

# GET TO KNOW THE RULES

## THE 26 MOST MISUNDERSTOOD RULES IN BASKETBALL



1. There is no 3-second count between the release of a shot and the control of a rebound, at which time a new count starts.
2. A player who is not a dribbler in control can keep (tap) a ball inbounds, go out of bounds, and return inbounds and play the ball.
3. **There is no such thing as “over the back”.** There must be contact resulting in advantage/disadvantage. Tall players should not be at a disadvantage for being tall!
4. **“Reaching” is not a foul.** There must be contact and the player with the ball must have been placed at a disadvantage.
5. A player may always recover his/her fumbled ball; a fumble is not a dribble, and any steps taken during recovery are not traveling, regardless of progress made and /or advantage gained. Running while fumbling is not traveling!
6. It is not possible for a player to travel while dribbling.
7. A high dribble is always legal provided the dribbler’s hand stays on top of the ball, and the ball does not come to rest in the dribbler’s hand.
8. **A “kicked” ball must be ruled intentional to be ruled a violation.**
9. **It is legal for a player to rebound/catch his/her own air ball,** provided the official deems the shot a legitimate try.
10. It is a jump ball (AP Arrow) when the ball lodges on or in the basket support. If it happens during a throw-in or free throw, violation.
11. **Striking the ball handler or shooter on the hand, while holding the ball, is not a foul** – no matter how noisy or how much it hurts! The hand is part of the ball.
12. A defender does not have to “give the dribbler a step” as long as a legal guarding position has been obtained and then it is up to the dribbler to avoid contact.
13. **The sides, top and bottom of a rectangular backboard are INBOUNDS.**
14. Jumpers may tap the ball simultaneously; may tap the ball twice and when the legally tapped ball touches the floor, the jumper may recover the ball.
15. **A 10-second backcourt count continues even when the defense deflects the ball.**
16. A “moving screen” is not a foul unless there is contact. If contact occurs, it is a blocking foul.
17. Any contact foul during a live ball must be ruled a personal foul.
18. Any unsportsmanlike contact during a dead ball must be ruled a technical foul.
19. **Basketball is not a non-contact sport. Incidental contact often occurs and contact which does not create an advantage/disadvantage situation may be ignored. R2-27.**
20. A defensive player does not have to be stationary when “taking a charge” if they have obtained a legal guarding position initially.
21. An intentional foul is always penalized with 2- free throws, except on a missed 3-point attempt, which is awarded with 3- free throws.

22. When an airborne shooter commits a player control foul, the successful goal is disallowed, regardless of whether the try was released before or after the foul.

23. **Lifting the pivot foot does not constitute traveling unless the ball handler places the pivot foot back to the floor prior to beginning a dribble, passing or shooting.**

24. Basketball interference occurs when: a player touches the ball or basket (net included) when the ball is on or within the basket; touches the ball when it is touching the cylinder having the ring as its lower base; touching the ball outside the cylinder while reaching through the basket from below.

25. Goaltending occurs when: a player touches the ball during a try or tap while on its downward flight entirely above the basket ring level and has a chance of entering the basket in flight or an opponent of the free thrower touches the ball outside the cylinder during a free throw attempt.

26. Regarding Backcourt violation or Over-and Back Violation A basketball player may not dribble the ball from the backcourt to the frontcourt and then return to the backcourt again. This is called an over-and-back violation. However, the dribbler has quite a bit of leeway when in the process of dribbling. **The dribbler is not considered to be in the front court until both feet and the basketball are in the front court.** If the dribbler has one foot in the backcourt while the ball and the other foot are in the front court, the dribbler is still considered to be in the backcourt. However, once the dribbler has both feet and the ball in the frontcourt, the ball must remain in the front court from that point forward.

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