

OFFICIAL BASKETBALL RULES

Summary of the Rule changes as of 1st October 2003

1. Art. 21 Jump ball – Alternating possession

- 1.1. The alternating possession rule is a method of putting the ball in play with a throw-in rather than a jump ball.
- 1.2. In the jump ball situations other than at the start of each half-time and any extra period, teams will alternate the ball for the throw-in at the spot nearest to where the next jump ball situation occurs.
- 1.3. The team that does not obtain control of the initial jump ball for each half or extra period will start the alternating process by being awarded the ball for throw-in at the spot nearest to where the next jump ball situation occurs.
- 1.4. The alternating possession procedure starts when an official places the ball at the disposal of a player for a throw-in and ends when the passed ball touches an inbound player or when the throw-in team commits a violation.
- 1.5. The team to be awarded the ball for the alternating possession throw-in shall be indicated by the alternating possession arrow. The direction of the arrow is reversed immediately when the alternating possession throw-in ends.
- 1.6. The opportunity to make an alternating possession throw-in is lost if the throw-in team violates the throw-in provisions.

2. Art. 27. Time-out

- 2.1. Five (5) time-outs may be granted to each team during the normal playing time.
- 2.2. Two (2) time outs may be granted at any time during the first half (1st and 2nd periods) and three (3) time-outs may be granted any time during the second half (3rd and 4th periods).
- 2.3. One (1) time-out may be granted at any time during each period of extra time.
- 2.4. Unused time-outs may not be carried over to the next half-time or extra period.

3. Art. 39 Twenty-four seconds

- 3.1. Whenever a player gains control of the live ball on the court, a shot for a field goal shall be attempted by his team within twenty-four (24) seconds.
- 3.2. Should the team in control of the ball fail to shoot for a field goal within 24 seconds, this shall be indicated by sounding the 24-second device signal.
- 3.3. To constitute a shot for a field goal the following conditions must be complied with:
 - the ball must leave the player's hand(s) on the shot for a field goal before the 24-second device signal sounds and
 - after the ball has left the player's hand on the shot for a field goal, the ball must touch the ring.
- 3.4. When a shot for goal is attempted near the end of the 24-second period and the signal sounds while the ball is in the air after leaving the player's hand(s) on the shot for the field goal:
 - if the ball enters the basket, the goal shall count
 - if the ball touches the ring but does not enter the basket the ball remain alive. No violation has occurred and play shall continue without interruption.

B. Proposals for the changes as of 1st September 2004

1. Art. 3.3. Basketballs

- 1.1. For all men's competitions in all categories the ball shall not be less than 74.9 cm and not more than 78 cm in circumference (size7). It shall not weigh less than 567 g and not more than 650 g.
- 1.2. For all women's competitions in all categories the ball shall be not less than 72.4 cm and not more than 73.7 cm in circumference (size 6). It shall not weigh less than 510 g and not more than 567 g.

2. Art. 4 Officials, table officials and commissioner

- 2.1. The officials shall be a referee and an umpire. They shall be assisted by the table officials and by a commissioner, if present.
- 2.2. In addition, the appropriate entity of FIBA has the authority to apply the three-man officiating system, namely one referee and two empires.
- 2.3. FIBA will apply for its competitions three-man officiating system as of season 2004-2005.
- 2.4. The first FIBA World Championships utilising three-man officiating will be the 4th World Championship for Young Men 2005 in Argentina and 6th World Championship for Junior Women 2005 in Tunisia.

If the proposals for the changes as of 1st September 2003 are approved by the FIBA Central Board, the complete and precise detailed wording, including the practical examples, will be sent to all national basketball federations by 10th July 2003 at the latest.

The federations will, at that time, also be informed of the changes of 1st September 2004, if the changes are approved by the FIBA Central Board.

The FIBA World Technical Commission will immediately start to work on producing new, simpler and easier to understand Rule Book which will be available as of 1st September 2004. This book will also include all of the official FIBA rule interpretations valid after 2000.