

FIBA OFFICIAL BASKETBALL RULES 2008 And Ramifications For The SMBA

All below-mentioned rules will come into effect as of 1st October 2008, i.e. after the Beijing 2008 Olympic Games.

Art. 4.3 Uniforms

The provision that T-shirts may be worn by players under their game uniforms is not valid anymore.

This rule will not be followed by the SMBA

Art. 25.2.3 Player falling on the floor

It is legal when a player falls and slides on the floor while holding the ball.

This rule will be followed by the SMBA

Interpretation

By rule, "It is legal when a player falls and slides on the floor while holding the ball, or, while lying or sitting on the floor, gains control of the ball." However, the player cannot gain control of the ball, and then turn over from his or her back to the front, and vice versa. However, a player can go from lying on his or her back, to sitting up. Once the player stands up, a travel violation has occurred. This rule change allows a player to slide only, not turn over.

Art. 28.1.3 Ball goes into team's frontcourt

The ball goes to the teams' frontcourt when, during the dribble from backcourt to frontcourt, both feet of the dribbler and the ball are in contact with the frontcourt. Remember that this applies to the dribbler only,

This rule will be followed by the SMBA in divisions where it is applicable.

Interpretation

The ball is considered to be in front court status when:

- The ball touches the frontcourt
- The ball touches a player or official who has part of their body in contact with the front court
- Both feet of the dribbler and the ball become in contact with the front court.
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Art. 30.1.2 Ball returned to the backcourt

It will not be a violation anymore if a player, who jumps from his frontcourt, establishes a new team control while still airborne and then lands in his team's backcourt.

This rule will be followed by the SMBA in divisions where it is applicable

Interpretation: Over and Back.

This rule is applied differently for both the dribbler and the remaining players.

Dribbler

In order for the play to result in an over and back violation, the dribbler must maintain frontcourt status, and go back into the backcourt. In other words, the dribbler must have both feet, as well as the ball over half, in order to be called for a violation in returning to the backcourt. By new FIBA rule, the dribbler may have his or her full body in the front court, but continue to dribble in the back court without a violation called.

Remaining Players

The ruling for the remaining players on the floor differs from dribblers. By FIBA rule, the ball is illegally returned to the backcourt when a player of the team in control of the live ball is:

- The last to touch the ball in his frontcourt, after which that player or teammate is the first to touch the ball in the backcourt.
- The last to touch the ball in his backcourt, after which the ball touches the frontcourt and then is first touched by that player or teammate in the backcourt.

This restriction applies to all situations in a team's frontcourt, including throw-ins.

This rule does not apply to a player who jumps from his or her frontcourt, establishes a new *team* control while still airborne, and then lands in his or her respective backcourt. This normally would occur in a jump ball situation to start a game, or when a defensive player intercepts a pass while leaping from his frontcourt and then lands in the backcourt. This is now considered to be legal. If a player jumps from the frontcourt, establishes control, and lands with one foot in the front court, and then one foot in the back court after the first foot touches the frontcourt, the play is still legal, since the third point (the second foot) was not established as frontcourt status. However, if the same situation occurs, and both feet simultaneously touch the frontcourt, and then the player pivots with a foot in the backcourt, it is a violation.

The major difference is that a dribbler can dribble over the line, still have one foot in the backcourt, and go back to the backcourt. However, if a player receives a pass from a teammate while straddling the line, and then starts to dribble, it is a violation

8 or 10 Second Count

By new FIBA rule, if a player does not maintain front court status, then the 8 or 10 second count is continued. For example, if a player dribbles the ball over half, but still has his or her body in the backcourt, the 8 or 10 second count continues. The player must maintain frontcourt status in order for the 8 or 10 second count to be killed.

Jump Ball

With the rule change regarding frontcourt status, the new FIBA rule states that a player may jump from his or her front-court, maintain possession of the ball, and land in the backcourt legally. Therefore, the only way to have an over and back call off a jump ball is if a player lands in his or her frontcourt with all three points within the frontcourt, and then returning to the backcourt.

Art. 31 Goaltending and interference

If a player reaches through the basket from below and touches the ball, it is an interference (and not a simple violation) with all the relevant rule consequences.

This rule will be followed by the SMBA

Art. 36.1.4 Unsportsmanlike foul

If a defensive player causes contact with an opponent from behind or laterally in an attempt to stop a fast break and there is no opponent between the offensive player and the opponents' basket, then the contact shall be judged to be unsportsmanlike.

This rule will be followed by the SMBA

Interpretation

If a player has a breakaway and there is no defender in front of him and a foul by the defense occurs then it shall be deemed as a unsportsmanlike foul.

When the ball is dead, ready to come into play on an out of bounds situation, and the defensive player commits a foul before the ball is in play, by rule, such a foul is considered unsportsmanlike. This is only to the defensive player, and only when the ball is still in the hands of the official, or the player still out of bounds

Art. 38.3.1 Technical foul

A technical foul can be called on a player for excessive swinging of elbows (without contact). *This rule will be followed by the SMBA. Warning should be given first to the player and both coaches. If it happens again with either team, a technical foul should be given.*

Re Shooting

While a player is in the act of shooting, an opponent is not allowed to obstruct the shooter's field of vision, shout loudly, stomp the feet heavily, or clap hands in the shooter's face. If the action results in a disadvantage to the offensive player, the defender is to be called for a technical foul. If the basket is successful, give a warning to the offender and let both coaches know that a technical foul will be called if it happens again. If basket is unsuccessful, call a technical foul on the offender.

Time Lines:

In mini and bantam the amount of time to bring the ball over centre shall remain at 10 seconds. Midget and Juvenile teams will follow the new FIBA rules of 8 seconds.

Shot Clock:

In mini and bantam the time shall be 30 seconds and in Midget and Juvenile it shall be 24 seconds. This will only be enforced in the case of deliberate slowing down of the game.