



Interpretations, Clarifications and Comments – Approved Ruling 202

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This is intended to clarify the Rulings contained in A.R. 202 of the 2018-19 Men's Basketball Case Book and to review the relevant rules associated with those rulings.

First, Rule 9-5.5 states, "After coming to a stop and establishing the pivot foot:

- a. The pivot foot may be lifted, but not returned to the playing court, before the ball is released on a pass or try for goal;
- b. The pivot foot shall not be lifted before the ball is released to start a dribble."

Second, Rule 9-7 states that "It is a violation when a player dribbles a second time after the player's first dribble has ended, unless the player subsequently loses control because of:

- a. A try for goal.
- b. A bat by an opponent.
- c. A pass or fumble that has then touched or been touched by another player."

Now, let's turn to A.R. 202 to see how these rules are applied. A.R. 202 states in part:

A.R. 202.1 "After receiving a pass; A1 jumps into the air on a try for goal, is contested by B1 and since A1 could not get his try for goal off, he voluntarily throws the ball to the playing court. A1 is first to touch the ball."

RULING - A1 has committed a traveling violation because he did not release the ball before picking up his pivot foot. Rule 9-5 and 9-5.5.b.

Comment: When A1 threw the ball to the playing court, it is impossible to determine if it was a pass or the start of a dribble. If it was a pass, the play is legal. However, since the play states that A1 was first to touch, it cannot be a pass and therefore it must be the start of a dribble. In that case, A1 has committed a traveling violation for picking up his pivot foot before releasing the ball to start a dribble. Rule 9-5.5.b.

A.R. 202.2 "After ending a dribble; A1 jumps in the air on a try for goal, is contested by B1 and since A1 could not get his try off, he voluntarily throws the ball to the playing court. A1 is first to touch the ball."

RULING - A1's release of the ball, after being airborne, was the start of a second dribble. When A1 touched the ball, A1 committed a double dribble. Rule 9-5 and 9-7.

Comment: As stated in Ruling 2, A1 has committed a double dribble when he is first to touch the ball. However, A1 has also committed a traveling violation per Rule 9-5.5.b since he picked up his pivot foot prior to releasing the ball on the start of a dribble.

Additional Play Situations:

Play 1: A1 picks up his dribble and attempts to pass the ball to A2. However, A2 makes a cut to the basket and never touches the ball. A1 is the first to touch the ball.

RULING - A1 has committed a double dribble violation. Rule 9-7.

Play 2: A1 has not dribbled the ball and, with two feet on the floor, makes a pass to A2. A2 makes a cut to the basket and does not touch the ball. A1 either picks up the ball or continues to dribble the ball.

RULING - Both are legal plays. The pass was the beginning of a dribble and A1 is permitted to continue the dribble or secure the ball.

If you have any questions, please contact me at art.hyland@comcast.net.