

Good morning!!!!

Take a look at the clip [here](#) of a back court throw-in play.

Here is Rule 9-9 Backcourt – specific to this play is article 3.

SECTION 9 BACKCOURT

ART. 1 . . . A player shall not be the first to touch the ball after it has been in team control in the frontcourt, if he/she or a teammate last touched or was touched by the ball in the frontcourt before it went to the backcourt.

EXCEPTION: A ball in team control of Team A in the frontcourt that is deflected by a defensive player, which causes the ball to go into the backcourt, may be recovered by either team unless the offense was the last to touch the ball before it went into the backcourt. If the offense was last to touch the ball in its frontcourt, only the defense can legally recover the basketball.

ART. 2 . . . While in player and team control in its backcourt, a player shall not cause the ball to go from backcourt to frontcourt and return to backcourt, without the ball touching a player in the frontcourt, such that he/she or a teammate is the first to touch it in the backcourt.

ART. 3 . . . During a jump ball, throw-in or while on defense, a player may legally jump from his/her frontcourt, secure control of the ball with both feet off the floor and return to the floor with one or both feet in the backcourt. The player may make a normal landing and it makes no difference whether the first foot down is in the frontcourt or backcourt.

PENALTY: (Section 9) The ball is dead when the violation occurs and is awarded to the opponents for a throw-in from the designated out-of-bounds spot nearest the violation.

So do we have a violation on this play? No, the player who caught the ball had a ‘normal landing’. She landed with her first foot in the front court, then her second with part in the front and part in the backcourt, so it is backcourt. Even though her toes ‘came down first,’ we have to see the entire foot down for the ‘normal’ landing. Since she landed and does not have front court status with the ball, she actually could pivot on her right foot and put her left foot in the backcourt legally.

So a hypothetical.....what if C is observing the play and KNOWS what happened and what the rule is???

Does C go to T and talk about it and ‘get it right’ or does C just ‘play on’ because it is not a correctable error? This is a great situation to discuss in your chapter meeting with the entire chapter and your rules interpreter. My guess is that if we presented this at a convention session, the room would be split on what to do!

Take a look in the Case Book on pages 72/73 for more examples of frontcourt and backcourt plays! Even if you read ONE rule and the associated case plays each day you will become a MUCH better rules official!

Thursday extra: GET RID of the watches, jewelry, fitbits, headbands, wallets in the back pocket, etc!!!!

Have a great game tonight!

Tim