

Table Times

The ABBTO Newsletter - December 2008

Welcome



It doesn't seem like 3 months since I was sitting down and writing an introduction to the first newsletter. But 3 months it has been, and with Christmas fast approaching, the first major finals will be soon upon us with the EBL Sportscover National Cup finals (the Men on the 18th in Sheffield, the Women in Manchester on the 25th) and the BBL Cup final in Birmingham on the 18th January, as well as 3 GB Women's games through the month.

In this edition we have a report from the NBA match held at the O2 arena in October, some information on upcoming courses and ABBTO kit, and a gentle reminder about the expectation of a table official. Not forgetting the answers to the quiz in the last edition, and a new one for you to think on.

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

Upcoming Courses

SE Region

Level 1 - 3rd January at Chessington Sports Centre

Level 3 - 4th January at Chessington Sports Centre

Full Details available from [here](#)

ABBTO Clothing and Badges

There is a stock of the ABBTO polo shirts and Fleecees available from the [Web Shop](#). You can also purchase badges to let everyone know you're qualified. Level 1, 2 and 3 shown below.



Reminders

Don't forget you can download game record sheets from the [ABBTO website](#). There is a generic record sheet and a front page for your details.

There are also completed [example scoresheets](#) (FIBA, EB Level 1 and EB Level 2/3) which you can use for reference.

Standards and Expectations

When it comes to being a table official, an understanding of the rules of the game is only half the story. Alongside the rules are a number of other duties and responsibilities, and, as the title suggests, there is also an expectation that the high standards of the association, and officials in general, are upheld. These start at your arrival at the game, and continue beyond the end of game duties.

Uniform

Red polo shirt/jumper, black trousers/skirt, black shoes.

License

You should be qualified to the appropriate level for the game you are officiating and hold the relevant license. For EBL National League games, these are the required levels of table officials.

	Level 3	Level 2
EBL Division One Men	3	0
EBL Division Two Men	2	1
EBL Division	1	2
EBL Division One	2	1
EBL Division Two	1	2

For junior games it is recommended that the table officials should hold Level 2 awards, but for cup and play-off quarter finals and beyond, the scorer must be at least Level 2 qualified.

Pre-Game

The scorekeeper should arrive at the venue 1 hour before tip-off to attend the pre-game meeting with the referee and team representatives. Other table officials should arrive 30 minutes before the start of the game.

The officials should then carry out pre-game checks: timing equipment, table equipment (arrow, team foul markers, personal foul markers), table set-up (officials in the correct order, with the commissioner/scorer on the centre line extended), scoreboard, sounding devices, substitutes chairs.

During the Game

The focus of the table officials during the game is the game itself. Nothing should interfere with that until the end of game duties have been completed. Even during the breaks in play (half-time, quarter intervals, time-outs), incidents can still occur and vital communications can take place which require the concentration of all those at the table.

Anything that could cause a distraction should therefore be removed. In particular, mobile phones should be turned off.

Post Game

Adherence to standards also continues into the post game period, particularly if you get involved in any discussions regarding the game. Below is an extract from the Officials Code of Conduct which highlights the approach required.

Officials Code of Conduct

1. Officials should conduct themselves in a professional manner at all times, in order to maintain and enhance the reputation of officials in general and uphold the integrity of the sport of basketball. The conduct of an official should never bring himself or the sport into disrepute.
2. Officials should take such actions as are necessary to protect and preserve their neutrality and independence. In the event that an official identifies a threat to their neutrality, they shall immediately bring the matter to the attention of the appointing bodies.
3. Officials should seek to avoid public discussion of other officials and their decisions, players, coaches or teams or specific incidents. If public discussion cannot be avoided, officials must be conscious of the need to preserve the image of neutrality of themselves and officials in general. An official should never give the impression of bias or favouritism towards any individual or club/team.

NBA Game Report - 12th October 2008



Following on from the success of last year when the London O2 Arena hosted a game between Boston Celtics and Minnesota Timberwolves, this year saw London host the New Jersey Nets and Miami Heat in a game that really lived up to the drama and excitement that one expects from the NBA.

Both teams have reshaped their playing staff over the close season so it was interesting to see how the new line ups fared. As it turned out, Yi Jianlian and Devin Harris led by Vince Carter of the Nets, and Marcus Banks and Shawn Marion led by Dwyane Wade of Miami put on a show to satisfy any demanding basketball fan.

The Nets jumped out to an early first quarter lead and led by 20+ points at times. The Heat gradually found their range and tempo to ease closer and closer to the Nets until late in the third quarter they took the lead for the first time in the match. The teams then traded baskets until the last two minutes of the fourth when the Nets opened up a 4 point lead that the Heat could simply not close, the Nets running out winners by two points.

Although the NBA brought over their own referees it was down to the UK to provide the table officials, Nicky Shaw, Jeff Shaw and Sue Reeves being invited back, having been on the table for the Celtics/Timberwolves game last year. This year they were joined on the table by Sheri Powell.

As anybody who watches the NBA will know, there are several changes to playing conditions that the table had to adjust to. The NBA scorebook records individual scores, and times are recorded in minutes and seconds. The clock stops after a basket in the last minute of the first, second and third quarter, as well as the last two minutes of the fourth. Timeouts were for as long as the adverts were running in the USA, typically for over two minutes! And the 24 second shot clock resets to 24, or 14, or 5, depending on the circumstances. With the addition of referees signals that were unfamiliar (a defensive 3 second violation?) meant that Nicky, Jeff, Sue and Sheri really had to concentrate!

Congratulations and remarks such as "Good Job!" to all the table officials from the referees and organisers at the end of the game was warmly received by the four and getting to meet the players afterwards the bonus. They are now booked again for next year and looking forward to it already.

Reporter: Nicky Shaw

Answers to the September Edition Quiz

- 1) Team A has been in control of the ball for 15 seconds when a double foul is committed by A4 and B4. After communicating the fouls to the scorer, the officials award the ball to team A for a throw-in. Shall team A also be awarded a new 24-second period?
NO. Team A shall have only 9 seconds remaining in the 24-second period. (Art. 50.4)
- 2) While the game is played, coach A chooses to remain seated. Is the assistant coach of team A permitted to remain standing while coach A is seated?
NO. Only the head coach may remain standing while the game is being played. (Art. 7.5)
- 3) A3 is in the opponents' restricted area for more than 3 seconds while A5 is dribbling the ball in the team A backcourt. Has A3 committed a 3-second violation?
NO. A 3-second violation can occur only when a team is in control of the ball in-bounds in the frontcourt. (Art. 26.1.1)
- 4) During the half-time interval and with team A entitled to the next alternating possession throw-in, a technical foul is committed by B5. As a result of the B5 technical foul, a team A player is awarded two free throws, to be followed by a throw-in for team A at the centre line extended opposite the scorer's table to begin the third period. Shall team A continue to be entitled to the next alternating possession throw-in?
YES. If a team that is entitled to the next alternating possession throw-in is awarded a throw-in as the result of a foul committed by the opponents, that team shall not lose its right to the next alternating possession throw-in. (Art. 12.4.8)
- 5) A5 is awarded one free throw. A5's free throw attempt fails to touch the rim and as a result, a throw-in is awarded to team B. Before the ball is handed to B2 out-of-bounds for the throw-in, A10 reports to the scorer's table to substitute for A5. Shall the substitution be permitted?
YES. A violation has been committed and therefore either team may substitute. (Art. 19.3.9)
- 6) After the ball is legally tapped on the jump ball that begins the game but before the ball can be controlled by either team, a held ball occurs between A4 and B4. The officials rule that another jump ball shall be administered. Shall the jumpers be A4 and B4?
YES. (Art. 12, FIBA Interpretation)
- 7) A shot for a field goal by A3 is in the air when the 24-second signal sounds. Shall the the 24-second signal also cause the game clock to be stopped immediately?
NO. The game clock shall not be stopped unless an official blows the whistle. (Art. 14.3/29.1.2/49.2)
- 8) A pass from A2 to A4 is above the rim when B5 reaches through the basket from below and touches the ball. Shall two (or three) points be awarded to to A2?
YES. B5's violation is considered to be goal tending or interference under the the 2008 Rules. (Art. 31.2.4)
- 9) Team A has been in control of the ball for six seconds in the team A backcourt then B4 deliberately contacts the ball with his foot. A throw-in is awarded to team A in it's backcourt. Shall team A have only two seconds remaining to advance the ball into the team A frontcourt?
NO. The ball became dead as a result of B4's contacting the ball with his foot rather than because it went out-of-bounds. Team A shall be awarded a new 8-second period. (Art. 28.2.2)
- 10) A3 and B3 are involved in a double foul, after which a technical foul is committed by coach A. Shall play resume with two free throws awarded to team B, followed by a throw-in for team B at the centre line extended opposite the scorer's table?
YES. This is a special situation and therefore the penalty for the double foul shall be cancelled, leaving only the penalty for the coach A technical foul to be administered. (Art. 42.2.3/42.2.6)

And Finally... The December 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) 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?
- 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?
- 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?
- 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?
- 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?
- 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?
- 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?
- 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?
- 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?
- 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?