



ALBERTA BASKETBALL OFFICIALS ASSOCIATION  
2007-08 RULES EXAM

REVIEW OF QUESTIONS WITH THE HIGHEST PERCENTAGE OF INCORRECT RESPONSES

**Question 8 – 32% incorrect**

**The 24-second signal sounds while the ball is in the air on a try for goal by A4. The ball strikes the ring and is rolling on it when B4 touches the ball. Has B4 committed basket interference?**

Answer **NO** Article 31.2.4

Officials likely confused the rule surrounding the sounding of the game clock signal with the 24-second signal. Players **are allowed** to touch the ball after the 24-second signal sounds (provided that the ball is either still on its upward flight or has touched the ring) but **no player is allowed to touch the ball** (regardless of its location) **after the game clock signal sounds to end a quarter**. In this scenario if the offensive team touches the ball the attempt becomes dead and no points may be scored. If the defensive team touches the ball interference has occurred and 2(3) points will be awarded to the offense.

**NOTE:** The same restrictions apply to non-touching when an official sounds their whistle.

**Question 43 - 31% incorrect**

**A4 and B4 jump and simultaneously take control of a rebound. They both land with a firm grip on the ball with B4 having one foot out of bounds. The official calls a violation on B4 for being out of bounds. Is the official correct?**

Answer **NO** Article 23.2.3

“If a player(s) move(s) to out of out-of-bounds or to his backcourt **during** a held ball, a jump ball situation occurs.”

While officials are trained to hold their whistles and wait for the players to return to the floor before sounding their whistle sometimes fairness supersedes this principle. The players had equal control of the rebound and to penalize one player simply based on their landing spot would not be consistent with the concept of fairness. Sounding the whistle when the players land and calling a jump ball is perfectly acceptable in this situation.

**Question 34 – 29% incorrect**

**The throw-in pass from A4 to A5 is deflected by B4. While attempting to retrieve the loose ball, A5 fouls B5. This is Team A’s 5th foul of the quarter. Shall B5 be awarded 2 free throws?**

Answer **NO** Articles 14; 41.2.2

Officials need to review when team control begins on a throw-in. Team control begins when a live ball is at the disposal of an inbounder, it continues during a pass between team-mates and it doesn’t end until the opponent gains control, a whistle is sounded or a shot is attempted. A deflection by the defense doesn’t end team control therefore no free throws can be awarded in this situation.

**Question 29 – 28% incorrect**

**During the 1st half, Team A has been officially warned about unduly delaying the breaking of their huddle at the end of time outs. In the 2nd half, Team A again delays the breaking of the huddle. Should an additional time out be charged to Team A?**

Answer **NO** Article **38.3.2**

Officials can only assess a timeout to a team in one specific situation. Rule 19.3.6 allows officials to charge a time out to teams who have “an unreasonable delay” in replacing a player with 5 fouls or to replace a disqualified player.

Teams who have been warned about leaving their bench area beyond the 60-second horn may be charged with a ‘B’ technical. Prior to assessing the penalty **the coach must be properly warned**. The official must be confident that the coach is intentionally refusing the request to return to the floor and not simply unaware that the horn sounded. This area of the game needs to be managed carefully. Assessing technicals for teams taking too long to return to play also has the effect of slowing the game down even more. However, by rule officials do have the authority to assess technicals for delay of game.

**Note** – In FIBA, officials are **NOT** permitted to place the ball on the floor and begin a 5 second count for either a throw-in or free throw violation.

**Question 22 – 26% incorrect**

**After touching the backboard on a try for goal by A4, the ball is still in its upward flight, completely above the level of the ring, when B4 touches the ball. The official calls a violation for goal tending. Is this correct?**

Answer **YES** Article **31.1.2**

FIBA allows for more legal plays on shot attempts, as there is no cylinder for officials to have to worry about. However there are still some restrictions such as the one described in this question. Officials will likely see this type of play on a fast break lay up attempt so it is imperative that the trail or centre official needs to “see the whole play” to make this call.

**Question 40 – 24% incorrect**

**The 24- second signal sounds with Team-A in control of the ball. Does the ball become dead immediately?**

Answer **YES** Article **10-3**

The ball becomes dead as Team A is in control of the ball when the 24-second horn sounds. Remember a team is in control of the ball in the situations described in question 34. For example, officials can’t wait to see if the defense secures control out of a loose ball. If the 24-second horn sounds while a Team A is in control then the whistle must be sounded immediately. However, if a shot has been attempted near the end of the 24-second period and the ball fails to strike the ring the officials can wait to see if Team B gains immediate control before sounding a whistle. If Team B does in fact gain immediate control then the horn can be disregarded and play may continue uninterrupted.

**Question 31 – 23% incorrect**

**A4 scores a basket. While the ball is dead, B5 pushes A5. The official calls a technical foul on B5. Is the official correct?**

Answer **NO** Article **34.1.1**

Illegal contact between opponents can **never** result in a technical foul call. By rule it is always a personal foul and in this case an unsporting foul as there is no way for B5 to be making an attempt to play the ball as it is by rule dead after a field goal is scored. Officials at all levels must not revert back to the previous rule set and turn these into technicals. In this situation A5 **must** be the shooter as he was the player fouled. To assess a technical allows the Team A coach to select a shooter which is contrary to the rulebook.

**Question 6 – 22% incorrect**

**A3 is awarded 2 free throws. Team B takes a time out. After the time out, A5 attempts and is successful on both free throws. The official then recognizes the error. Both free throws are cancelled and Team B is awarded the ball for a throw-in at the free throw line extended. Is this correct?**

Answer **YES** Article **44.2.7**

A correctable error scenario; the officials handled the situation correctly. To allow the team to have a second try at the free throws by now having A3 attempt them would be to encourage teams to risk cheating. By cancelling the score **and** giving the ball to the opponents the message is clear, teams that send the wrong shooter to the line do so at their own risk as the penalty is quite severe - loss of points and possession. As a practical matter officials can prevent this from happening by communicating with each other prior to all free throws. This communication should involve the number of the shooter and the number of attempts if there is any uncertainty. It is also advisable to remind the shooter prior to the timeout that he will be returning to the line after the stoppage.

**Question 15 – 21% incorrect**

**On a try for goal by A5, the ball lodges between the backboard and the rim. The alternating possession arrow favours Team A. Shall the 24-second device be reset?**

Answer **NO** Articles **50.2; 50.4**

A rule that baffles most officials and shot clock operators; by rule (50.2) the ball has not struck the ring when it “lodges on the basket support”. This is an AP situation and Team A does not get a reset on any jump ball situation where they retain possession. As a matter of officiating practice it is never a bad thing to know the time on the game clock when the 24-second period begins, as we often have to reset the shot clock. In this scenario the operator would likely reset the clock so officials with definite knowledge of the time remaining are going to be able to resume play more quickly and with less problems than someone who is forced to “guess”.

**Question 26 – 19% incorrect**

**During a sideline throw-in from the backcourt near the division line, A4 takes one step towards the frontcourt and releases the throw-in pass to A5 in the backcourt. When A4 released the ball, he was in the frontcourt area. Is this a backcourt violation?**

Answer **NO** Articles **17.2.2; 17.3.1; 30.1.2**

An interesting scenario; the player has backcourt status and is therefore entitled to pass the ball into the backcourt. Further he is entitled to move up to 1m from the spot and still make a legal throw-in. The movement towards the frontcourt is therefore immaterial to the play and no violation has occurred. On throw-ins near the centre line the administrating official should let the player know his status and prevent unnecessary violations or in this case confusion.

**Question 30 – 19% incorrect**

**A10 is beckoned onto the floor by an official to replace A4. While leaving the court, A4 impolitely addresses an official and a technical foul is assessed. Shall the foul count in Team A's player foul total in that period?**

Answer **NO** Articles **4.2.2; 38.3.2**

In this situation a player becomes a substitute when the official beckons him onto the court. All unsporting behaviour by "non players" i.e. substitutes, assistant coaches etc. is charged as a B technical to the coach.

**Question 37 – 19% incorrect**

**During a time-out, A10 reports to the scorer to substitute and then returns directly to the huddle. When play resumes, A10 comes directly onto the court as one of the five players. Is this substitution procedure legal?**

Answer **YES** Article **19.3.7**

During a timeout (or an interval of play) a substitute need only report to the scorer to become a "player". There is no need for a horn or for the official to beckon the player onto the floor. As a practical matter during an interval of play, playing members listed on the score sheet are considered to be "players". Should anyone of them say or do something that is deemed to be unsporting by the officials then the **player** would be assessed the technical foul. The free throws would be shot prior to the start of the quarter. If the actions occurred during the period prior to the start of the game the game would still begin with a jump ball. If the actions occurred prior to any other quarter the non-offending team would inbound the ball after a technical. The arrow would not change as a result of the throw-in as this is unrelated to the AP process.