



2026 -2027 Points of Emphasis

1. Contact Criteria & Refereeing the Defence

“Referee the defence. Call illegal contact that creates a disadvantage.”

- Apply Article 33 using IOT principles ([Click here for IOT Manual](#))
- Referee the defence first in all on-ball situations
- Identify:
 - Point of contact
 - Consequence of contact
- Emphasize:
 - Perimeter/dribbler contact
 - Rebounding (holding, hooking, displacement)
 - Off-ball / cutters
- Reinforce using IOTs:
 - Legal Guarding Position
 - Verticality
 - Cylinder principle
 - RSBQ (Rhythm, Speed, Balance, Quickness)
- Eliminate:
 - Inconsistent contact criteria
 - Illegal physicality to dictate play



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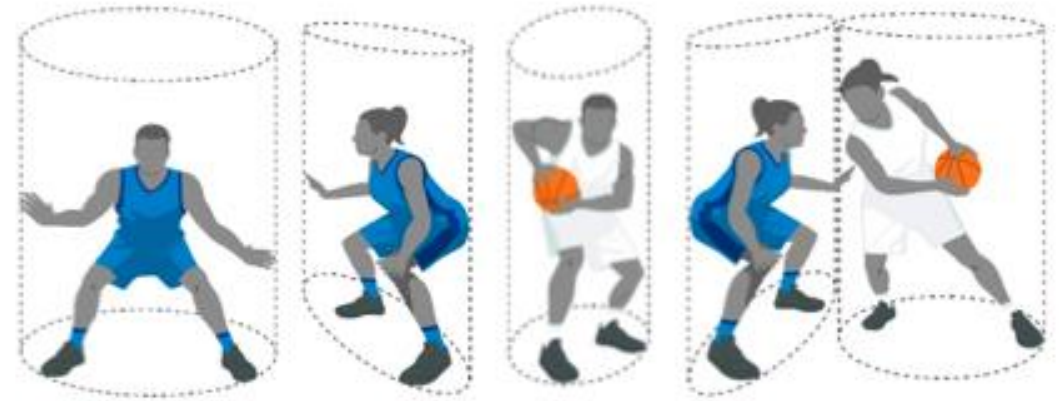


Diagram 6

Cylinder principle

Outcome: Consistent national contact standard and improved game balance



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2. Process the Play (Patient Whistle = Quality Decisions)

“See the whole play. Process. Then decide.”

- Apply FIBA decision model: Start → Develop → Finish → Decision
- Eliminate:
 - Quick/emotional whistles
 - Calling the result instead of the play
- Reinforce IOT:
 - Stay with the play until the end
 - Referee the defence through the entire action
- Improve:
 - Whistle timing (PW vs QW vs IW vs CW) [Click here for 'Improve your timing of the whistle'](#)
 - Decision-making based on facts, not reactions
- Support:
 - Cadence whistle when assisting
 - Eliminate unnecessary double whistles



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Outcome: Higher-quality decisions and improved consistency



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3. Positioning, Open Angle & Primary Coverage

“Get the open angle. Officiate the play.”

- Apply core IOT positioning principles: ([Click here for IOT Manual](#))
 - Open angle (45°)
 - Proper distance (3–6m)
 - Be stationary when making decisions
- Maintain:
 - Wide field of vision
- Reinforce:
 - Edge of the play positioning
 - Primary coverage discipline
- Eliminate:
 - Straight-lined positions
 - Calling while moving
 - Guessing from poor angles
- Support:
 - Strong primary coverage on obvious plays
 - Disciplined secondary help only when required



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Outcome: Improved accuracy and fewer missed obvious calls

2PO Basic Court Coverage

[Click here for 2PO Manual](#)



3PO Basic Court Coverage

[Click here for Basic 3PO Manual](#)

[Click here for Advanced 3PO Manual](#)





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4. Protocols, Communication & Professional Presence

“Officiate with discipline. Apply protocols consistently. Communicate with clarity.”

[Click here for ‘Protocols Checklist for Referees’](#)

A. Standard Protocol Execution

- Decision-Making Protocols
 - 50/50 principles applied consistently
 - Use protocols to reduce subjectivity
- Throw-in Administration
 - Designate spot
 - Maintain distance
 - Visual count
 - Use warning whistle when required
- Time & Game Control
 - Shot clock awareness
 - EOQ timing protocols
 - Manage clock malfunctions properly

B. Critical Game Situations (Must Get Right)

- Block / Charge
 - Determine if LGP exists or not
 - Judge level of contact (call / no-call)
 - Apply no-charge semi-circle
 - When 50/50 → default to block
- End of Quarter / Game (EOQ / EOG)
 - Blow the whistle to kill doubt
 - Apply no basket on 50/50 situations (SCV / EOQ)
- Act of Shooting (AOS)
 - Clearly identify FAOS vs FNAOS
 - Apply 50/50 → FAOS
- Out-of-Bounds (OOB)
 - Call colour first
 - Apply:
 - OOBH (Help)
 - OOB I (Intervention – 100% sure)

C. Communication & Professional Mechanics (IOT Aligned)

- Verbal support on every whistle
- Signals must be:
 - Strong
 - Sharp
 - Visible
 - Decisive
- Stop clock signal on every whistle
- Reporting:
 - Clear rhythm

(start → stop → ‘one-two’/start → stop → ‘one-two’/start → stop → ‘one-two’)
- Presence:
 - Calm, confident, professional
 - “I am in charge” approach

Outcome:

- Consistent application of rules in high-pressure moments
- Reduced controversy in critical plays
- Strong national standard aligned with FIBA