foul (b) B4 commits a foul. What procedure shall the officials follow?

(Answer) As soon as the field goal is scored, the timekeeper must stop the game clock and use every means possible to obtain the attention of the officials, after which team A shall be awarded a time-out. In both, (a) and (b), the fouls shall be ignored unless technical, unsportsmanlike or disqualifying. Play shall resume with a team A throw-in at the end line behind the team A basket but not directly behind the backboard. If, however, either foul is technical, unsportsmanlike or disqualifying, play shall resume following the time-out with the appropriate foul penalty.

Article 50. 24-second operator: Duties

For operation of the 24-second clock as well as related cases, see case situations under article 29, Twenty-Four Seconds.

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