



Post Play Express

Vol.2, No. 8, April 2011

ABOUT THE NEW COURT MARKINGS

The rule changes approved in 2010 included important changes in the court markings.

- The 3-point line was moved from 6,25 meters to 6,75 meters from the center of the basket
- The trapezoid restricted area became a rectangle, its width exceeding that of the free throw line by 65 cm on either side
- A no-charge semi-circle area was introduced under the baskets

These changes could not be implemented right away in Canada since floor surface finishes would have to be re-done. Such a process requires time and money which may not be readily available at different levels.

In the meantime, Canada Basketball decided to seek the opinion of various stakeholders regarding the adoption of the new court markings. A conference call took place last February 14. Representatives of the PSOs, CIS, CCAA, high school organizations, coaches, etc. participated along with Paul Deshaies, on behalf of CABO. CABO's position was to approve the new court markings integrally. The most contentious point in the discussion was the 3-point line. Many argued against the adoption of the new 6,75 m line. There was no unanimity on this point. Some argued that the adoption of the new restricted area should be linked to the adoption of the new 3-point line. Again, no consensus reached on that point. The no-charge zone was readily endorsed by all participants. The conversation lead to the following recommendations formulated by Canada Basketball.

It is the recommendation of Canada Basketball that the floor markings should be differentiated by Canadian Sport for Life stage as follows:

	3-point line	Key	Block/Charge
Learn to Train (8-12 years of age)	No 3-point shot allowed	New	New
Train to Train (11-16 years of age)	6.25m	New	New
Train to Compete (15-18 years of age)	6.25m	New	New
Learn to Win (18-25 years of age)	6.75m for men 6.25m for women	New Old	New

Notes regarding these recommendations are:

- 1. In the Learn to Train stage it is recommended that there be no 3-point shot counted in competition. Most athletes are not capable of taking a properly formed shot at this stage.*
- 2. Though 3-point shots are counted in the Train to Train stage, coaches must be aware of the physical maturity and proper shooting form of athletes before allowing them to shoot a 3-point shot.*
- 3. All high performance programs including, but not limited to, Centres for/de Performance, 17U National Championships and Canada Games will train and compete at the 6.75m 3-point line.*
- 4. In the Learn to Win stage, it is recommended that the 3-point line for women be reviewed annually.*
- 5. Canada Basketball encourages all facilities to paint both the 6.25m and the 6.75m lines on new courts.*
- 6. Future hosting of national championships must have the 6.25m and 6.75m lines.*

Remember that these are recommendations only. It remains to be seen what different organizations will decide in that regard. There is a hint that the CIS men will adopt the new markings altogether, but not the women, who would keep the 6,25m 3-point line. The CCAA is likely to follow suit with the CIS. None of that is official yet. There will be a transition period to allow the new markings to be painted at the various venues. Where applicable, everything should be in place for the 2013-2014 season.

POINTS OF EMPHASIS

One of the more helpful features of the NCAA and NFHS (U.S. high school) rules is that they have “Points of Emphasis” every year. These “points” serve as guidelines and a focus for officials to improve the game.

This year, Canada Basketball has suggested that they would like to have three points of emphasis to which they are asking the basketball community, especially coaches and officials, to pay special attention.

The first is to do a better job getting the travelling calls right, especially penalizing players who commit violations. Canada Basketball’s experience is that Canadians playing outside of Canada appear to be penalized more than the norm, and that this reflects a difference in what is tolerated in Canada contrasted with other jurisdictions. Not having travelling called correctly early in their careers is disadvantaging Canadian players. We need to do a better job penalizing travelling violations. So what must officials do to improve calling travelling?

Learn the rule and call travelling by rule, not by what looks good or bad. Find the pivot foot every time a player holds the ball and penalize illegal pivot foot movement. Learn the distinctions between a player who is running and one who has jumped. Increase attentiveness to the foot movement of low post players – get the distance and angle needed to see foot movement as well as body contact. If the ball is in your primary area of coverage, you are responsible for calling travelling.

The second point of emphasis is to be more vigilant in protecting players from being pushed, grabbed and held off ball by illegal use of hands and forearms. Cutters must be allowed to run without being held by hands or forearms. Officials will have to exert more diligence in covering off-ball activity, especially in the paint and in the high post area.

The third point of emphasis is that Canada Basketball wants officials to reduce the time spent during the game in discussion with coaches. This is not good game management. Good game management is to get play going again quickly and to focus on players.

Canada Basketball is asking both coaches and officials to help improve the game by giving special consideration to these points, the former by adjusting their teaching and their behaviour accordingly and the latter by making appropriate calls as rules warrant and by not constantly lending an ear to coaches’ comments or grievances, especially while the game is in progress or when it is time to resume action.

Ted Montgomery
Vice-president
CABO

HAVE YOU HAD THE CHANCE TO LOOK AT THE CASEBOOK?

I realize that, for many members, the active season is over and interests other than basketball have come to the forefront. However, if you have not noticed yet, there is a new feature on the CABO website. Long awaited by a large number of you, a casebook is now available. If you haven't seen yet, here is a prompt for your curious mind to at least pay a brief visit. The following are excerpts from the casebook. The number for each question corresponds to the casebook number. For the answers, go to the CABO website (www.cabocanada.org) and look for the casebook. Good reading!

- 4-2 May a player play with an artificial lower arm limb made of hard plastic?
- 7-3 A5's number is incorrectly recorded on the scoresheet. The error is discovered (a) just before the start of the game, (b) after the game has started. Should a technical foul be assessed to Coach A?
- 10-2 Following a try by A4, the ball is bouncing above the rim when A5 commits a foul. The ball then enters the basket. Shall the goal count ?
- 12-3 At the beginning of the game, jumper A1 taps the ball directly out of bounds and Team B is awarded a throw-in. On the throw-in by B2, A2 is the first player to gain possession of the live ball on the playing surface. Shall the possession arrow now favour Team B?
- 16-6 A1 attempts a 3-point field goal. B4 leaps from the 2-point field goal area and deflects the ball while in its upward flight. The ball enters the basket. Shall A1 be credited with 3 points ?
- 17-7 With 1:24 to play in the 4th period, after catching a defensive rebound, B1 commits a travelling violation near the endline in Team B'S backcourt. Team A is granted a time-out. Shall the Team A throw-in take place at the throw-in line in Team A's frontcourt?
- 18-6 A3 commits an interference violation. Coach A now requests a time-out. Shall the time-out be granted?
- 18-15 May a player coach address a request for a time out directly to one of the floor officials?
- 19-16 A10 substitutes for A5. On the ensuing throw in, Team A commits a 5-second throw-in violation. May A5 re-enter the game at this time?
- 28-3 With 6 seconds expired of the 8 seconds to advance the ball from his backcourt, A4, from his backcourt, deliberately bounces the ball off the leg of B4 who is in Team A's frontcourt. The ball bounces back to A4 who recovers the ball in his backcourt. Does Team A have a new 8 seconds to advance the ball to the frontcourt?