



# UNSPORTSMANLIKE FOUL 2017 RULES / ART 37



# NOTE



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 = A normal basketball play, a Normal Foul

 = An action that is an Unsportsmanlike Foul



# THE RULE



# ART. 37 UNSPORTSMANLIKE FOUL



## Art. 37 Unsportsmanlike Foul

### 37.1. Definition

37.1.1. An unsportsmanlike foul is a player contact foul which, in the judgement of an official is:

- Not a legitimate attempt to play the ball within the spirit and intent of the rules.
- Excessive, hard contact caused by a player in an effort to play the ball or an opponent.
- **An unnecessary contact caused by the defensive player in order to stop the progress of the offensive team in transition.**

**This applies until the offensive player begins his act of shooting.**

- Contact by the defensive player from behind or laterally on an opponent in an attempt to stop the fast break and there is no defensive player between the offensive player and the opponent's basket.

**This applies until the offensive player begins his act of shooting.**

- Contact by the defensive player on an opponent on the playing court during the last 2 minutes in the fourth period and in each extra period, when the ball is out-of-bounds for a throw-in and still in the hands of the official or at the disposal of the player taking the throw-in.

## ART. 37 UNSPORTSMANLIKE FOUL



37.1.2. The official must interpret the unsportsmanlike fouls consistently throughout the game and **to judge only the action.**

# ART. 37 UNSPORTSMANLIKE FOUL



## 37.2. Penalty

37.2.1. An unsportsmanlike foul shall be charged against the offender.

37.2.2. Free throw(s) shall be awarded to the player who was fouled, followed by:

- A throw-in at the centre line extended, opposite the scorer's table.
- A jump ball in the centre circle to begin the first period.

The number of free throws shall be awarded as follows:

- If the foul is committed on a player not in the act of shooting: 2 free throws.
- If the foul is committed on a player in the act of shooting:
  - the goal, if made, shall count and, in addition, 1 free throw.
- If the foul is committed on a player in the act of shooting and the goal is not made, 2 or 3 free throws.

37.2.3. A player shall be disqualified for the remainder of the game when he is charged with two unsportsmanlike fouls **or with one technical foul and one unsportsmanlike foul.**

37.2.4. If a player is disqualified under Art. 37.2.3, the unsportsmanlike foul shall be the only foul to be penalised and no additional penalty for the disqualification shall be administered.



# 5 CRITERIA





# ART. 37 UNSPORTSMANLIKE FOUL

## 5 CRITERIA



To facilitate better decision making, referees are required to use 1 of the 5 existing criteria to determine if an Unsportsmanlike Foul should be called. The criteria are called C1, C2, C3, C4 & C5.



# ART. 37 UNSPORTSMANLIKE FOUL

## 5 CRITERIA



C1

Not a legitimate attempt to play the ball within the spirit and intent of the rules.

C2

Excessive, hard contact caused by a player in an effort to play the ball or an opponent.

C3

An unnecessary contact caused by the defensive player in order to stop the progress of the offensive team in transition.  
This applies until the offensive player begins his act of shooting.

# ART. 37 UNSPORTSMANLIKE FOUL

## 5 CRITERIA



C4

Contact by the defensive player from behind or laterally on an opponent in an attempt to stop the fast break and there is no defensive player between the offensive player and the opponent's basket.

**This applies until the offensive player begins his act of shooting.**

C5

Contact by the defensive player on an opponent on the playing court during the last 2 minutes in the fourth period and in each extra period, when the ball is out-of-bounds for a throw-in and still in the hands of the official or at the disposal of the player taking the throw-in.

# ART. 37 UNSPORTSMANLIKE FOUL

## NEW CRITERIA – C3



There is **only ONE new criteria C3** added to the existing 2014 rules, after the latest development of the game and the actions by players guided in most of cases by coaches.

The purpose of the new rule is to eliminate from the game unnecessary contacts and 'not normal' basketball actions which damage the spectacle and dynamic of the game, outside of the intent and spirit of the rules.

In order to interpret correctly and consistently the rules referees must follow the criteria below:

- **Not a legitimate effort to directly play the ball,**
- **Not a normal basketball play or action,**
- **Intention to make a foul and being out of the LGP (active),**
- **Being in a LGP to play defense according to the rules (passive).**



# PRACTICAL CASES



# ART. 37 UNSPORTSMANLIKE FOUL CRITERIA – C1



C  
1

Not a legitimate attempt to directly play the ball  
within the spirit and intent of the rules

# ART. 37 UNSPORTSMANLIKE FOUL CRITERIA – C1



C  
1

## Example C1.1

When grabbing the body of an opponent,

It is an UF for a not legitimately attempting to play the ball.



# ART. 37 UNSPORTSMANLIKE FOUL CRITERIA – C1



# C 1

## Example C1.2

When grabbing the uniform of an opponent,

It is an UF for a not legitimately attempting to play the ball.





# ART. 37 UNSPORTSMANLIKE FOUL CRITERIA – C1



C  
1

## Example C1.3

The excessive movement of the elbows (lateral) - if there is a contact it is **an UF**.



# ART. 37 UNSPORTSMANLIKE FOUL CRITERIA – C1



C  
1

## Example C1.4

The defender ignores the ball and instead holds the other hand of the offensive player with the ball to stop the transition. This example is not a legitimate attempt to play the ball and therefore **a clear UF** correctly called by the Trail.



# ART. 37 UNSPORTSMANLIKE FOUL CRITERIA – C1



C  
1

## Example C1.5

Defensive player ignores the ball and causing an immediate contact with the opponent. **The video example is an UF** for a not legitimately attempting to play the ball.

Normally these actions take place in the end of the game, but same actions must be judged with the same criteria **throughout the game (referee the action)**.



# ART. 37 UNSPORTSMANLIKE FOUL CRITERIA – C1



C  
1

## Example C1.6.

Defensive player ignores the ball and causing an immediate contact with the opponent. **The video example is an obvious UF** for a not legitimately attempting to play the ball. Normally these actions take place in the end of the game, but same actions must be judged with the same criteria **throughout the game (referee the action).**



# ART. 37 UNSPORTSMANLIKE FOUL CRITERIA – C1



C  
2

Excessive, hard contact caused by a player in an effort to play the ball or an opponent.

# ART. 37 UNSPORTSMANLIKE FOUL CRITERIA – C2



C  
2

## Example C2.1

You may make a personal foul, in a normal defensive action, but you do not need to "stop by any means" your opponent's action without an effort to play the ball or play an opponent. This is an excessive, hard contact and should penalise as **an UF**. Note the correct technique to make the call – Analyse – (1) Call normal foul – (2) Upgrade to UF.



# ART. 37 UNSPORTSMANLIKE FOUL CRITERIA – C2



C  
2

## Example C2.2

You can fall into a fake, or you may make a personal foul, in a normal defensive action, but you do not need to "stop by any means" your opponent's action without an effort to play the ball. This is an excessive, hard contact by left arm in the end of the action and should penalize as **an UF**.



# ART. 37 UNSPORTSMANLIKE FOUL CRITERIA – C2



C  
2

## Example C2.3

You can fall into a fake, or you may make a personal foul, in a normal defensive action, but you do not need to "stop by any means" your opponent's action without an effort to play the ball. The end of the action (left arm) is an excessive, hard contact and should penalise as an UF.





# ART. 37 UNSPORTSMANLIKE FOUL CRITERIA – C2



C  
2

## Example C2.4

- ! You can fall into a fake, or you may make a personal foul, in the normal defensive action, but you do not need to "stop by any means" your opponent's action in a not effort to play the ball or play an opponent.
- ! This is an excessive-hard contact and should penalise as **an UF**.



# ART. 37 UNSPORTSMANLIKE FOUL CRITERIA – C3



## C 3

An unnecessary contact caused by defensive player in order to stop the progress of the offensive team in transition.

This applies until the offensive player begins his act of shooting.

## C 3

### Principles to remember

1. Not a legitimate effort to directly play the ball.
2. Not a normal basketball play- Unnecessary contact
3. Intent to make a foul being out of the LGP (active – chasing the player with the ball).
4. Being in LGP to play defense according to the rules (personal foul if illegal contact).
5. Stop the progress in transition.

# ART. 37 UNSPORTSMANLIKE FOUL CRITERIA – C3



C  
3

## Example C3.1.

We must be ready to anticipate the contact by the defensive player when an offensive player with excellent skills dribbles passed him. The defensive player who can no longer play the ball grabs the opponent from the waist. **The video example is an UF.** A normal basketball defensive action is to run in the front of the dribbler.



# ART. 37 UNSPORTSMANLIKE FOUL CRITERIA – C3



C  
3

## Example C3.2

When defensive player is coming from a LGP facing his opponent, moving in the direction of the offensive player and tries for the ball generating a normal but illegal contact.

This example is a Normal Foul.



# ART. 37 UNSPORTSMANLIKE FOUL CRITERIA – C3



C  
3

## Example C3.3

When a defensive player has no LGP, but just passes the opponent and opens her arm to stop the offensive player in transition.

This example is an UF.



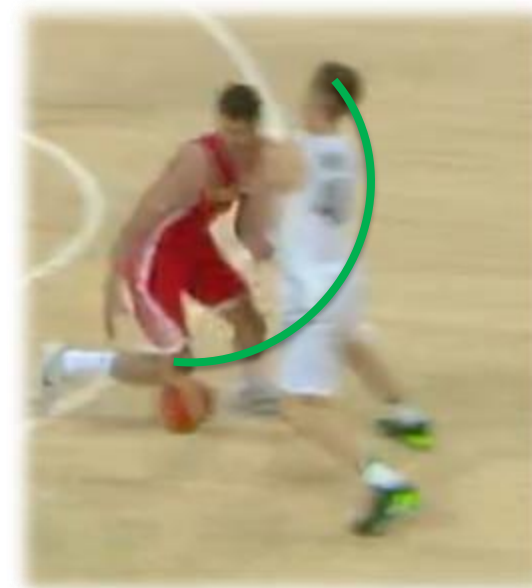
# ART. 37 UNSPORTSMANLIKE FOUL CRITERIA – C3



C  
3

## Example C3.4

When a defensive player in a LGP tries to maintain his legal position and contact occurs - whether it a defensive or offensive foul (judgement of the referee) it is not to be considered an UF foul even if the team was in transition. This example is a **Normal Foul**.



# ART. 37 UNSPORTSMANLIKE FOUL CRITERIA – C3



C  
3

## Example C3.5

Once a defensive player in a LGP is beaten and does not try to defend his position, but just opening his arm to stop the offensive player with the intention of stopping the transition. **This is an UF.**





# ART. 37 UNSPORTSMANLIKE FOUL CRITERIA – C3



C  
3

## Example C3.6

In this play, defensive player tries for the ball and produces a normal but illegal contact, even he is behind the dribbler.

This example is a normal foul.



# ART. 37 UNSPORTSMANLIKE FOUL CRITERIA – C3



C  
3

## Example C3.7

The defensive player stops the offensive player with a grab forcing the game to stop in transition – The contact is unnecessary and no legitimate attempt to play the ball, caused in order to stop the transition of the offensive team. The video example is an UF.



# ART. 37 UNSPORTSMANLIKE FOUL CRITERIA – C4



C  
4

Illegal contact by the defensive player from behind or laterally on an opponent in an attempt to stop the fast break and there is no defensive player between the offensive player and the opponent's basket.

**This applies until the offensive player begins his act of shooting.**

# ART. 37 UNSPORTSMANLIKE FOUL CRITERIA – C4



## C 4

### Principles to remember

1. Team control established by a new offensive team.
2. No defensive player between the offensive player with the ball and an opponent's basket.
3. Illegal contact (foul called) by the defensive player from behind or laterally.
4. This applies until the offensive player begins his act of shooting.

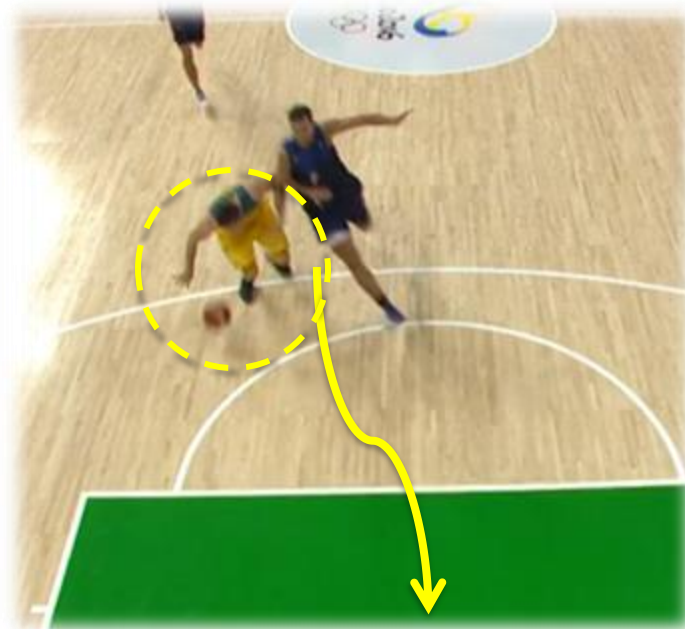
# ART. 37 UNSPORTSMANLIKE FOUL CRITERIA – C4



## C 4

### Example video C4.1

We must identify when contact occurs. There is no defensive player between the offensive player and the opponent's basket and the illegal contact is by the defensive player from behind or laterally, when the offensive player is still dribbling. **This is an UF.** Referee incorrectly called this as a normal foul.



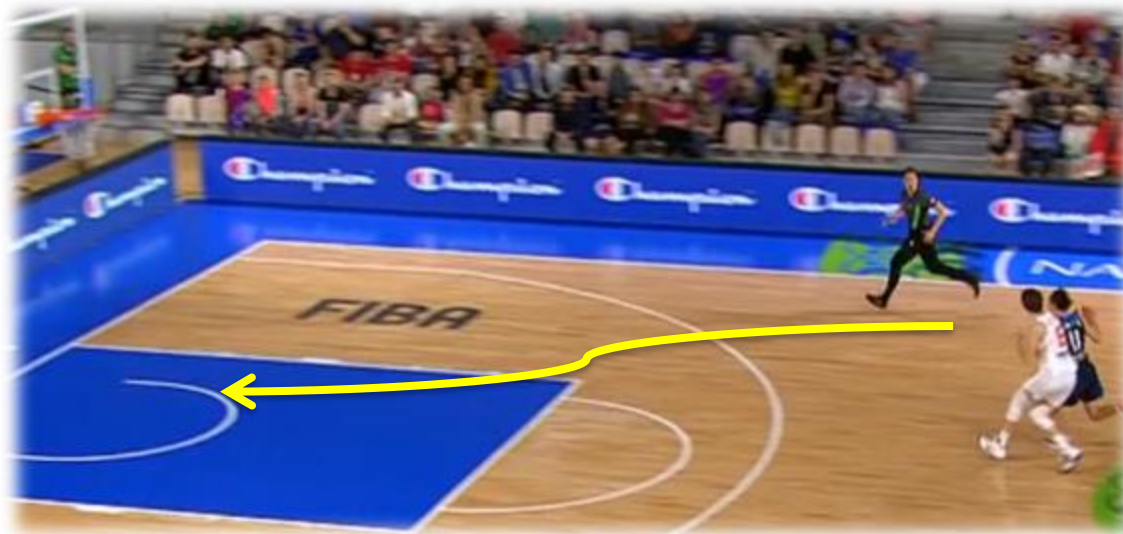
# ART. 37 UNSPORTSMANLIKE FOUL CRITERIA – C4



C  
4

## Example video C4.2

The contact is obviously laterally and there is no defensive player between the offensive player and the opponent's basket and **an UF** is to be called. Note the correct technique to make the call – Analyse – (1) Call normal foul – (2) Upgrade to UF.



# ART. 37 UNSPORTSMANLIKE FOUL CRITERIA – C4



C  
4

## Example video C4.3

When there is no defensive player between the offensive player with the ball and the opponent's basket, the illegal contact (foul called) by defensive player is from behind or laterally, regardless of the nature of the illegal contact, it is considered as **an UF**.



# ART. 37 UNSPORTSMANLIKE FOUL CRITERIA – C4



C  
4

## Example video C4.4

When there is no defensive player between the offensive player and the opponent's basket, and a player makes illegal contact on the side and the offensive player is in act of shooting, it is a **Normal Foul** unless the other UF conditions occurred in action (C1 or C2).





# ART. 37 UNSPORTSMANLIKE FOUL CRITERIA – C5



C  
5

Contact by the defensive player on an opponent on the playing court during the last 2 minutes in the fourth period and in each extra period, when the ball is out-of-bounds for a throw-in and still in the hands of the official or at the disposal of the player taking the throw-in.

## C 5

### Principles to remember

1. Last 2 minutes of the 4<sup>th</sup> or extra period.
2. Ball is out-of-bounds for a throw-in at the disposal of the offensive player.
3. Illegal contact (foul called) by the defensive player on the playing court before the ball is released.
4. **NOTE – Preventative Officiating** - Referee are to remind the team before the throw-in takes place (this is a good officiating technique).

# ART. 37 UNSPORTSMANLIKE FOUL CRITERIA – C5

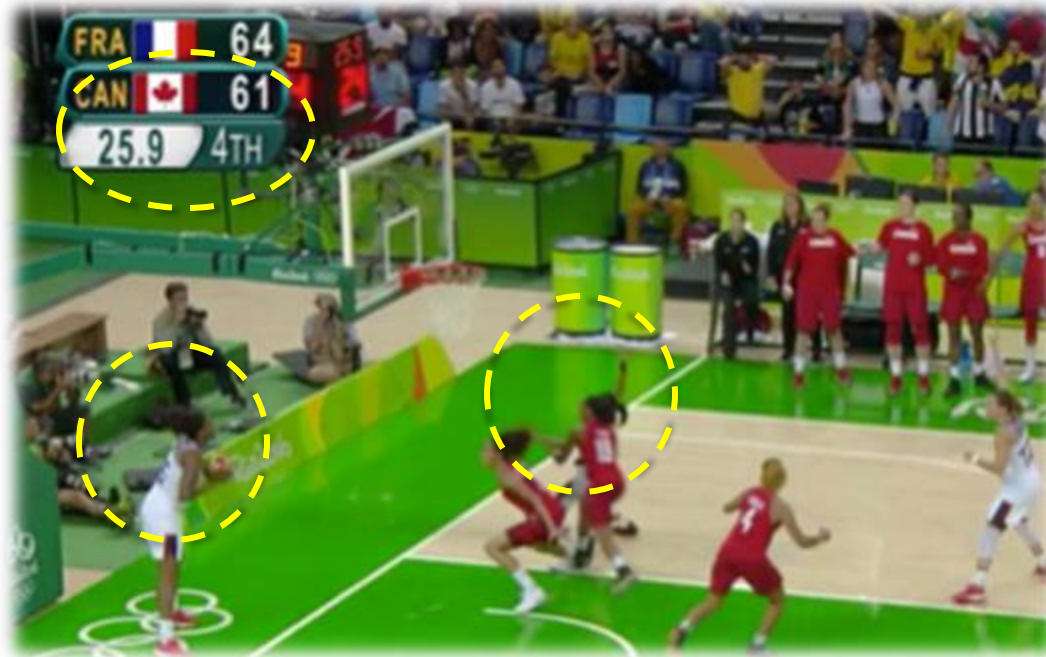


C  
5

## Example C5.1

Here we can see the following three factors of this criteria. Last 2 minutes of the game. The ball is out-of-bounds for throw-in. Illegal contact by a defensive player.

The referee calls a foul on defensive player, correctly an UF.





# STANDARD QUALITY

GLOBAL CONNECTION

