

IAABO

Inside the Lines



Click [here](#) for a Holiday Greeting from IAABO

A Referee's Night Before Christmas 2017

"Twas the night before Christmas, when all through "our house",
not a ball was a bouncin' or a jersey ablouse.
Our stockings hung by the chimney with care,
in hopes that St. Nicholas soon would be there.

My officiating gear all stowed away,
Will stay put away 'til end of holidays.
Noel bells softly chiming 'til Christmas Day light,
There is no Fox40 that need sound tonight.

There is no basketball game scheduled requiring arbitration,

with need of game control and on-court mediation.

Tonight, we won't be actively practicing our vocation,
involving rule interpretation and application and game administration.

The players and coaches all nestled snug in their beds,
visions of victory and championships dreamt of ahead.

On offense, score after score with each successive offensive set,
While on defense stymying every opponent's conceivable threat.

Oblivious to the sound of hooves and on the roof and a sled,
instead, a move to the basket, "and one" dance in their heads.

Smugly smiling of the take to the hoop that was fine,
justly rewarded, count the basket, the harm and a trip to the line.

I trust the same contentment is shared by officials all over the world,
whether already in bed and now asleep warmly furred,
or like me, still making a host of last minute preparations,
there is a shared serenity and peace across officiating 'nation'.

There is no need to focus on position and location,
scanning the court, anticipating the play, then staying put or relocation.
'Going where we need to go to see what we have to see' an on-court dedication,
understanding the 'accuracy of my rulings vs. positioning' positive correlation.

No worry tonight about our initial positioning and spacing,
being on the edge of the play on the 45 degree and facing.

Maintaining an open angle and good field of vision,
ultimately resulting in the right decision.

**Tonight, no staying with the play,
not allowing our physical and mental concentration to stray.**

**There is no need to get a look at 'start-middle-finish',
knowing that without, our call accuracy does diminish.**

**There is nothing developing in our primary,
where calling the obvious, is up to us and necessary.
Understanding the game and when to extend coverage to secondary,
ensuring that any whistle that blows it is not at all arbitrary.**

**Understanding whether our look is open or closed,
what the look we have does or does not disclose.**

**Looking to avoid a call that is phantasy,
realizing that a such a call is officiating blasphemy.**

**Tonight, our judgment is not tested or called into question,
ruling whether a play is legal or an on-court transgression.**

**In a split second in my mind events to untwist,
is it a no-call, violation or whistle and arm straight up with a fist?**

**There are no crashes occurring in or around the lane,
Legal guarding position, was it obtained and maintained?**

**If in the semi-circle, where were the defender's feet?
Airborne shooter, dribbler or rebound - process it all before the tweet.**

**No thoughts of the shooter and checking the line
to know if it's a deuce or trey that swishes the twine.**

**Knowing for certainty whether release is before shot clock or period expired,
getting together with partner(s) or using the IRS if available as required.**

**Getting accustomed to applying new rules, interpretations, POEs and procedures,
only through consistent adjudication making all true believers.**

“0 – 1 -2”,

You still have to identify the pivot foot to know if something is askew?

**No need to address faking and flopping,
distinguishing between being displaced and simply dropping.**

**Making the unsportsmanlike foul the correct decision,
if there was unnecessary contact to stop the transition.**

**No need of my concentration to be at the utmost
Nuances and subtleties of the action being recognized and diagnosed.**

**The exhilaration of a close game and rising emotion
Situations where no matter what the ruling, they'll be a commotion.**

**Doing what is necessary to maintain bench decorum,
preventing the sideline from becoming someone's personal forum.**

**No situations facing me tonight with aggression,
responding with firmness, fairness, and as possible, discretion.**

**Instead I sit here reveling in my traditions,
the season fueling my awesome disposition.
This year as always, a mix of the new rites and of old,
Makes it again a cherished time be told.**

**This year with my Christmas message already out,
I have extra time for Christmas preparations hereabout.**

**I am merrily wrapping presents to mete,
the backdrop of “White Christmas” on my TV set.**

**I’ll arrange the presents around the tree,
a card ensuring that each has the correct addressee.**

**Hoping to bring a smile with each gift,
furthering a bond and giving spirits a lift.**

**Family dinner at our house Christmas Day,
The meal I’m sure will please any gourmet.
The true nourishment will come from all who attend,
The kinship we share with family and friends.**

**My thoughts turn to my officiating brethren at this time of cheer
I think about our time on and off the courts this past year.
I remember partners (family) we’ve lost with a tear,
For all, I trust this season is spent with your family and love ones all near.**

**I wish you and yours the inner warmth akin to that of a crackling fire,
And to you many more good games before you retire.**

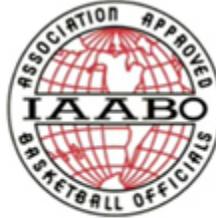
**I feel pride in a very heartfelt boast,
I lift up a glass of eggnog, to you each I offer a toast**

**“We share a love and service to the game, thank you for answering and then making the
call(s).**

It’s not always appreciated, thank you all.

Take pride and satisfaction in working at and getting it right
Merry Christmas, happy holiday season to all, and to all a good night!"

Tim Laurain, Bd. 211 ON



Play of the Week

The IAABO Play of the Week will resume on Sunday, January 7, 2018

WWW.IAABO-GEAR.COM



Game Tracker Journal

You have likely heard the saying, *"a goal without a plan is just a wish,"* and this age-old adage rings so true for all people pursuing all types of endeavors.



And for basketball officials embarking on the 2017-2018 season absent a basic strategy on how to achieve a stated desire -- a better schedule; advancement to the next level -- you are in a rudderless boat on an open sea hoping the winds of fate blow you to your destination.

Seeking officiating success described in this manner seems laughable, but yet many officials take this approach with their beloved avocation.

But Ref, don't panic now...Help is on the way in the form of the new, and first of its kind, **GameTracker Journal**.

This latest publication from long time IAABO members Billy Martin, Tim Malloy and Al Battista, the creators of Ref60.com, is an innovative tool that provides a template for every basketball official, at every level, to create your own realistic roadmap helping to guide you to your desired destination - one game at a time.

For more information on this **GameTracker Journal** tool visit www.Ref60.com/gametracker.

Special Deals for IAABO Basketball Officials

Briggs and Riley Luggage

Briggs and Riley Luggage - Officials will receive a 60% discount on any product. Officials must use the form which can be obtained by clicking [here](#) - There is a lifetime guaranteed on the luggage.

ASICS

Asics - IAABO Officials (U.S. ONLY) will receive a 40% discount on all Asics products - **EXCLUDING CLEARANCE**. Log into www.asics.com and place an order. (It is recommended that you create an account if you plan to order more than once. Upon checkout, they should enter the following promotion code- Dayofgame



ISlides – Customize your own IAABO ISlides. Click [here](#) to get started.

BRAZYN FOAM ROLLER

The advertisement features a blue and orange color scheme. On the left, a blue vertical banner contains the BRAZYN logo, '15% OFF', and 'USE CODE: BRZNBB15'. Below this is a dark grey box with 'SHOP NOW BRAZYN.COM'. The right side shows a person's hands holding a blue, textured foam roller. At the bottom right, an orange box contains the text 'THE MORPH The Go Anywhere Collapsible Foam Roller'.

“The Morph” is a collapsible foam roller that can be packed in your roller bag and taken on the road with you. No more will you have to ask the training room for a foam roller.

Move Better – Feel Better – Move More – Experience More

Expands instantly

Collapses instantly

Light weight (1.5 lbs)

Strong (up to 350 lbs)

Targeted – releases knots and flushes toxins

True usability – standard size – easy to use

Sustainably made – eco-friendly materials

Use the code BRZNBB15 at check out and get 15% off.

www.brazyn.com



Smitty Officials' Apparel – Smitty is the exclusive vendor for IAABO Logoed products. Click [here](#) to view a listing of preferred retailers.

Click [here](#) to unsubscribe