



Focus on the Rules

Rule 6: Live and Dead Ball

“It’s where it all begins and ends”



Focus on the Rules



Rule 6: Fouls & Penalties – The Essentials

- ❖ When does a ball become live?
- ❖ When does a ball become dead?
- ❖ Live & Dead Ball: Facts & Myths

Live and Dead Balls Occur Frequently

DID YOU KNOW: There are more live and dead ball situations in a basketball game than there are shot attempts, throw-ins, fouls and violations.

Actually, there are more live and dead ball situations in a basketball game than there are shot attempts, throw-ins, fouls and violations all added up together.

When does the ball come live?

1. On a jump ball:

When the tossed ball leaves the referee's hands



When does the ball come live?

2. On a throw-in:

When the ball is at the disposal of the thrower



When does the ball come live?

3. On a free-throw:

When the ball is at the disposal of the free-throw shooter



When does the ball become live?

1. On a jump ball:

The tossed ball leaves the referee's hand(s).

2. On a Throw-In:

Ball is at the disposal of the thrower.

3. On a Free Throw:

Ball is at the disposal of the free-throw shooter.



When does the ball become dead?

- A goal is made
- If it is clear a FT will not be successful
- A held ball occurs or ball lodges between the backboard and ring or comes to rest on flange
- A foul occurs



When does the ball become dead?

- Time expires for a quarter or extra period
(or immediately after the ball is no longer in flight)
- FT violations by the throwing team
- Other violations (as in 9-2 thru 13)
- An official's whistle stops play

Don't Get Confused

Whether or not the game clock is running has no bearing on whether the ball is live or dead.

Can you have a live ball with the clock not running?

Can you have a dead ball with the clock running?



The Transition is Important

Since the change between a live ball and a dead ball happens so frequently, officials must be able know the transition from when a ball is dead and when it becomes alive.



What rules are impacted by Live and Dead ball status?

Fouls made by contact are administered differently whether the ball is live or dead.

Live Ball = All Contact Fouls = Personal Fouls

Dead Ball = All Contact Fouls = Technical Fouls

Is this a live or dead ball?



What makes this a dead ball?



What Would You Call?



15 BRADLEY

FOULS: 1

10

POSS

2 MICHIGAN ST

4



1ST 15:34 9

NCAA EAST
1ST ROUND

Live & Dead Ball: Facts & Myths

TRUE OR FALSE?

Whether or not the clock is running determines whether points can be scored.

FALSE. A live or dead ball is the determining factor on whether points can be scored.

Live & Dead Ball: Facts & Myths

TRUE OR FALSE?

Only an official's whistle can make the ball dead.

FALSE. An official's whistle rarely makes the ball dead. The action of the play usually determines live and dead ball status.

Live & Dead Ball: Facts & Myths

TRUE OR FALSE?

The ball will eventually become dead after it becomes alive.

TRUE. Every jump ball, made goal, attempted free throw, missed free throw, all throw-ins, all fouls and most violations will cause a change in live/dead ball status.

Live & Dead Ball: Final Thoughts

Only three things can make the ball become alive, but there are many things that can make the ball become dead. Make sure that you know when the transition takes place.



When does the ball become live?

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The tossed ball leaves the referee's hand(s).

2. On a Throw-In:

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Ball is at the disposal of the free-throw shooter.



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ANY
QUESTIONS?

