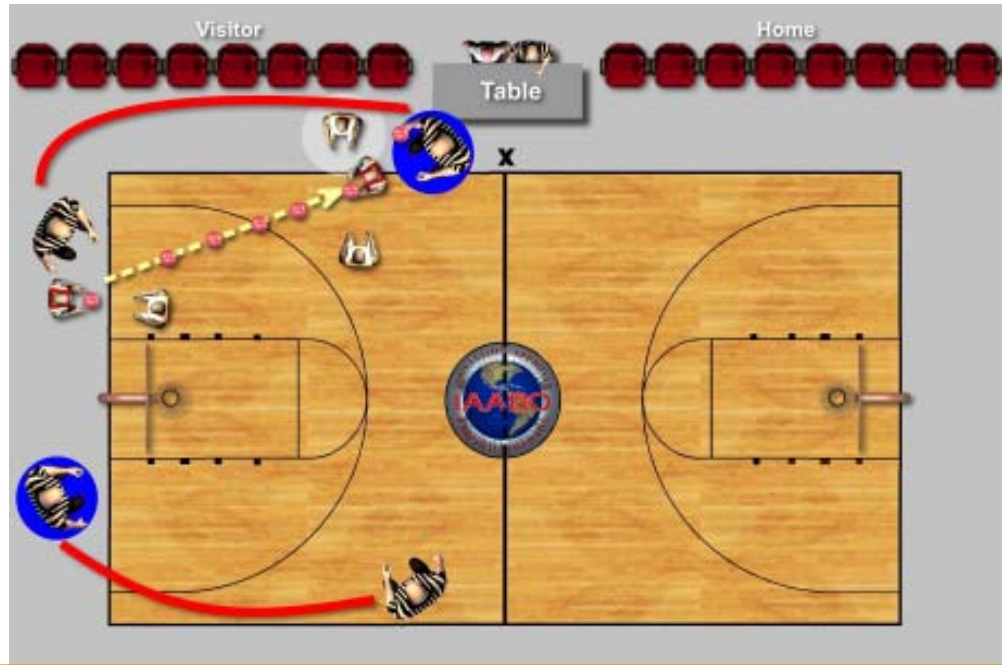


# Rules Revisited

Last month this play was sent to the IAABO office. In followup discussions with many officials, it appears there is a misunderstanding of the applicable rule. Oftentimes we overlook certain sections of the rules that do not get a lot of attention at clinics and interpretation meetings. This play may help refresh your recollection!

**Question:** Thrower-in A-1 passes the ball into the court across the endline boundary where B-1 attempts to catch the ball but muffs it, however B-1 has a foot on the sideline boundary when the ball is touched. Who caused the ball to go out of bounds? Was it the thrower-in or B-1. Would the answer be any different if it was A-2 who touched the ball while standing on the sideline boundary. (Rule 9 Section 3 Articles 2 and 9, National Federation; Rule 9-3-b and i NCAA)



**Answer:** Prior to the 1981-82 season when the thrower-in passed the ball into the court but the player first touching the ball was out-of-bounds, it was a violation by the thrower-in and the ball was made available to the opponent for the subsequent throw-in at the spot of the violation which was the original throw-in spot. Since 1981-82, however, the rule was revised making it an out-of-bounds violation for the player who touches or was touched by the throw-in when such player was not inbounds. The player who touches such a throw-in pass must be inbounds when contact with the ball occurs—if not that player causes the ball to be out-of-bounds. The resulting throw-in is at the out-of-bounds spot nearest the violation. In the question above, it is insignificant whether the ball touches or is touched by B-1 or A-2; a player touching the ball as the result of a throw-in while touching a boundary line causes the ball to be out of bounds.