



COMMENT ON THE 2014-15 RULES CHANGES

TEAM MEMBER'S EQUIPMENT, APPAREL (3-5-3 NEW): The 2013-14 rule implementation regarding arm and leg sleeves was difficult to monitor and enforce by contest officials and coaches. Anything worn on the arm and/or leg is considered to be a sleeve, except a knee brace, and shall meet the color restrictions. Tights that extend below the knee are now legal and must meet the color restrictions by rule. Medical verification of arm and leg compression sleeves has been eliminated. All sleeves/tights shall be the same solid color per individual player. The sleeves/tights shall be black, white, beige or the predominant color of the uniform. The same color arm and leg sleeves/tights shall be worn by all teammates. For example, the guidelines specify that if white arm sleeves are worn, then the leg sleeves/tights must also be white.

FOUL (4-19-3d): This change expands the definition of an intentional foul to include excessive contact committed while the ball is live or until an airborne shooter returns to the floor. This recognizes an intentional foul call should be made against any player, not only on the person playing the ball.

FREE THROW PROVISIONS (9-1-3g New): This rules change affects players in marked lane spaces. The new rule allows players in marked lane spaces to enter the lane when the ball is released by the free thrower. The restrictions for the free thrower and players not in marked lane spaces remain in effect until the free throw touches the ring or backboard, or until the free throw ends. This rules change will better allow officials to monitor violations and fouls that may occur on a free throw attempt.

CONTACT (10-6-12 New): Rather than continuing to make illegal contact a point of emphasis, a new criteria for foul enforcement was created. The intent is to clean up perimeter play and restore freedom of movement to the game. The new rule clearly explains specific contact that should be called a foul. This criteria should provide for more understanding of illegal contact for coaches and players, and improved enforcement by officials.