

CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF BASKETBALL OFFICIALS
ASSOCIATION CANADIENNE DES ARBITRES DE BASKET-BALL

TECHNICAL POINTS OF EMPHASIS 2011

INTRODUCTION

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Canada Basketball, together with its partners CABO, CIS and CCAA, has identified areas of concern that need significant improvement if our game is going to flourish both domestically and internationally. To that end, three Technical Points of Emphasis have been identified for all parties to focus on for the 2011-2012 season. These are (1) travelling; (2) illegal physical contact, especially in the post and off ball; and (3) the interaction between officials and coaches.

The intent of these points of emphasis is to have officials, from coast to coast, to make the calls for infractions in light of the spirit and intent of the rules.

For those in the game who have experience with NCAA rules, points of emphasis were addressed annually. This is Canada's first attempt to do so in the FIBA Rule set.

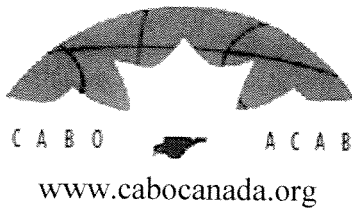
Please note that what is asked is a more consistent enforcement of the traveling rule, as it applies to picking up the pivot foot prior to releasing the ball at the start of a dribble, when a player is attacking the basket. This is by no means an endorsement of any technical teaching nor a dispute with coaching philosophy. Coaches are encouraged to teach whatever method of pivot/attack move they deem most effective (without violating the traveling rule). Officials are being asked to enforce the rule and not the method.

Attached you will find the technical points of reference in detail.

Yours in basketball,

Jim Walsh
CABO President

September 6, 2011



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TRAVELLING

Every travelling violation is linked to illegal movement of the pivot foot. The main areas of focus for this season are

- ▲ (a) dribbler's illegal movement of the pivot foot before ball leaves the dribbler's hands;
- ▲ (b) changing the pivot foot to set up for a shot especially on long range shot attempts;
- ▲ (c) illegal pivot foot movement by post players such as on "spin moves" or "changing pivot foot after the reverse pivot";
- ▲ (d) players who receive the ball on the run in transition who often fail to release the ball before lifting the pivot foot when starting a dribble.

Officials will be instructed to pay particular attention on the pivot foot in these situations. If the pivot foot movement is illegal, the officials are expected to call the travelling violation.

ILLEGAL PHYSICAL CONTACT

Three areas of focus have been identified for this season. They are

- ▲ (a) illegal bumping of a "cutter";
- ▲ (b) excess contact in the post; and
- ▲ (c) illegal contact on dribblers that force dribblers off their intended path.

Illegal bumping or holding of cutters has been on the rise and inconsistently called by officials. With three person crews, the weak side official (usually the Centre) or the baseline official (the Lead) are often in the best position to judge this contact. Officials will be instructed to penalize players who illegally bump cutters (defensive fouls) or prevent defenders from staying with the cutters (offensive fouls). Screening principles are to be strictly applied.

Post play has become increasingly rougher as a result of officials inconsistently enforcing the rules. On one hand, offensive players are often given a free pass to force their way to the basket by whatever method they choose. On the other hand, if a player is in possession of the ball, the opponent must not make physical contact with the player with the ball. With the exception of the "arm bar" described in the following paragraph, this is the time for "hands off"!

In the post, it is common for defenders to have a bent forearm on the opponent (provided that the opponent does not have the ball). It is always illegal to place two hands or arms on an opponent. It is always illegal to contact an opponent with an extended arm (offence or defence). A defensive player may use an "arm bar" if the offensive player being guarded in the post, with his back to the basket, begins to back up into that defensive player and attempts to dislodge him. The arm bar is for protection only. Offensive players backing into their defensive opponent to get nearer the basket shall be called for pushing. Advantage/disadvantage will be

judged to determine whether the illegal contact displaced, dislodged, put an opponent off balance or impeded his/her progress. Any such result puts the opponent at a disadvantage and a foul **MUST** be called.

For years we have heard the phrase “protect the dribbler”. Forcing dribblers off their intended line by the use of a hand, forearm, hip or leg is a foul and **MUST** be called. This will apply in both the front and back court. In particular, officials will be looking for this contact as a dribbler starts a drive to the basket.

INTERACTION BETWEEN OFFICIALS AND COACHES

The purpose of this point of emphasis is to try to reduce the frequency and length of discussions between officials and coaches. For a game to run smoothly, there must be communication between officials and coaches. It should be respectful at all times. It should be for information purposes. It should not delay the game.

Officials and coaches will be expected to follow the following guidelines:

- There should be no dialogue between officials and coaches during live ball situations. If the clock is stopped (except in the last 2 minutes of the 4th period or overtime) there is an opportunity for dialogue.
- Once free throw or throw-in activity has begun there should be no discussion between officials and coaches.
- In time out situations, there should be no discussions with coaches at the start of the time out. Such brief and focused discussions can occur later in the time out.
- At half time, officials are not to have discussions with coaches at the end of the half. Rather, use the three minute period prior to the start of the second half to have those discussions **with both coaches present**.
- There should not be any discussions during warm ups prior to the game or at half time except as outlined above.
- Coaches will be expected to ask questions. Officials will be expected to answer appropriate questions at the appropriate time.
- Officials will be instructed not to respond to statements by coaches (unless the statements would be the subject of a technical foul).

CONCLUSION

It is the hope of all partners to this initiative that, through cooperation and consistency of all participants, the game will be better and more enjoyable for one and all.

JIM WALSH, CABO PRESIDENT

PAUL DESHAIES, CABO INTERPRETER