

# IAABO

## Inside the Lines



The annual Officials vs. Cancer campaign will take place January 22-28, 2018. Everyone is encouraged to participate and wear their pink whistle during this timeframe. To make a donation and obtain a whistle, please contact your local board point of contact or contact the IAABO Office @ [kcallahan@iaabo.org](mailto:kcallahan@iaabo.org).

## Bonus Rules Q and A

**QUESTION:** We know that the knee sleeves, tights, shooting sleeves, headbands, etc... all have to be the white, black, beige or the dominant color of the uniform and the same for all team members. To make this easy, we have just told our teams here to only let their kids buy white (or black) and they will be good. We have also explained the difference between an arm sleeve and a "undershirt."

The question I keep getting is the volleyball style knee pads, do those need to meet the same color restrictions? I say yes, anything except for a knee brace must meet that color. Some think we should let the knee pads go due to safety...

**ANSWER:** The Knee Pads described are considered sleeves and need to meet the color requirements.

The pad may assist with player safety, but there is no rules support to allow their use unless they are the proper color.

## Working with Assignors

“Assignments released” or “Games Pending” can bring the same sort of excitement to grown men and women that the recently completed holiday can bring to young children. The anticipation of “did I get the BIG game?” or “how many games did I get?” is equal to the child hoping for the “special” toy and/or being excited or disappointed with the number of presents they received. And just like there is no way for a child to control what “Santa” brings him/her, there is no way for you, as an official, to control what games the assignor gives you, but there are things you can do to help. There are numerous assigning systems in the country and everyone system/assignor has its nuances. That said, paying attention to the following can certainly help your aspirations.

Number 1, be available. You’ll constantly hear the “family come first, your job comes second, and then officiating.” While that is admirable and should be the way things operate, the reality is for anyone who officiates (or coaches for that matter) is that your family tends to take a backseat to the games. Dinner schedules are rearranged, appointments moved, and activities missed because “I’ve got a game.” Simply being available will NOT mean you get the big game or lots of games, it simply means you’ve got a chance to get games and from there, the door is open. Once given games, you have to show you’re capable of officiating at that level.

Number 2, know the rules. Assignors want NO phone calls or emails from coaches and ADs. They want the games to be handled properly. They can support you if you rule a block and the video shows it might have been a player control, that’s a judgment call. They cannot support you if you misapply a rule e.g. you charge a player with a technical for breaking the boundary plane during a throw-in and because s/he had received an unsporting technical earlier in the game, you eject him/her for their 2nd technical. (The boundary plane technical is a “team” technical, not a player technical.) No excuse for that, nothing an assignor can do to help you out of that situation. Even if you’re the rookie on the crew, don’t let your crew misapply a rule...you sink and swim as a crew. It’s okay to be known as a “good rules” guy/gal.

Number 3, be honest. Depending on your situation and the assignment process in your area, you may work for one assignor or multiple assignors. If you work for one assignor, it’s pretty easy, just tell him/her exactly what you can or cannot do as it relates to the days you can work (remember #1

above). If you cannot work, CLOSE the date with your assignor using whatever method is required. Hint...your spouse's birthday never changes nor does your anniversary, the kids' birthdays, or any other significant event...IF it's important, close the date. IF you work for multiple assignors, you are going to need to prioritize them i.e. who is going to be YOUR number one assignor when it comes to having available dates (that does NOT mean that you will be their #1)? There are a lot of factors in this decision e.g. you are getting 15 games from assignor X and only 5 from assignor Y, but assignor Y has the "better" games or you think has the ability to "move" you up the ladder. What do you do? No answer for you, other than to be clear in your own head what you think is the right thing to do AND THEN be honest with your assignors.

Lastly, Number 4, be dependable. Once you accept a game, work the game. Don't accept a game and then the day before "suddenly remember" the office party or dinner date you agreed to. If you get a "better" game, go back to #3 above, what have you arranged with your assignors? Is it okay, for example, with your HS assignor to kick back a game because you got a D3 college game OR to kick back the game from assignor X to take a game from assignor Y? If it is, because you've discussed this with them, then do what you want to do. If, however, your HS assignor does not want you doing that, work the game you accepted and tell the other assignor you've got a game. S/he may ask why the date was not closed, and that's a fair question. Do NOT lie about why you can't do the game, the officiating world is small and the assignor WILL find out (remember #3) and that can kill any future you might have with that assignor.

At the end of the day the games will be played and officials will be assigned. Unless you are one of the elite officials in your organization, and there aren't a lot of those, we are all at the "mercy" of the assignor. You can't control whether an assignor "likes" you or not, but you can be available, know the rules, be honest and dependable...any official who displays those traits will certainly find that an assignor respects you for those traits and you can know you've done the things you can control, the rest is out of your hands. You'll just have to wait and see IF you get the present you were hoping for!

## **Above the Ring**

A1's throw-in is an alley-oop pass to A2 and is almost to Team A's basket. B2 goes airborne and blocks the shot into the stands...an exciting play, but is it legal? Knowledge of what is legal and what is illegal as it relates to the ball around the basket is essential in today's game. As players become bigger and more athletic there are more and more plays around the basket. It's also important to know and understand that different codes (NFHS vs NCAA) have different rules for some aspects of play around the basket. Let's look at the example provided.

Both NFHS and NCAA do NOT allow for the ball to be touched once any part of the ball is in the imaginary cylinder that has the basket ring as its base. In the play above, IF the ball was blocked outside of the cylinder it would be a legal block. If any part of the ball was IN the cylinder when B2 blocked the ball, it would be ruled defensive basket interference and Team A would be awarded two points. Being in the right position to see the location of the ball in reference to the ring AND not being surprised by the play are keys to making a correct ruling on this play.

What's the difference between basket interference and goaltending? Despite what you hear the TV commentators say, they are distinct and different. The example above cannot be goaltending for ONE simple reason, it was NOT a "try" for goal, because it came from a throw-in. Goaltending can only occur if there is a try for goal (additionally, the ball has to be on its downward flight, above the ring, have a chance to go in AND outside the cylinder-that last part of the rule was recently removed from the NFHS rule book). With basket interference it does NOT matter HOW the ball gets into the cylinder (throw-in, ball bouncing up off the ring on a missed shot, ball hits a player in the head and goes into the cylinder, etc.) once any part of the ball is inside the cylinder it cannot be touched by EITHER team.

How about if B2 while attempting to block a try for goal, misses the ball and slaps the backboard...hard...AND the ball does not go in the basket. Is that legal? Is it basket interference or goaltending? Again, knowledge of the rules is essential. Slapping of the backboard while making a legitimate attempt to play the ball is LEGAL (see NFHS Casebook 10.4.4 comment for clarification) and has nothing to do with basket interference or goaltending. IF, in the official's judgment, B2 was "showboating" or "venting frustration" a technical foul (10.4.4) could be ruled. There is no rules support for deciding that the slapping of the backboard caused the ball to not go in, and thus ruling basket interference. If your judgment is that the slapping had that effect, you apply Rule 10-4-4b that the slapping caused the ring to vibrate and issue an unsporting technical foul.

Last one...A1 going for a layup releases the ball. The ball has hit the backboard and is still on its way up, when B1 from behind swats the ball away. Is it legal? Is it basket interference? Is it goaltending? In this situation, rules knowledge and the game you are officiating determine the answer. In NFHS this would be a LEGAL play. While the ball has touched the backboard it is still on its way up and thus it is not goaltending. Because the ball is outside the cylinder it is not basket interference. NCAA has a different rule, so make sure you understand the differences and apply the rules correctly depending on the game you are working.

Plays around the basket are exciting. People love to see dunks and blocked shots, but as always, our job as officials is to stay impartial and to make rulings based on the legality of the play and not on

the excitement of the play. Knowing the rules, being in the correct position and not being surprised by the plays in and around the basket are essential to making the correct rulings!

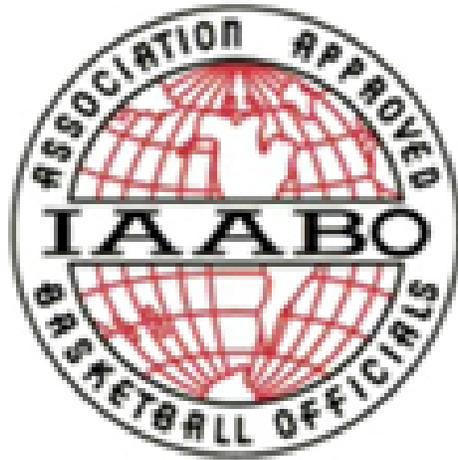
# *Congratulations*

The winner of this week's prize is Donald Acerra, Bd. 10, East Haven, CT. Donald will be receive a prize in the mail from IAABO, Inc. A special thanks to everyone who participated.



Click [here](#) to view the IAABO Play of the Week No. 8. At the end of the video, you will need to click on the link shown below to access the survey question. In addition, all IAABO Plays of the Week are archived at [www.iaabo.org](http://www.iaabo.org).

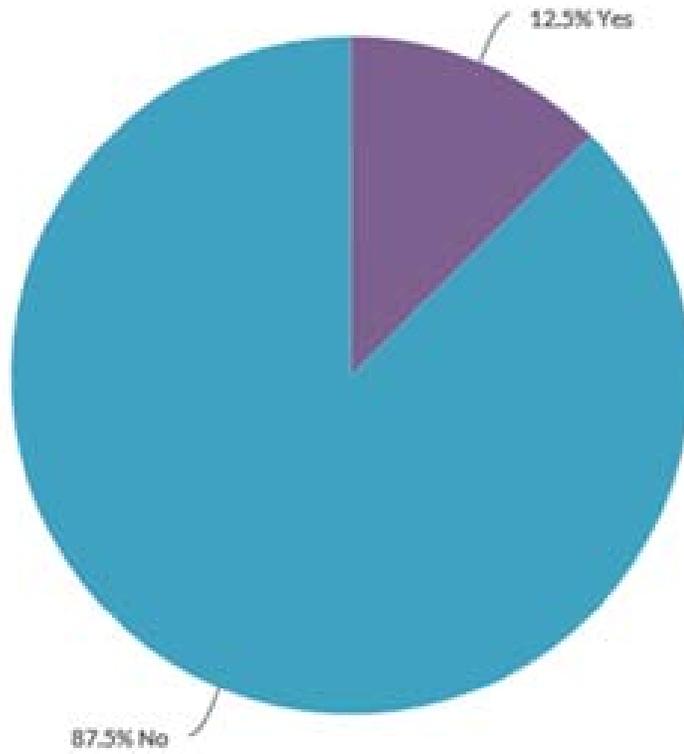
Click [here](#) to answer a survey to ensure that you have an accurate ruling. Once you submit your answer, you will receive a response with IAABO's point of view on this play



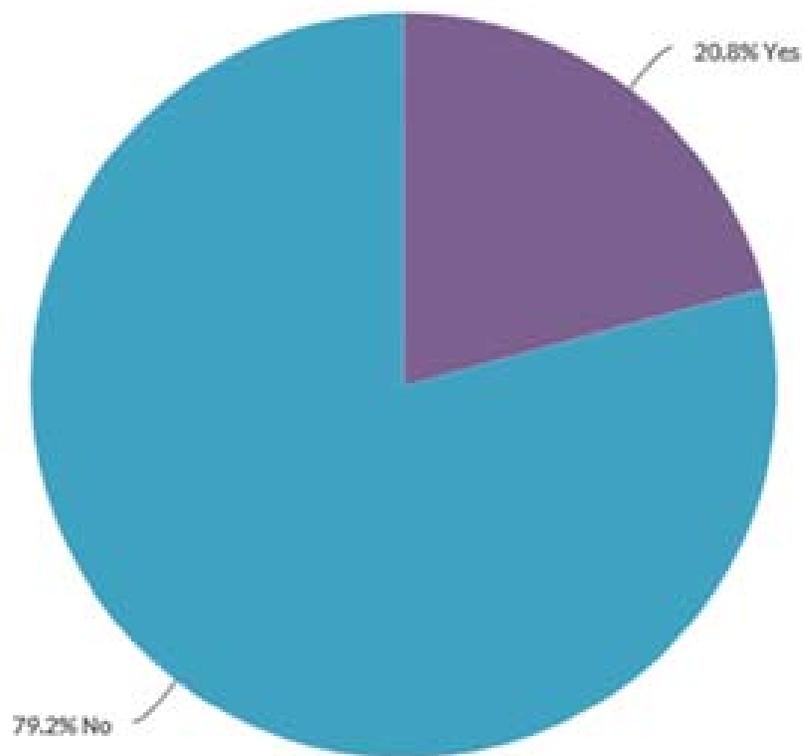
# *Play of the Week*

The results from IAABO Play of the Week No. 7 are shown below.

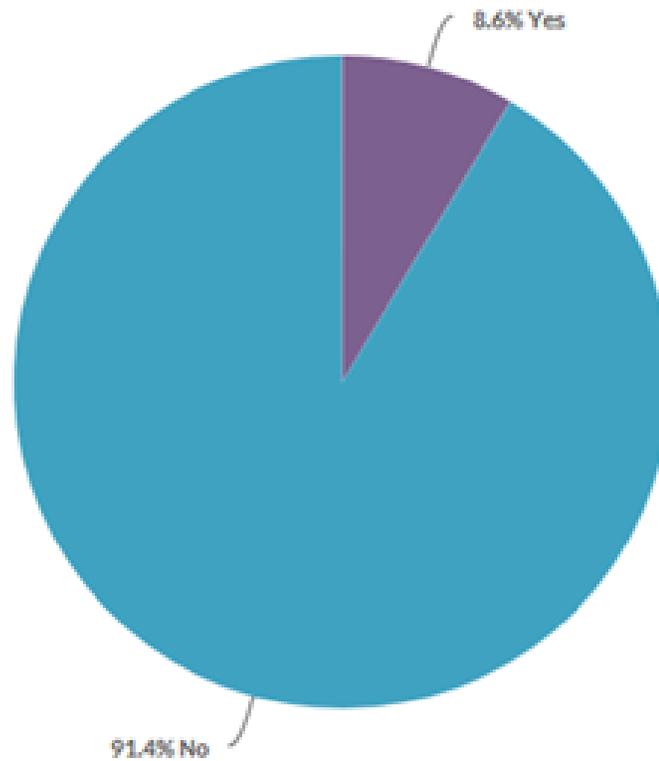
1. Did Green #33 allow White #21 one normal step backward?



2. Did the screener remain in his vertical plane with a stance approximately shoulder width apart while setting the screen?



3. Overall, was the screen by Green #33 legal?



[WWW.IAABO-GEAR.COM](http://WWW.IAABO-GEAR.COM)



## Game Tracker Journal

You have likely heard the saying, *“a goal without a plan is just a wish,”* and this age-old adage rings so true for all people pursuing all types of endeavors.



And for basketball officials embarking on the 2017-2018 season absent a basic strategy on how to achieve a stated desire -- a better schedule; advancement to the next level -- you are in a rudderless boat on an open sea hoping the winds of fate blow you to your destination.

Seeking officiating success described in this manner seems laughable, but yet many officials take this approach with their beloved avocation.

But Ref, don't panic now...Help is on the way in the form of the new, and first of its kind, **GameTracker Journal**.

This latest publication from long time IAABO members Billy Martin, Tim Malloy and Al Battista, the creators of [Ref60.com](http://Ref60.com), is an innovative tool that provides a template for every basketball official, at every level, to create your own realistic roadmap helping to guide you to your desired destination - one game at a time.

For more information on this **GameTracker Journal** tool visit [www.Ref60.com/gametracker](http://www.Ref60.com/gametracker).

## Special Deals for IAABO Basketball Officials

### Briggs and Riley Luggage

**Briggs and Riley Luggage** - Officials will receive a 60% discount on any product. Officials must use the form which can be obtained by clicking [here](#) - There is a lifetime guaranteed on the luggage.

# ASICS

**Asics** - IAABO Officials (U.S. ONLY) will receive a 40% discount on all Asics products - **EXCLUDING CLEARANCE**. Log into [www.asics.com](http://www.asics.com) and place an order. (It is recommended that you create an account if you plan to order more than once. Upon checkout, they should enter the following promotion code- DayofgamE



**ISlides** – Customize your own IAABO ISlides. Click [here](#) to get started.

## BRAZYN FOAM ROLLER

The advertisement features a blue and orange color scheme. On the left, a blue vertical banner contains the Brazyn logo (a stylized figure with arms raised) and the text "15% OFF" in large white letters, followed by "USE CODE: BRZNBB15" in orange. Below this, it says "SHOP NOW BRAZYN.COM". On the right, a person's hands are shown holding a blue, textured foam roller. The roller is shown in its expanded state and then collapsed into a small, cylindrical shape. The text "THE MORPH" is written in large white letters on an orange background, with "The Go Anywhere Collapsible Foam Roller" in smaller white text below it.

**“The Morph”** is a collapsible foam roller that can be packed in your roller bag and taken on the road with you. No more will you have to ask the training room for a foam roller.

Move Better – Feel Better – Move More – Experience More

Expands instantly

Collapses instantly

Light weight (1.5 lbs)

Strong (up to 350 lbs)

Targeted – releases knots and flushes toxins

True usability – standard size – easy to use

Sustainably made – eco-friendly materials

**Use the code BRZNBB15 at check out and get 15% off.**

[www.brazyn.com](http://www.brazyn.com)



**Smitty Officials' Apparel** – Smitty is the exclusive vendor for IAABO Logoed products. Click [here](#) to view a listing of preferred retailers.

Click [here](#) to unsubscribe