



National Basketball Association

TO: TEAM OWNERS, GENERAL MANAGERS, COACHES AND OFFICIALS
FROM: MIKE BANTOM
DATE: FEBRUARY 4, 2015
**RE: DEFENSIVE GOALTENDING, OFFENSIVE BASKET INTERFERENCE
AND EXITING THE HUDDLE**

DEFENSIVE GOALTENDING AND OFFENSIVE BASKET INTERFERENCE

When a defender illegally blocks a shot attempt from going in, it is called goaltending and the shot attempt counts as a basket whether or not it went in. When an offensive player illegally assists a shot attempt into the basket, it is called basket interference and the basket is disallowed.

There are several types of violations involving players touching the ball on a shot attempt. When a player shoots the ball, no player (offense or defense) may touch the ball:

1. After it reaches its apex (its highest point) and is on a downward flight toward the basket with a reasonable chance to go in. (Exception: A defensive player may block a slam dunk attempt when it is on its way down toward the basket since the ball is not considered “in flight” until it is released);
2. After it hits the backboard and is headed toward the basket, whether going up or down, with a reasonable chance to go in;
3. When it is in contact with the backboard, i.e., a player may not “pin” the ball (a batted ball against the backboard is not a pinned ball);
4. Once it has touched the rim and is either using the rim as its base or has bounced off the rim and is in the imaginary cylinder above the rim. (Note: A ball that is rolling off the rim may be touched, even if it is still in contact with the rim because it has no chance to go in); and
5. Generally, touch or vibrate the rim, backboard, or net in a way that affects a shot attempt.

Video Examples:

Here are examples of plays that are goaltending or basket interference because the ball has already reached its apex and is on a downward flight to the basket:

http://dmmx2.nba.com/video/redirect?&project=/bballops/bballops_Goaltending_02_v2

http://dmmx2.nba.com/video/redirect?&project=/bballops/bballops_Goaltending_41_Seq

http://dmmx2.nba.com/video/redirect?&project=/bballops/bballops_Goaltending_42_Seq

http://dmmx2.nba.com/video/redirect?&project=/bballops/bballops_Offensive_Basket_Interference_17

Here are examples of plays that are not goaltending or basket interference because the ball has not reached its apex:

http://dmmx2.nba.com/video/redirect?&project=/bballops/bballops_Legal_Block_20

http://dmmx2.nba.com/video/redirect?&project=/bballops/bballops_Legal_Block_21

http://dmmx2.nba.com/video/redirect?&project=/bballops/bballops_Legal_Block_22

Here are examples of plays that are goaltending or basket interference because the ball hit the backboard with a reasonable chance to go in:

http://dmmx2.nba.com/video/redirect?&project=/bballops/bballops_Goaltending_28

http://dmmx2.nba.com/video/redirect?&project=/bballops/bballops_Goaltending_08

http://dmmx2.nba.com/video/redirect?&project=/bballops/bballops_Goaltending_09

http://dmmx2.nba.com/video/redirect?&project=/bballops/bballops_Goaltending_10

Here is an example of a play that is goaltending or basket interference because the ball was pinned against the backboard:

http://dmmx2.nba.com/video/redirect?&project=/bballops/bballops_Goaltending_12

Here are examples of plays that are goaltending or basket interference because the ball is still in the imaginary cylinder above the rim:

http://dmmx2.nba.com/video/redirect?&project=/bballops/bballops_Offensive_Basket_Interference_30

http://dmmx2.nba.com/video/redirect?&project=/bballops/bballops_Offensive_Basket_Interference_15

http://dmmx2.nba.com/video/redirect?&project=/bballops/bballops_Goaltending_31

http://dmmx2.nba.com/video/redirect?&project=/bballops/bballops_Goaltending_07

http://dmmx2.nba.com/video/redirect?&project=/bballops/bballops_Offensive_Basket_interference_18

Here is an example of a play that is not goaltending or basket interference because the ball is not in the imaginary cylinder above the rim:

http://dmmx2.nba.com/video/redirect?&project=/bballops/bballops_Legal_Play_04

Here are examples of plays that are goaltending or basket interference because the ball is positioned on the rim and still has a chance to go in:

http://dmmx2.nba.com/video/redirect?&project=/bballops/bballops_Offensive_Basket_Interference_34

http://dmmx2.nba.com/video/redirect?&project=/bballops/bballops_Offensive_Basket_Interference_16

Here is an example of a play that is not goaltending or basket interference because the ball is rolling off the rim and has no chance to go in:

http://dmmx2.nba.com/video/redirect?&project=/bballops/bballops_Legal_Play_27

Here are examples of plays that are goaltending or basket interference because the player touched the rim, net or backboard in a way that affected the shot attempt:

http://dmmx2.nba.com/video/redirect?&project=/bballops/bballops_Offensive_Basket_Interference_29

http://dmmx2.nba.com/video/redirect?&project=/bballops/bballops_Offensive_Basket_Interference_14

Here is an example of a play that is not goaltending or basket interference because although the player touched the rim, net or backboard, it had no effect on the shot attempt:

http://dmmx2.nba.com/video/redirect?&project=/bballops/bballops_Legal_Play_24

Here is an example of a play that is goaltending or basket interference because the player reached up through the rim and made contact with the field goal attempt:

http://dmmx2.nba.com/video/redirect?&project=/bballops/bballops_Goaltending_33

EXITING THE HUDDLE

Please be reminded that under current NBA rules, teams must exit the huddle and be prepared to play in a timely manner at the conclusion of time-outs and period breaks. During all time-outs and period breaks, an initial horn will sound alerting teams that they have 15 seconds before returning to the court, and players must collectively enter or return to the game upon the sounding of the second horn. The coaching staff must exit the playing floor immediately upon the sounding of the second horn.