



THE 23 MOST MISUNDERSTOOD RULES IN HIGH-SCHOOL 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 (i.e. a tap) a ball in bounds, go out of bounds, return in bounds and play the ball.
3. There is no such thing as “over the back”. There must be contact resulting in advantage/disadvantage. Do not put a tall player at a disadvantage merely 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 can always recover her fumbled ball. A fumble is NOT a dribble and any steps taken during recovery is 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 dribblers hand stays on top of the ball, and the ball does not come to a rest in the dribblers hand.
8. A “kicked” ball must be intentional.
9. It is perfectly legal for a player to rebound her own air-ball, provided the official deems the shot a legitimate try for a goal.
10. It is a jump ball (alternating possession) when the ball lodges on/in the basket support except during the throw in when this is a violation.
11. Striking the ball handler/dribbler on her hand, while holding the ball is not a foul, no matter how noisy or how much it hurts.
12. A defender does not have to “give the dribbler a step”. As long as legal guarding position has been established, it is up to the dribbler to avoid contact.
13. The sides, top and bottom of a rectangular backboard are in-bounds.
14. Jumpers may tap the ball simultaneously; may tap the ball twice; and when a legally tapped ball touches the floor, a player other than the jumpers, or a backboard, the jump ball has ended and either jumper may recover it.
15. A moving screen isn’t a foul unless there is contact or the movement prevents a legal guarding position form being established.

16. Any contact foul during a live ball is a personal foul, not a technical
17. Basketball is NOT a non-contact sport. Incidental contact does occur, and contact, which does not create and advantage/disadvantage, may be ignored.
18. Any unsportsmanlike conduct during a dead ball is a technical foul.
19. A defensive player does not have to be stationary to take a charge. She must simply establish a legal guarding position, then she can move laterally with the ball or back, but never into the offense.
20. An intentional foul is always penalized with 2 free throws, except on a missed 3-point try, which is awarded 3-free throws and possession out of bounds to the offended team at the spot nearest the foul.
21. When an airborne shooter commits an player control foul, her successful try for a goal can not be allowed, regardless of whether the try was released before or after the foul.
22. Lifting the pivot foot does not constitute a travel unless the ball handler puts the pivot foot back down on the floor prior to beginning a dribble, passing the ball or shooting the ball.
23. Basket 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; touches the ball while outside the cylinder while reaching thru the basket from below. Goal tending occurs when: a player touches the ball during a try or tap while it is on it's downward flight, wntirely above the basket ring level and has the possibility of entering the basket.