

Table Times

The ABTO Newsletter - ~~March~~ April 2009

Welcome



I'm going to have to start with a couple of apologies. Firstly, due to a combination of circumstances, this newsletter is coming out later than intended. Secondly, due to a disk failure on my PC I have lost any email I received after the last newsletter requesting to get a copy directly. So could I ask that you send me your details again.

Following on from the article about standards in the last edition, we need to remind all officials that they are part of the 3rd team at a game. Dissent at games by table officials has been brought to our attention from several clubs at all levels of the game. Table Officials should remain neutral, and maintain a good rapport with all those involved in that game and be professional at all times. To re-iterate from the code of conduct:

Officials should seek to avoid public discussion of other officials and their decisions, players, coaches or teams or specific incidents.

Apart from that, I've included in this edition my experience at my first major final, and obviously the answers to the December quiz, along with some new teasers for you.

As before, if there is anything you would like to see in the next edition, then please let me know. Any contributions gratefully received.

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News

Regional News

Lyn Marsh resigns as South East Regional Representative

With regret, the committee have accepted the resignation of Lyn Marsh as regional rep for table officials in the South East (SE) Region, where she gave 101% commitment to the development of table officials at all level of our sport. She maintained self awareness and self discipline with younger officials whilst ensuring that the SE had a representative voice in all aspects of development and fund raising. We will certainly miss Lyn's enthusiasm and efficient administration which she projected in all her tasks.

Congratulations to Nicky Shaw

Congratulations to Nicky Shaw who is the new Regional Rep for the South East Region. Nicky is also a qualified table official (Level 3), course tutor, and referee.

We wish Nicky every success for the future in her new role.

North East region hosting International Tournament

NE Region is hosting a 4-way International Ladies Tournament in Newcastle 29th to 31st May 2009. This is a warm up for the European Tournament to be held in June. England staff have yet to confirm the 3 visiting teams.

South West Regional Conference

The South West Region has a regional conference on Sunday 17th May 2009 from 10am to 4.30pm. This will be held in Bristol, and is open to any interested table official, coach or referee from any region.

The conference will include sessions on scoresheets, 24-second shot clock mechanics, progression and there will be at least one combined session with table officials, referees and coaches.

Further information is available on the WEBBA website (<http://www.webba-basketball.org.uk>) or contact [Laura Miller](#) if you have any questions.

Upcoming Courses

London Region

Level 1 - 16th May at Mile End Leisure Centre

Level 2 - 16th May at Mile End Leisure Centre

Full Details for these courses are available from [Lisa Williams](#)

Table Official Tutor Training on Saturday 20th June at British Airways Concorde Centre, Crane Lodge Road, Cranford from 10am – 5pm. Cost £40 per person.

Details are available from either [Lisa Williams](#) or [Patricia Fairclough](#)

Other News

Congratulations to the Laura & Claire Ormandy.

New Mum Laura has made Claire (regional rep for Yorkshire and ABBTO Assistant Secretary) a proud grandmother with the birth of her daughter. Mother and baby are doing well.

Reminders

For all observers and mentors, there is a new observers evaluation sheet available on the website under the ABBTO documents section. There are some advice notes and a mentors sheet for more informal use.

To help table officials understand some of the calls that referees make (or don't make) during games, there are a number of video links now available from the ABBTO website [here](#).

The clips cover technical and unsportsmanlike fouls, shooting, charging, blocking, post, rebounds, goal tending, 24 second violations and travelling.

The website has also been updated and new links and items added.

BBL Trophy Final - 15th March 2009

Confessions of a first time finalist



I was accorded the honour last month, to be selected as the timekeeper for the BBL Trophy final. This took place at the home of Guildford Heat, the Spectrum Sports Arena. The final was contested between Guildford Heat themselves and the Newcastle Eagles.

It was a closely fought contest in the first half, which the Heat just edged. But the Eagles came back strongly in the third quarter and kept the lead through to the end to take the trophy. But this isn't about the game itself, but about being an official at that game. And in particular my experience.

There are a number of factors that make this different from a "normal" game. The first was that I received an official staff pass for the game a couple of weeks beforehand.

The second was that I only knew one of the three other table officials, the assistant scorer Angie Bowden. As I was working with the scorer, Tracey Griffiths, and shot clock operator, Glyn Williams, for the first time, the pre-game meeting, however informal, takes on greater significance. The primary reason is to make sure that everyone on the table was getting the information they want and need at the right time. The other point to confirm was the duties of the assistant scorer. One of their documented duties is to operate the visual scoreboard, but this wasn't possible at Guildford due to the table equipment.

Having worked out the details of how we were going to manage the table, there was an opportunity to check out the equipment and make sure everything was set up for the game. The most difficult part of setting up the scoreboard was mapping the players shirt numbers, to the foul markers on the board. The equipment allows you to put personal fouls up for players 4 to 15. But the teams were using some additional numbers, so the arena staff had changed the scoreboard to reflect the expected players, but even then there were changes on the day.

Once the game itself started, then it was a case of focusing on the standard game mechanics, regardless of the nature of the game. Obviously, the crowd was larger and noisier than at most of the games I table, which puts a greater strain on the voice. And as the timekeeper there's the added pressure of every mistake being clearly visible to the couple of thousand people watching. All you can do is focus on the job at hand and try to ignore everything else.

As ever, you know you've done a good job on the table when no one notices you.

The final touch was being given a medal for being part of the officiating team. So I'll have a memento of my first big game experience.

Answers to the December Edition Quiz

- 1) After the ball has been handed to A3 for an alternating possession throw-in, but before it has touched a player on the court, A5 commits a disqualifying foul. Shall team A be entitled to the next alternating possession throw-in?
YES. A foul by either team during the alternating possession throw-in does not cause the throw-in team to lose that alternating possession throw-in. (Art. 12.4.8)
- 2) A shot for a basket by A2 does not touch the rim or enter the basket. Before either team can establish control of the ball, a held ball occurs. At the time of the held ball, there is 10 seconds remaining in the 24-second period. Team A is entitled to the next alternating possession throw-in. Shall team A have only 10 seconds remaining in the 24-second period?
YES. The 24-second device shall be stopped, but not reset, when the same team that previously had control of the ball is awarded a throw-in as a result of a jump ball situation. (Art. 12.3/50.4)
- 3) Following an unsuccessful shot for a basket, A3 appears to be injured and coach A comes onto the court to assist A3. A time-out is then requested by team B. At the end of the time-out, A3 has recovered and asks to remain in the game as a player. Shall A3's request be permitted?
YES. If the injured player or any player who is bleeding or has an open wound recovers during a time-out taken by either team before the scorer's signal for the substitution, the player may continue to play. (Art 5.6)
- 4) A shot for a basket by A3 is on its upward flight when it is touched by a team B player. The ball is then on its downward flight with a reasonable chance of entering the basket when it is tapped away by B3. Has B3 committed goal tending?
YES. Goal tending occurs during a shot for a field goal when a player touches the ball while it is completely above the level of the ring and it is on its downward flight to the basket. (Art 31.2.1)
- 5) A5 enters the game to replace A3. Before the clock can again start following the substitution, a technical is committed by A5. This is A5's fifth player foul. The only team A substitute available is A3. May A3 re-enter the game to replace A5?
YES. A player may re-enter the game without a clock-running phase if the team is reduced to fewer than 5 players on the court. (Art 19.2.4)
- 6) A2 scores a field goal, after which technical fouls are committed by A4 and B4. After the fouls have been properly reported to the scorer, shall play resume with a team B throw-in at the endline behind the team B basket?
YES. If after the cancellation of equal penalties, there are no other penalties remaining, then the ball is awarded to the non scoring team at the endline if the first infraction occurred at the same time as a valid field goal. (Art 42.2.7)
- 7) A last free throw by A4 fails to touch the rim. A8 and B8 are waiting at the table to enter the game as substitutes. Shall A8 and B8 be permitted to enter the game at this time?
YES. (Art 10.3, Article 19.2.2, Article 18/19 FIBA Interpretation)
- 8) While the ball is in the air on a shot for a basket by A2, the signal sounds to end the period. After the ball has touched the ring following the sounding of the signal, it is tapped into the basket by A5. Shall the basket count?
NO. No player shall touch the ball after it has touched the ring while it still has the possibility to enter the basket after the game clock sounds. (Art 31.2.6)
- 9) While team A has control of the ball in the team A frontcourt, a pass from A2 to A4 strikes an official, after which the ball returns to the backcourt. The ball is next controlled by A3. Has team A committed a violation by illegally returning the ball to the backcourt?
YES. When the ball strikes an official, it is the same as if the ball strikes the floor where the official is standing. (Art 30.2)
- 10) During the last two minutes of the 4th period, A8 is waiting at the table to enter the game as a substitute. B3 then commits an interference violation on a shot for a basket by A5. Shall B8 be permitted to enter the game at this time?
YES. The interference violation causes the clock to be stopped and the ball to become dead. (Art 19.2.3, 31.3.2, Article 18/19 FIBA Interpretation)

And Finally... The April Quiz

Here's a rules quiz to test your knowledge. There are no prizes to be won, this is just for fun. The answers will be in the next newsletter. If you can't wait that long, then I'm willing to send them to you, but the price is an article for the next newsletter.

- 1) During the last two minutes of the 4th period, whilst A6 is waiting at the table to enter the game as a substitute, Coach B asks for a time-out. B2 then scores a field goal. Shall coach B be allowed the time out?
- 2) With team A in control of the ball and with twenty seconds remaining on the 24-second clock, an official interrupts play because of a wet court. When play resumes, shall team A be given a new 24-second period, provided team B is not placed at a disadvantage?
- 3) The assistant coach of team B requests a time-out. Shall the time-out be granted?
- 4) During a dribble, A4 loses control of the ball, which then touches B8 who is waiting out-of-bounds at the scorer's table to enter the game as a substitute. Shall a throw-in be awarded to team B?
- 5) During the half-time interval of play, A8 goes to the scorekeeper to request that he enter the game to replace A5. Must A8 report his substitution to a floor official before being permitted to enter the game for the third period.?
- 6) A5 accidentally scores a field goal in his own basket. Shall the goal be cancelled?
- 7) During a dead ball period when play will resume with a throw-in, shall the time-out opportunity end when the ball is placed at the disposal of the player who throws the ball in?
- 8) After a team A field goal, team B is granted a time-out. Following the time-out, thrower-in B2 passes the ball to B3 who is also out-of-bounds on that endline. B3 then passes the ball to a teammate who is in-bounds. The entire action takes less than five seconds. Has a throw-in violation been committed by team B?
- 9) During the last two minutes of play, A2 commits an 8-second violation. Shall the resulting team B throw-in be awarded at the centre line extended, opposite the scorer's table?
- 10) Team A is awarded an alternating possession throw-in. After the ball has been handed to A2 for the throw-in, coach A is charged with a technical foul. Shall team B be entitled to the next alternating possession throw-in?