



CANADA  
BASKETBALL

# NATIONAL POINTS OF EMPHASIS 2019-20



# POINTS OF EMPHASIS

## PURPOSE:

- To promote a “**Clean Game**”
- To address **Player Safety**
- To enhance **Consistency** among officials across Canada



# 2019-2020 POINTS OF EMPHASIS

- 1. ILLEGAL CONTACT**
- 2. SCREENING**
- 3. GAME CONTROL**
- 4. UNSPORTSMANLIKE FOUL**



# 2019-2020 POINTS OF EMPHASIS

## 1. Illegal Contact

- A. Emphasis on Dribbler contact & contact on perimeter players off-ball
- B. Contact away from the ball – players being “jammed” or “bumped” on cuts to the basket
- C. Post Play – “points of contact”

## 2. Screening

- A. Ball screen defense – defenders displacing screeners...often into the offensive player
- B. Screener responsibilities (extension of elbows, width of screener's feet)

## 3. Game Control

- A. Bench Decorum
  - o Including addressing substitutes and accompanying persons who stand & react to a good play and remain standing
- B. Coach-Official Interaction

## 4. Unsportsmanlike Foul

- A. Emphasis on C1 and C2 unsportsmanlike fouls



# 2019-2020 POINTS OF EMPHASIS

## #1 – ILLEGAL CONTACT

### *Dribbler Contact*



# 2019-2020 POINTS OF EMPHASIS

## ILLEGAL CONTACT - DRIBBLER

❑ Remember the rule:

### **33.4 Guarding a player who controls the ball**

- When guarding a player who controls (holding or dribbling) the ball, the elements of time and distance do not apply.
- The player with the ball must expect to be guarded and must be prepared to stop or change his/her direction whenever an opponent takes an initial legal guarding position in front of him/her, even if this is done within a fraction of a second.
- The guarding (defensive) player must establish an initial legal guarding position without causing contact before taking his/her position (Facing his/her opponent and has both feet on the floor).
- Once the defensive player has established an initial legal guarding position, he/she may move to guard his/her opponent, **but he/she may not extend his/her arms, shoulders, hips or legs to prevent the dribbler from passing by him/her.**



# 2019-2020 POINTS OF EMPHASIS

## ILLEGAL CONTACT - DRIBBLER

- The focus is on “freedom of movement” with due consideration given to Rhythm, Speed, Balance, and Quickness (RSBQ).
- This area must be addressed from the start of every game. If it is dealt with early, it will clean itself up right away. We must be consistent with this play situation.
- In assessing dribbler contact it is imperative to determine who is initiating the contact, offense or defense.



# 2019-2020 POINTS OF EMPHASIS

## ILLEGAL CONTACT - DRIBBLER

- The touching of an opponent with one hand is, in itself, not necessarily a foul.
- Placing two hands on a dribbler is always a foul.
- The officials shall decide whether the player who caused the contact has gained an advantage. If contact caused by a player in any way **restricts the freedom of movement of an opponent, such contact is a foul.**
- Illegal use of the hand(s) or extended arm(s) occurs when the defensive player is in a guarding position and his/her hand(s) or arm(s) is **placed upon and remains in contact with an opponent with or without the ball, to impede his/her progress.**
- To repeatedly touch or 'jab' an opponent with or without the ball is a foul, as it may lead to rough play.





# 2019-2020 POINTS OF EMPHASIS

## ILLEGAL CONTACT - DRIBBLER

- Officiate all contact situations (front court and back court) consistently – a defensive player may momentarily touch an opponent with his/her hand anywhere on the court as long as it does not affect the opponent's movement (RSBQ)
- A single hand may be allowed momentarily to allow the defender to “find” the dribbler but if the hand remains on to impede the dribbler's progress, or the contact is repetitive a foul should be called.
- Under no circumstances may the defensive player place two hands upon an opponent.
- Body bumping by the defender is a foul and must be addressed.



# 2019-2020 POINTS OF EMPHASIS

## ILLEGAL CONTACT - DRIBBLER

- Actions by the ball carrier that prevent the defender from protecting their space should result in a foul being called on the ball carrier.
- It is a foul by an offensive player with the ball to:
  - 'Hook' or wrap an arm or an elbow around a defensive player in order to obtain an advantage.
  - 'Push off' to prevent the defensive player from playing or attempting to play the ball, or to create more space for himself/herself.
  - Use an extended forearm or hand, while dribbling, to prevent an opponent from gaining control of the ball.

Once again, always judge who is causing the contact.



# 2019-2020 POINTS OF EMPHASIS

## #1 – ILLEGAL CONTACT

### *Perimeter Players Off-Ball*



# 2019-2020 POINTS OF EMPHASIS

## ILLEGAL CONTACT – PERIMETER PLAYERS OFF-BALL

- We must do a much better job of officiating off-ball and calling illegal contact.
- Emphasis should be focused on players being “jammed” or “bumped” on cuts to the basket.
- The principles of guarding a player who does not control the ball must apply (Art. 33.5) and officials must penalize defenders who extend their arms (forearms), shoulders, hips, or legs in the path of an opponent and this illegal contact impacts the freedom of movement on an opponent.



# 2019-2020 POINTS OF EMPHASIS

## ILLEGAL CONTACT – PERIMETER PLAYERS OFF-BALL

□ Remember the rule:

### **33.5 Guarding a player who does not control the ball**

- A player who does not control the ball is entitled to move freely on the playing court and take any position not already occupied by another player.
- **When guarding a player who does not control the ball, the elements of time and distance shall apply.** A defensive player cannot take a position so near and/or so quickly in the path of a moving opponent that the latter does not have sufficient time or distance either to stop or change his/her direction.
- The distance is directly proportional to the speed of the opponent, but never less than 1 normal step.
- If a defensive player does not respect the elements of time and distance in taking his/her initial legal guarding position and contact with an opponent occurs, he/she is responsible for the contact.
- Once a defensive player has established an initial legal guarding position, he/she may move to guard his/her opponent. **He/she may not prevent him/her from passing by extending his/her arms, shoulders, hips or legs in his path.** He/she may turn within his/her cylinder to avoid injury.



# 2019-2020 POINTS OF EMPHASIS

## ILLEGAL CONTACT – PERIMETER PLAYERS OFF-BALL

- This area must be addressed from the start of every game. If it is dealt with early, it will clean itself up right away. We must be consistent with this play situation.
- Establish the criteria early (first illegal contact) and maintain the criteria (first to last call).
- Call the obvious; be fair, but be firm!
- Do not miss the big ones.



# 2019-2020 POINTS OF EMPHASIS

## #1 – ILLEGAL CONTACT

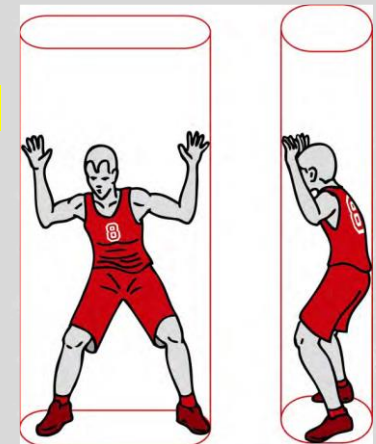
*Post Play*



# 2019-2020 POINTS OF EMPHASIS

## ILLEGAL CONTACT – POST PLAY

- The principle of verticality (cylinder principle) applies also to post play.
- The offensive player in the post position and the defensive player guarding him/her must respect each other's rights to a vertical position (cylinder).
- **It is a foul by an offensive or defensive player in the post position to shoulder or hip his/her opponent out of position or to interfere with his/her opponent's freedom of movement using extended arms, shoulders, hips, legs or other parts of the body.**







# 2019-2020 POINTS OF EMPHASIS

## ILLEGAL CONTACT – POST PLAY

- The rules and interpretations DO NOT recognize defined “points of contact” with respect to post play (i.e. “one hand”, “one forearm”, etc.). Officials must decide on personal contact within the spirit and intent of the rules and apply the concept of “advantage/disadvantage” consistently throughout the game.
  - Guidelines = having one hand or one bent forearm placed on an opponent in the post is not normally a foul. However, if the hand or bent forearm placed on an opponent in the post:
    - a) holds/pushes/dislodges the opponent; or
    - b) interferes with the opponent's freedom of movement by extending the forearm/hand outside the defender's cylinder;...A FOUL MUST BE CALLED.



# 2019-2020 POINTS OF EMPHASIS

## ILLEGAL CONTACT – POST PLAY

- Post Play needs to be addressed early in the game. If preventative officiating is not effective, call the foul. Call the first foul, not the second or third foul. If you do not call post play it will lead to rough play.
- Post play should be viewed and anticipated as a physical (not rough) match-up between two opponents, especially big players.
- **A player shall not hold, block, push, charge, trip or impede the progress of an opponent by extending his/her hand, arm, elbow, shoulder, hip, leg, knee or foot, nor by bending his/her body into an 'abnormal' position (outside his cylinder), nor shall he/she indulge in any rough or violent play. A foul must be called.**



# 2019-2020 POINTS OF EMPHASIS

## ILLEGAL CONTACT – POST PLAY

- Any displacement by Offense or Defense is a foul. It is imperative to determine who is initiating the contact, offense or defense. If the offensive player is dislodging or “backing down” the defender by creating illegal contact, this is a foul and should be called.
- Post Play can involve significant contact between players as long as one of the players is not placed at a disadvantage because of illegal contact. Do not penalize bigger players who post up against shorter, smaller players. Deem illegal contact as a foul based on the above parameters.



# 2019-2020 POINTS OF EMPHASIS

## ILLEGAL CONTACT – POST PLAY

### CHECKLIST

- “Easy”/”No hands”/”Keep it Legal” on action (not too many words & not on a continued basis)
- There can be no “let them play” attitude when the contact is excessive
- Moving to the right place to see the play from the beginning
- Move to get the right spacing and angle
- Identify and focus on appropriate physical action
- Call the action and not the gesture (be conscious of embellishment & flopping)
- When controlling the post play, you have to control 3 seconds too



# 2019-2020 POINTS OF EMPHASIS

## #2 - SCREENING

# 2019-2020 POINTS OF EMPHASIS

## SCREENING

- Remember the rule:

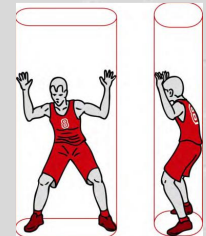
### **33.7 Screening: Legal and illegal**

**Legal screening** is when the player who is screening an opponent:

- Was stationary (inside his/her cylinder) when contact occurred.
- Had both feet on the floor when contact occurred.

**Illegal screening** is when the player who is screening an opponent:

- Was moving when contact occurred.
- Did not give sufficient distance in setting a screen outside the field of vision of a stationary opponent when contact occurred.
- Did not respect the elements of time and distance of an opponent in motion when contact occurred.





# 2019-2020 POINTS OF EMPHASIS

## SCREENING

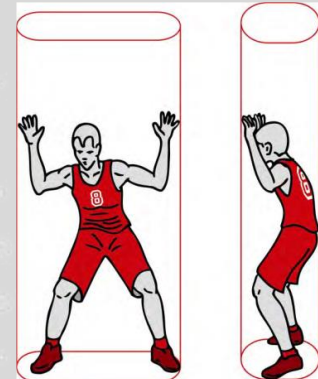
- If the screen is set **within** the field of vision of a stationary opponent (front or lateral), the screener may establish the screen as close to him/her as he/she wishes, provided there is no contact.
- If the screen is set **outside** the field of vision of a stationary opponent, the screener must permit the opponent to take 1 normal step towards the screen without making contact.
- If the opponent is **in motion**, the elements of time and distance shall apply. The screener must leave enough space so that the player who is being screened is able to avoid the screen by stopping or changing direction.
- The distance required is never less than 1 and never more than 2 normal steps.
- A player who is legally screened is responsible for any contact with the player who has set the screen.



# 2019-2020 POINTS OF EMPHASIS

## SCREENING

- **Screeener responsibilities**
  - Stationary (inside cylinder) when contact occurs.
  - Both feet on the floor when contact occurs. The distance between his/her feet will vary according to his/her height.
  - The hands and arms may be extended in front of the torso no further than the position of the feet, with the arms bent at the elbows so that the forearms and hands are raised. Arms may be crossed in front of the screener, BUT must remain within his/her cylinder.
  - A player who has set a screen must not EXTEND his/her arms, elbows, shoulders, hips, or legs when contact occurs.
  - Guideline = screen width is limited to the inside of the feet in line with the shoulders







# 2019-2020 POINTS OF EMPHASIS

## SCREENING

- This area must be addressed from the start of every game. If it is dealt with early, it will clean itself up right away. We must be consistent with this play situation.
- Establish the criteria early (first call) and maintain the criteria (last call).
- Pay particular attention to the player setting the screen who contacts an opponent and subsequently holds or pushes the opponent and interferes with his/her freedom of movement. This contact can occur with any part of the body.
- Conversely, pay attention to ball screen defenders displacing screeners...often into the offensive player at elbows. A pushing foul must be called to clean up the game.



# **2019-2020 POINTS OF EMPHASIS #3 - GAME CONTROL**



# 2019-2020 POINTS OF EMPHASIS

## **GAME CONTROL – Bench Decorum / Coach-Official Interaction**

**Positive interaction between Coaches & Officials is essential and expected. The game is for the players, not the Coaches or the Officials.**

- There is a Team Bench Area that must be marked on the court. Coaches must remain within the Team Bench Area at all times unless to request a time out at the scorer's table.
- Only one of the Head Coach, or, the designated Assistant Coach on each team may be standing at any time.
- Coaches should not expect an official to respond during a live ball or, any other time the clock is running.



# 2019-2020 POINTS OF EMPHASIS

## **GAME CONTROL – Bench Decorum / Coach-Official Interaction**

- Officials should not respond to statements by Coaches, only reasonable questions. Responses to questions should be short and direct to the question asked.
- The Head Coach is responsible for the actions of all bench personnel. If an official is uncomfortable with the actions of bench personnel, their first action should be to request the assistance of the Head Coach in dealing with this. If it persists, a technical foul could be assessed and it is charged to the Head Coach (B1).
- Profanity, disrespectful comments, and/or gestures will result in the assessment of a technical foul. A warning may or may not be given depending on the circumstances. Aggressive gestures will never be acceptable behaviour.



# 2019-2020 POINTS OF EMPHASIS

## GAME CONTROL – Bench Decorum / Coach-Official Interaction

- Excessive and/or lengthy conversations with Coaches should be avoided during the game. If explanations are required, they need to be short, polite, and concise.
- It is the responsibility of the officials to control the game and address inappropriate conduct and actions of the Head Coach and any bench personnel during the game. Respect, politeness, and firmness are the keys to doing this successfully.
- Officials must address inappropriate bench decorum and act early and effectively with proper communication. Unsportsmanlike conduct and actions by bench personnel must be penalized accordingly.



# 2019-2020 POINTS OF EMPHASIS

## GAME CONTROL – Bench Decorum / Coach-Official Interaction

- Article 7.3 reads, “The coaches, assistant coaches, substitutes, excluded players and accompanying delegation members are the only persons permitted to sit on the team bench and remain within their team bench area. **During playing time all substitutes, excluded players and accompanying delegation members shall remain seated.**
- **Allowance should be provided to permit substitutes, excluded players and accompanying delegation members to stand & react to a good play momentarily (immediately sitting down afterwards).**



# 2019-2020 POINTS OF EMPHASIS

## #4 – UNSPORTSMANLIKE FOUL



# 2019-2020 POINTS OF EMPHASIS

## UNSPORTSMANLIKE FOUL

- Generally, the C3, C4, and C5 type U-Fouls are being called more consistently across the country. However, a much greater emphasis must be put on the C1 and C2 Unsportsmanlike Fouls.
- Far too often, play situations which involve unsporting behaviour beyond the spirit and intent of the rules, go unpunished.
- The officials must interpret the unsportsmanlike fouls consistently throughout the game and **to judge only the action.** (37.1.2)





# 2019-2020 POINTS OF EMPHASIS

## REMEMBER THE RULE - Art. 37 Unsportsmanlike Foul

### 37.1 Definition

37.1.1 An unsportsmanlike foul is a player contact foul which, in the judgement of an official is:

- Not a legitimate attempt to play the ball within the spirit and intent of the rules.
- Excessive, hard contact caused by a player in an effort to play the ball **or an opponent**.
- An unnecessary contact caused by the defensive player in order to stop the progress of the offensive team in transition.

**This applies until the offensive player begins his/her act of shooting.**

- Contact by the defensive player from behind or laterally on an opponent in an attempt to stop the fast break and there is no defensive player between the offensive player and the opponent's basket.

**This applies until the offensive player begins his/her act of shooting.**

- Contact by the defensive player on an opponent on the playing court when the game clock shows 2:00 minutes or less in the fourth quarter and in each overtime, when the ball is out-of-bounds for a throw-in and still in the hands of the official or at the disposal of the player taking the throw-in.



# 2019-2020 POINTS OF EMPHASIS

## ART. 37 UNSPORTSMANLIKE FOUL 5 CRITERIA

To facilitate better decision making, referees are required to use 1 of the 5 existing criteria to determine if an Unsportsmanlike Foul should be called. The criteria are called C1, C2, C3, C4 & C5.





# 2019-2020 POINTS OF EMPHASIS

## ART. 37 UNSPORTSMANLIKE FOUL 5 CRITERIA

C1

Not a legitimate attempt to play the ball within the spirit and intent of the rules.

C2

Excessive, hard contact caused by a player in an effort to play the ball or an opponent.

C3

An unnecessary contact caused by the defensive player in order to stop the progress of the offensive team in transition.

This applies until the offensive player begins his/her act of shooting.



# 2019-2020 POINTS OF EMPHASIS

## ART. 37 UNSPORTSMANLIKE FOUL 5 CRITERIA

C4

Contact by the defensive player from behind or laterally on an opponent in an attempt to stop the fast break and there is no defensive player between the offensive player and the opponent's basket.

This applies until the offensive player begins his/her act of shooting.

C5

Contact by the defensive player on an opponent on the playing court during the last 2 minutes in the fourth period and in each extra period, when the ball is out-of-bounds for a throw-in and still in the hands of the official or at the disposal of the player taking the throw-in.

# 2019-2020 POINTS OF EMPHASIS



## UNSPORTSMANLIKE FOUL C1 & C2 PRACTICAL CASES

# ART. 37 UNSPORTSMANLIKE FOUL CRITERIA – C1



C  
1

Not a legitimate attempt to directly play the ball  
within the spirit and intent of the rules

# ART. 37 UNSPORTSMANLIKE FOUL CRITERIA – C1



C  
1

## Example C1.1

When grabbing the body of an opponent, it is **an UF** for not legitimately attempting to play the ball.



# ART. 37 UNSPORTSMANLIKE FOUL CRITERIA – C1



C  
1

## Example C1.2

When grabbing the uniform of an opponent, it is an UF for not legitimately attempting to play the ball.





# ART. 37 UNSPORTSMANLIKE FOUL CRITERIA – C1



C  
1

## Example C1.3

The excessive movement of the elbows (lateral) - if there is contact, it is **an UF**.



# ART. 37 UNSPORTSMANLIKE FOUL CRITERIA – C1



C  
1

## Example C1.4

The defender ignores the ball and instead holds the other hand of the offensive player with the ball to stop the transition. This example is not a legitimate attempt to play the ball and therefore **a clear UF** correctly called by the Trail.



# ART. 37 UNSPORTSMANLIKE FOUL CRITERIA – C1



C  
1

## Example C1.5

Defensive player ignores the ball and causes an immediate contact with the opponent. **The example is an UF** for not legitimately attempting to play the ball.

Normally these actions take place in the end of the game, but the same actions must be judged with the same criteria throughout the game (referee the action).



# ART. 37 UNSPORTSMANLIKE FOUL CRITERIA – C1



C  
1

## Example C1.6

Defensive player ignores the ball and causes an immediate contact with the opponent. **The example is an UF** for not legitimately attempting to play the ball.

Normally these actions take place in the end of the game, but the same actions must be judged with the same criteria throughout the game (referee the action).



# ART. 37 UNSPORTSMANLIKE FOUL CRITERIA – C2



C  
2

Excessive, hard contact caused by a player in an effort to play the ball or an opponent.

# ART. 37 UNSPORTSMANLIKE FOUL CRITERIA – C2



## Example C2.1

You may commit a personal foul, in a normal defensive action, but you do not need to "stop by any means" your opponent's action without an effort to play the ball or directly playing an opponent. This is excessive, hard contact and should be penalized as **an UF**. Note the correct technique to make the call – Analyse – (1) Call normal foul – (2) Upgrade to UF.

C  
2



# ART. 37 UNSPORTSMANLIKE FOUL CRITERIA – C2



C  
2

## Example C2.2

You can fall into a fake, or you may make a personal foul, in a normal defensive action, but you do not need to "stop by any means" your opponent's action without an effort to play the ball. This is an excessive, hard contact by left arm in the end of the action and should penalize as **an UF**.



# ART. 37 UNSPORTSMANLIKE FOUL CRITERIA – C2



## C 2

### Example C2.3

You can fall into a fake, or you may commit a personal foul, in a normal defensive action, but you do not need to "stop by any means" your opponent's action without an effort to play the ball. The end of the action (left arm) is excessive, hard contact and should be penalized as **an UF.**





# ART. 37 UNSPORTSMANLIKE FOUL CRITERIA – C2



C  
2

## Example C2.4

You can fall into a fake, or you may commit a personal foul, in a normal defensive action, but you do not need to "stop by any means" your opponent's action without an effort to play the ball or play an opponent. This is excessive, hard contact and should be penalized as **an UF.**





**Thank  
you!**