



National Basketball Association

TO: TEAM OWNERS, GENERAL MANAGERS, COACHES AND REFEREES
FROM: MIKE BANTOM
DATE: NOVEMBER 12, 2014
RE: CONTINUATION ON PLAYS TO THE BASKET AND JUMPING INTO A DEFENDER WHILE SHOOTING

Because of some recent inquiries, we are covering two topics in this memo: continuation and jumping into a defender while shooting.

Continuation

We continue to get questions concerning continuation on plays to the basket and in particular, the point when the ball is “gathered.”

A shooting foul is called when contact is made to an offensive player who has started his shooting motion. The act of shooting starts when the ball is “gathered” and continues until the shooting motion ceases and the player returns to a normal floor position. It is not essential that the ball leave the shooter’s hand for it to be a shooting foul (e.g., his arm(s) might be held so that he cannot actually make an attempt.) The “gather” is further defined as the point between where the player’s dribbling has stopped such that he has gained enough control to redirect the ball for a pass or shot. It is not a clear point, but one that involves split-second judgment by referees.

- On a drive to the basket or on a running shot, the shooting motion starts when the offensive player “gathers” the ball, that is, he has gained enough control to either pass or shoot.

These are some examples of continuation on either drives to the basket or on running jump shots.

http://dmmx2.nba.com/vidеоurlredirect?&project=bballops/bballops_Continuation_Drive_1_v2

http://dmmx2.nba.com/vidеоurlredirect?&project=bballops/bballops_Continuation_Drive_2_v2

http://dmmx2.nba.com/vidеоurlredirect?&project=bballops/bballops_Continuation_Drive_3

http://dmmx2.nba.com/vidеоurlredirect?&project=bballops/bballops_Continuation_Drive_4

These are some examples of continuation on ‘curl’ plays into the lane.

http://dmmx2.nba.com/vidеоurlredirect?&project=bballops/bballops_Continuation_Curl_1

http://dmmx2.nba.com/vidеоurlredirect?&project=bballops/bballops_Continuation_Curl_2

This is an example that would not be ruled continuation on a drive to the basket.

http://dmmx2.nba.com/video/redirect?&project=bballops/bballops_No_Continuation_Drive_1

- On a jump shot, the shooting motion starts when the player starts his upward motion with the ball and continues through his release.

This is an example that would not be ruled continuation on a jump shot.

http://dmmx2.nba.com/video/redirect?&project=bballops/bballops_No_Continuation_Jumper_1

Jumping into Defender while Shooting

Another area in which we've received some questions concerns contact by offensive players into airborne defenders.

If an offensive player with the ball can draw his defender into the air towards him (for example, on a pump fake), and he creates contact with the defender during his shooting motion, it is a shooting foul. However, if the defender is vertical (jumping straight up and down) or going to completely miss the offensive player (e.g., jumping to his side), and the offensive player seeks out contact with the airborne defender, it is an offensive foul if the contact is more than marginal (that is, minimal contact will not be called).

This is an example of a defensive foul on field goal attempt.

http://dmmx2.nba.com/video/redirect?&project=bballops/bballops_Contact_with_shooter_defensive_foul_1

This is an example of an offensive foul on a field goal attempt.

http://dmmx2.nba.com/video/redirect?&project=bballops/bballops_Contact_with_shooter_offensive_foul_1