



2024-25 Flopping Information and Situations

Offensive Team A “Fakes Being Fouled” (Flops)

1. When the Offensive Team A has Team Control, but is not in the act of shooting (A “head bob” by an offensive player would be an example of this).
 - a. 1st Infraction is a Warning issued to team A with Team A (POI) retaining possession of the ball.
 - b. All additional infractions result in a Team A Technical foul, 2 free throws and possession for Team B.

In both a and b, the official shall signal to stop the clock, then use Signal 15 (Rules Book, pg.80).

Scenario... A1, is dribbling the ball and fakes being fouled by a defender. This is described in the rules as using a “head bob” to simulate illegal contact. In this play, the team that is faking being fouled is on offense and there is player control of the ball. (4-49-1b)

Adjudication: When does the official blow the whistle and signal for both the first and subsequent infractions?

As soon as the official identifies behavior that, in his/her opinion, rises to the level of faking being fouled the whistle should be blown, the official shall signal to stop the clock and the faking signal (New #15, Rules Book pg. 80) should be displayed.

First Infraction – Team A has control of the ball, so the official will report the warning to the table, notify the head coach, and then go to the point of interruption (POI). If A1 is in Team A’s frontcourt, Team A will have a throw-in at one of the four designated spots closest to where the faking being fouled occurred. If A1 is in Team A’s backcourt, the throw-in will be from the spot out of bounds closest to where the faking being fouled occurred. (4-36-2a)

Subsequent Infractions – A team technical foul is charged to Team A. Team B will shoot two free throws and get the ball for a division line throw-in opposite the scorer’s table. (10-2-1h, 10-2 PENALTY)

2. When Team A is in the Act of Shooting prior to releasing the ball
 - a. A basket cannot be scored and free throws cannot be awarded.
 - b. 1st Infraction – A whistle is blown, the official signals for the clock to be stopped and uses new Signal 15 (Rules Book, pg. 80) and the ball becomes dead immediately. A warning is issued to Team A (shooting team) and the ball is put back in play at the point of interruption (POI), which is possession to Team A.
 - c. All additional infractions result in a Team A Technical foul, 2 free throws and possession for Team B.

3. When the Team A has released the ball

- a. 1st Infraction (**Successful Try**): The official shall signal to stop the clock when the FBF occurs, then use Signal 15. The basket will count, a warning issued to Team A and the ball is put back in play at the Point of Interruption, which would be Team B inbounding the ball on the endline with the right to run the endline.
- b. All additional infractions, the basket will count, and a Team A Technical, 2 free throws and possession for Team B.
- c. First infraction (**Unsuccessful Try**): There is NO team control, and since the try was unsuccessful the ball became dead when the try ended. There is NO rebounding on this play. The official shall blow the whistle and signal to stop the clock when the FBF occurs, then use Signal 15 (Rules Book, pg. 80). The official will report the warning to the table, notify the head coach and the ball will be awarded based on the possession arrow. If Team A retains control in its frontcourt, the throw-in will be from one of the four designated spots nearest to where the faking being fouled occurred. If Team B gains control in its backcourt, the throw-in will be from the spot out of bounds closest to where the faking being fouled occurred. (6-4-3, 6-4-4g)
- d. All additional infractions result in a Team A Technical foul, 2 free throws, and possession for Team B.

In 2 and 3 above, when a whistle is blown, the official shall signal to stop the clock then use Signal 15 (Rules Book, pg. 80).

Scenario: A1, after releasing a jump shot, goes to the floor without contact or after incidental contact. This is described in the rules as overtly embellishing the impact of incidental contact on an attempted try for goal. In this play, the team that is faking being fouled is again on offense; however, there is NO team control since the ball was released on a try for goal. (4-49-1a)

Adjudication: When does the official blow the whistle and signal for both the first and subsequent infractions?

1. As soon as the official identifies behavior that, in his/her opinion, rises to the level of faking being fouled, the official shall blow the whistle, signal for the clock to be stopped and the faking signal (New #15, Rules Book pg. 80) should be displayed.
2. First Infraction (**Successful Try**) – There is NO team control, so when the try is successful, the the basket will count, the official will report the warning to the table, notify the head coach and Team B will be awarded the ball on the endline. Team B may move along the endline as after any successful try. (7-5-7)
3. First Infraction (**Unsuccessful Try**) – There is NO team control, and since the try was unsuccessful the ball became dead when the try ended. There is NO rebounding on this play. The official will report the warning to the table, notify the head coach and the ball will be awarded based on the possession arrow. If Team A retains control in its frontcourt, the throw-in will be from one of the four designated spots nearest to where the faking being fouled occurred. If Team B gains control in its backcourt, the throw-in will be from the spot out of bounds closest to where the faking being fouled occurred. (6-4-3, 6-4-4g)

Subsequent Infraction – Since the shot was released prior to the whistle, the basket counts if the shot is successful. A team technical foul is charged to Team A. Team B will shoot two free throws and get the ball for a division line throw-in opposite the scorer's table. (10-2-1h, 10-2 PENALTY)

Scenario Team A has the ball during a timeout. Down 3 late. A1 is instructed to FBF (Fake Being Fouled) on the shot attempt because Team A has not been warned and Team A has the possession arrow. A1 misses the shot, but now gets a throw-in with another chance to score.

The spirit and intent of the rule is to take "deceitful acts" out of the game. We should then not encourage or support "other" deceitful acts. This play is clearly an attempt to circumvent the rule, in which case, the official should ignore the flop.

Defensive Team B “Fakes Being Fouled” (Flops)

1. In all instances, the official shall immediately display the flopping signal (New #15, pg. 80), but will withhold the whistle until the offense scores a basket, the defense secures possession or the ball becomes dead. When a whistle is blown, the official shall signal to stop the clock, then use Signal 15 (Rules Book, pg. 80).
 - a. 1st Infraction when Team A scores, basket counts, and a warning is issued to Team B with the ball put back in play at the Point of Interruption (POI). This would result in Team B the inbounding the ball on the endline with the right to run the endline.
 - b. All additional infractions, basket counts and a Team B Technical, 2 free throws and possession for Team A.
 - c. 1st Infraction when Team B gains possession or the ball becomes dead, warning issued to Team B and the ball put back in play at the Point of Interruption (POI). POI would be determined based on ball location at the time the whistle was blown.
 - d. All additional infractions, a Team B Technical foul, 2 free throws and possession for Team A.

Scenario... B1, attempting to “draw a charge” goes to the floor with no contact or incidental contact. This is described in the rules as overtly embellishing the impact of incidental contact on block/charge plays. In this play, the team faking being fouled is on defense and thus the the offended team (Team A) has team control. (4-49-1a)

Adjudication: When does the official blow the whistle and signal for both the first and subsequent infractions?

The official should signal faking being fouled (New #15, Rules Book, pg. 80) as soon as the official identifies behavior that, in his/her opinion, rises to the level of faking being fouled. The official should withhold the whistle so as not to penalize the offensive team for actions of the defense. The official is to withhold the whistle until the offense scores a basket, the defense secures possession or the ball becomes dead. When the whistle is blown, the official shall signal to stop the clock, then use Signal 15 (Rules Book, pg. 80).

On ALL Fakes Being Fouled (FBF) Rulings:

On the DEFENSE, officials wait until the play “completes,” i.e., the offense scores or the defense gains control of the ball.

If we have "one of the 4 fouling situations" below during that period of time, penalize those first, and the FTs for the FBF technical ALWAYS GOES LAST, so that the team that was offended shoots its 2 FTs and then gets the ball at the division line opposite the scorers' table, as with all technical fouls.

- 1) Team A rebounds and is fouled in the act of shooting.
- 2) Team A rebounds & commits a player-control foul.
- 3) Team A, while rebounding fouls Team B...IF Team B is in the bonus, we go to the other end and shoot.

- 4) Team A, while rebounding, is fouled by Team B ...If Team A is in the bonus, that player shoots We then shoot the FTs for the team technical for flopping...it always goes LAST.

Additional FBF Scenarios (Answers in red are from the National Federation)

1. Should officials signal a stoppage of the clock (open hand) on a whistle that goes with any FBF situation? Additionally, if the official knows that the FBF will be a team technical foul, would the official go up with a fist before the signal?

A: The official should stop the clock prior to reporting the FBF signal to the table.

2. The defensive team flops with 10 seconds left in the half. Official signals flop but lets the play continue. They hold for a last-second shot and shoot before the buzzer. After the buzzer, the official reports a flop on the defensive team. It's their 2nd one. Do they shoot the FTs as part of the 2nd quarter or to start the 3rd quarter?

A: Because the "horn" goes off before a whistle for the faking being fouled. "By rule" the period/quarter ends when the "horn" goes off unless there is a try in flight and a foul is committed. (Rule 5-6-2 and the Exceptions) and then the period ends when all the associated activity ends (that means when the FTs that would be shot because of the foul are done...then the period is over). Since there was NOT a foul during the try, by rule the period ended when the horn went off...so the ensuing "technical foul" for the defense flopping would be shot to START the next period. The offensive team would shoot the two FTs and get the ball at the division line opposite the scorers' table to start the next period (because of the technical) and the AP arrow would NOT be used.

3. The offense secures a rebound after a defensive FBF. Offense passes the ball to the top of the key and "holds for one." The clock runs out. The FBF is a Technical Foul. Should we stop the game at an "opportune time" to assess the warning or Technical Foul so that both the free throws and the resulting throw-in occur in that quarter?

A: Once the offense secures the rebound and **they are not attacking the basket** the official should blow the whistle and assess the technical foul to the defensive team, 2 technical foul free throws should be shot, and the offensive team should be awarded the ball at the division line opposite the scorer's table.

4. The offense is attacking the basket. A defensive FBF occurs and then the horn sounds to end the quarter.

A: Because the "horn" goes off before a whistle for the faking being fouled, "by rule" the period/quarter ends when the "horn" goes off unless there is a try in flight and a foul is committed. (Rule 5-6-2 and the Exceptions) and then the period ends when all the associated activity ends (that means when the FTs that would be shot because of the foul are done...then the period is over). Since there was NOT a foul during a try, by rule the period ended when the horn went off...so the ensuing "technical foul" for the defense flopping would be shot to START the next period. The offensive team would shoot the two FTs and get the ball at the division line opposite the scorers' table to start the next period (b/c of the technical) and the AP arrow would NOT be used.

5. The defense commits an FBF on a throw-in or as the offense is advancing the ball up the floor. Do we stop the game at an "opportune time" or do we wait until the defense secures team control/ball becomes dead?

A: The spirit and intent of the rule is to not penalize the offensive team when the defensive team fakes being fouled. With the ball in the back court, there is not an immediate scoring opportunity present and thus it is appropriate to stop play at that point to warn/penalize Team A.

6. What do you do if you have a FBF in the fourth period and time has expired without a foul on a shot attempt and it is the second infraction by Team B?

A: The FBF is part of the 4th quarter and you only shoot the FTs if the result of the FTs could change the outcome of the game.

7. Regarding Overtime (Related to scenario 6):

A: The free throws are shot as part of the 4th quarter (if necessary) & will decide if the game goes into overtime. The horn, in this case, replaces the whistle...the FBF signal happened AND the signal was given, so it is applied once the whistle blows OR "the ball becomes dead."

8. An offensive FBF in a shot clock game results in the shot clock staying where it is if the offense retains possession. A defensive FBF in a shot clock game results in the inbound team having a full :35 on the shot clock.