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## Floppers to be fined!

Posted by Yndian - 2008/05/29 08:26

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I heard Greg Wrubell mention this morning that, starting next year, the NBA will start fining egregious floppers. Here's the skinny from ESPN.com:

Fines will be imposed for clear cases of flopping

By Marc Stein

The NBA announced to its teams this week at its annual pre-draft camp that fines will be imposed on players starting next season for clear cases of "flopping," ESPN.com has learned.

The league office has yet to determine exact fine amounts for offending flops and how fines might escalate for repeat offenders, but in-game arena observers and video reviewers will be instructed to report instances of theatrical flopping for potential punishment as part of postgame reports on officiating and other matters.

The league's pledge to crack down on flopping was conveyed to team representatives at Tuesday's competition committee meeting in Orlando.

NBA executive vice president of basketball operations Stu Jackson confirmed the new policy Wednesday night saying: "What was clearly expressed to the committee is that we would begin imposing fines next season for the most egregious type of flops. When players are taking a dive, for lack of a better term."

Because a precise penalty system has not yet been structured, it is not yet known whether serial floppers will be subject to possible suspensions after a certain number of fines for flopping, as seen with the league's protocol on technical fouls. Players who accrue 16 technicals during the regular season are hit with a one-game suspension when they get to No. 16 -- the limit is seven technicals during the playoffs -- and receive one-game suspensions for every other technical thereafter (No. 18, 20, etc.).

Detroit's Rasheed Wallace, a player who has 15 technicals this season and has been suspended in the past for being over the limit for technicals, gave his opinion of floppers to ESPN after the Pistons' 106-102 loss to the Boston Celtics in Game 5 of the Eastern Conference finals on Wednesday.

"All that bull(bleep)-ass calls they had out there. With Mike and Kenny -- you've all seen that (bleep)," Wallace said. "You saw them calls. The cats are flopping all over the floor and they're calling that (bleep). That (bleep) ain't basketball out there. It's all (bleeping) entertainment. You all should know that (bleep). It's all (bleeping) entertainment."

Pardon Brother Wallace's language.

There are some people who flop way too often (Anderson Varejao and Fabriccio Oberto come immediately to mind), but virtually everyone flops once in a while. It's nice that the NBA executives are acknowledging that it's a problem, and it will be interesting to see where they draw the line.

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## Re:Floppers to be fined!

Posted by Sage - 2008/05/29 08:47

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An excellent way to stop the flopping is to call a charge a charge instead of waiting for the defender to be knocked down. Having such poor officiating, making a defender draw an official's attention, is the reason for all the flopping. When a defender is displaced by any offender, call it. Gees, what does it take? Knock down now. All this backing down stuff in the NBA just get down to who is the biggest, not who is the best.

Displace=charge. Call it, no flop.

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## Re:Floppers to be fined!

Posted by Mingjai - 2008/05/29 09:27

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Sage wrote:

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The other way to combat flopping would be to make it a personal foul that counts against the player's 6 personal fouls. In hockey, diving is a two minute minor penalty, and in soccer, diving is a card-able offense.

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## Re:Floppers to be fined!

Posted by Conosticator - 2008/05/29 10:27

99.9% of the time if Rasheed Wallace is for it, I'm against it. I don't see this as being in the remaining 0.1%. Lay off the fines and just tell the refs to do their job calling the game.

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## Re:Floppers to be fined!

Posted by BYUROCKS - 2008/05/29 11:18

how about the have make the "super stars" less super by not calling BS calls on them ?

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## Re:Floppers to be fined!

Posted by Metal Bubba - 2008/05/29 16:27

If they enforce this new rule, Shane Battier will have to file for bankruptcy.

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## Re:Floppers to be fined!

Posted by stgeorgefan - 2008/05/29 16:59

I hope this new rule helps. Flopping has been ruining the NBA more and more as the officials keep making the wrong calls.

Every player flops at one time or another. They do it because it has become so common place and it is a clear advantage; go to the hole FORCE contact yell ouch and throw up some crazy shot.. boom 2 shots from the FT.

It has almost come down to just letting a guy score a layup because if you challenge it there will be a foul called whether you fouled him or not..

I'd like to see a suspenion after a certain number of "called" flops.

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## Re:Floppers to be fined!

Posted by stuckinbig10country - 2008/05/30 13:01

Every European player will just have to give a blank check to the NBA at the beginning of the year because of their soccer background. Also, this rule is only good if they fine the offensive floppers as well (Kobe, AK, etc.), that flail their arms when driving trying to get a whistle, even though there is no foul.

The refs could have avoided this by just actually calling the game correctly. It got to the point where the only time you could get a call was if you flopped.

The next thing that they need to get rid of is the stupid circle under the basket. Either get rid of it or have it be a no call if the defensive player has established position. The rule now hurts the defense because even if they get good position they still get called for a foul.

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## Re:Floppers to be fined!

Posted by declocoug - 2008/06/02 13:43

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Agreed, both ends of the court should have no flopping. Nothing worse than getting a defensive stop to have a phantom call because of a flop/scream. One more thing I hate about the NBA is when the offensive player is holding the ball and facing the basket, the defender has his arms out trying to defend the ball and the offensive player brings his arms up through the other guys arms and initiates the contact, (Kobe is the master of this) If a guy has his arms in position and the offensive player initiates contact it should be a foul on the offensive player.

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