

OFFICIATING POINTS

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While CABO adheres entirely to the mechanics and procedures described in the FIBA 2 and 3-person mechanics manuals, some areas are not clearly defined, often forgotten, or altogether not mentioned. Over the years, New Brunswick Interpreter Seward Neilsen, who is also a National Evaluator, has observed inconsistencies or plain lack of knowledge in some of those areas on the part of officials from different areas of the country. He made a list with the assistance of BC Interpreter Bill Denney and submitted his work to the National Interpreter for validation. The following guidelines are the norms at the national level. It is strongly recommended that they be applied across the country at all levels.

A. OFFICIAL TO SOUND THE WHISTLE:

- 1) Horn sounds to request a time out; official may verbally inform the players and then sounds his/her whistle and gives the appropriate time-out signal. By rule, this is when the time-out begins. After granting the timeout, AVOID waiting for the players to get to their bench area and giving a « start the time out » signal to the table. Again, the time out started when you granted it.
- 2) At the sound of the horn to end the time-out (50 seconds), the official who administered the time-out shall blow his/her whistle to inform the teams that they should immediately return to the court to resume play.
- 3) In 3-person, the official who administers the time-out locates self in the middle of the crew, opposite side. If there are free throws, L holds the ball. If play resumes with a throw-in, the official responsible to administer the throw-in holds the ball.
- 4) Horn sounds to end a quarter; the trail official immediately sounds his/her whistle.
- 5) Horn for sub request, official nearest the table administers the subs by blowing the whistle, giving the appropriate sub signal towards the entering players, and beckoning subs.
- 6) When an infraction occurs.
- 7) At any time the official judges it necessary to interrupt play.

B. OFFICIAL NOT TO SOUND THE WHISTLE:

- 1) Prior to the jump ball (1st quarter) to begin the game; nor prior to the throw-in (2nd, 3rd, 4th quarter, nor overtime period) to begin simply state... “play ball”.
- 2) After a time-out and subsequent throw-in to resume play. (The rare exception to # 1 and # 2 would be if there were extreme crowd noise and/or confusion when players are not aware that play is to resume; then the sounding of the whistle could be appropriate.)

C. VARIOUS POINTS:

- 1) FIBA mechanic: Double whistle; closest official or official toward whom the ball is coming takes the call.
- 2) “Sell” with confidence and conviction is not the same as “selling” with aggressive/intimidating bodylanguage.

- 3) Politeness buys a lot !!! « Please » and « Thank you ».
- 4) Set up your game by your call selection in the first 3 minutes of the 1st and 3rd quarters.
- 5) If you permit a behaviour for the first 36 minutes of the game, you do not help the game by calling it in the last 4 minutes!
- 6) Appearance is a major part of your “sell “ (BOTH ON AND OFF THE COURT):
 - official’s appearance
 - official’s demeanor
 - proper mechanics (whistle, signals, positioning, hustling, etc.)
 - body language
 - voice and use of voice
 - interpersonal skills/communication skills
 - physical fitness
- 7) Minimize dead ball time..... HUSTLE : time outs; fouls; subs; throw-ins.
- 8) Respect your primary areas of responsibility: TRUST AND RESPECT YOUR PARTNERS. Only make a call within your secondary area of responsibility if it is an absolute necessity.
- 9) Whether a field goal is made or missed ... if illegal/disadvantageous contact was made by the defender on the shooter, then make the call. (FIBA does NOT recognize the “patient whistle.”)
- 10) Eliminate the bounce pass as much as possible. Hand the ball to the thrower-in, unless it is more efficient or provides improved coverage to bounce it (i.e., trail throw-in deep in corner in front court or backcourt, far side, no pressure and not forcing a switch).
- 11) If there is a disallowed basket ... new T puts the ball in play on the new T side. (Do not force a switch.) Disallowed basket with the offense still getting the ball: throw-in at the free-throw line extended
- 12) Administering a first of two, or first and second of three free throws ... Lead shall set-up off the court in normal L position, not inbounds along the lane .
- 13) Violations and fouls 1st signal must always BE THE STOP CLOCK SIGNAL.

D . 3-PERSON OFFICIATING

- 1) C's initial set up position in the front court ... one or two steps down from free throw line extended; move up or down from here as required for you to see the “spaces” between the players.
- 2) L rotation - basically go from lane line extended to lane line extended
 - when rotating observe players’ actions in your primary, not the ball’s location
 - keep your hips and shoulders square to the play you are observing without turning your back to other activity in or on the periphery of your primary.
- 3) C and T step down on all final free throws, drives toward the basket and field goal tries.
- 4) The official who is opposite the table is responsible for the last field goal try for each quarter or overtime.
- 5) The new Lead (in transition) on table side administers all substitutions (allows subs in and advises partner when to return ball to play). No passing administration to partner.