

## **ARTICLE 7**

### **WHEN IN DOUBT, CALL A BLOCK**

A defender has the right to turn within his cylinder to avoid impending contact. If the defender has satisfied all the necessary conditions pertaining to a legal guarding position and verticality, then he should not be penalized for turning.

### **GUIDELINES FOR REFEREES**

The majority of Block / Charge calls occur either in transition play or when the weak side help switches to defend a one on one play. Referees must:

- Anticipate the play (NOT the call).
- Be aware of where the help defense comes from.
- See the whole play from start to finish.
- Be alert 'OFF' the ball.
- Referee the DEFENSE.
- See the actual point of contact.

### **CHARGE UNDER THE BASKET**

There is still some confusion as to the interpretation of a charge call upon a defensive player UNDER the basket.

If a defensive player is UNDER the basket:

- If the offensive player scores and charges into the defender it is a 'no-call'
- If the offensive player misses the shot and charges into the defender it is an offensive foul for pushing.
- If the offensive player passes off and charges into the defender it is an offensive charging foul.

NB: If the offensive player MISSES THE SHOT OR PASSES OFF, any subsequent collision denies the defender from rebounding or playing defense. A player has the right to any spot on the floor not occupied by another player.

### **IF A DEFENSIVE PLAYER IS CLEARLY IN FRONT OF THE BASKET**

- ALL the above plays would be penalized as offensive team fouls.

There is a clear need to balance the rights of the defense and the offense in these situations. Flopping by defenders also poses a problem here for referees but a no-call or even a block will deter this kind of behavior.

Also pay attention to the post player who HOOKS his way past his defensive marker in a post spin move to the basket using his free arm to gain an advantage.

Similarly, a player making a lay-up shot PUSHES away the vertical arms of a jumping defender by using his free arm to initiate contact and hopefully draw a foul against the defender.

