

THE SILENT SUPPORTING CAST

The database of all FIBA Active Referees, FIBA Active Commissioners and FIBA Honorary Referees has been completed and displayed on the FIBA website www.fiba.com/About FIBA/FIBA officials. Information about each individual (name, date of birth, country) is supplied, together with his/her photo.

A FIBA REFEREES

In the period of 2004-2005, 1.216 FIBA Referee have participated at the FIBA Refresher Clinics. At present there are 946 FIBA Active Referees divided per FIBA Zones as follows:

FIBA Zone Referees %

Africa	107	11,4
Americas	234	24,7
Asia	243	25,7
Europe	338	35,7
Oceania	24	2,5
Total	946	100

A total of 82 FIBA Clinics for Referee Candidates and Refreshers were held in 2003-2006 in all FIBA Zones. In addition to that, special clinics for Young Potential Referees were held in Europe and Asia regularly; and FIBA and the FIBA Zones have organized numerous clinics for national referees in 78 countries worldwide.

The FIBA Women's Commission expressed its dissatisfaction in 2004. Only 5.5 % of all FIBA Active Referees were females. FIBA has started a strong initiative in 2005-2006 to bring more women to officiating, coaching, and table officiating.

Recently, much more women referees take part at the FIBA Clinics for Referee Candidates. A Special Clinic for Female Referees was held in Iran and similar ones will be held in April 2007 in Japan and in Europe.



In order to unify the criteria of the officiating, the pre-championship clinics for referees were introduced in 2005. All the referees participating at the FIBA World Championships 2005 got together two days before the championships. The lecturers focused on three-person officiating and the Unified Criteria of Officiating were presented.

The referees also worked in smaller groups. They raised topics such as the feeling for the game, psychological preparation of referees, and control of the game. All underwent a physical fitness test.

The results of the pre-championship clinics were extremely positive and so they will become a regular activity before each championship, including the 2006 World Championships for Men and Women in Japan and Brazil.

The table below represents the present statistics of the FIBA Honorary Referees involved in each zone.

FIBA Zone	Honorary Referees	%
Africa	61	9,9
Americas	87	14,1
Asia	178	28,8
Europe	261	42,3
Oceania	30	4,9
Total	617	100

B FIBA COMMISSIONERS

At present, there are 237 FIBA Active Commissioners divided per FIBA Zones as follows:

FIBA Zone	Commissioners	%
Africa	14	6,0
Americas	20	8,4
Asia	32	13,5
Europe	161	67,9
Oceania	10	4,2
Total	237	100

The FIBA Commissioner's institution has a very strong tradition in Europe due to the European club competitions played regularly since 1956, with as many as 252 club teams that participated in the season 1995-1996. The large number of international games played every week required the corresponding number of the FIBA Commissioners in Europe, in comparison to

the FIBA Commissioners in the other FIBA Zones.

With the increasing number of competitions and with the obligation of the FIBA Zones to designate only FIBA Active Commissioners for the official competitions, all other FIBA Zones organized their own Clinics for Commissioner Candidates.

In addition to the regular clinics held in Europe, three clinics were held in Africa and first ever clinics were held in Asia (Malaysia, Lebanon), the Americas (El Salvador), and in Oceania (Australia). All FIBA Zones are now in position to designate to their competitions only FIBA Active Commissioners in accordance with the FIBA Internal Regulations.

C NATIONAL REFEREE INSTRUCTORS

In order to have a sufficient number of referees correctly officiating national/international games and championships, the National Referee Instructor's category has been introduced in 1995.

The Instructors are the "extended arm" of the FIBA Technical Commission responsible in each respective country for the teaching and the education of referees in line with FIBA official rules, interpretations of the rules, and the mechanics of officiating.

If possible, every national federation should have at least one national referee instructor.

So far, an intermediate goal has been reached and all FIBA Zones have now National Referee Instructors (NRIs).

After Europe with 67 and the Americas with 36 NRIs, clinics for NRIs were held in the past four years in the remaining FIBA Zones. Africa has 17, Asia 16, and Oceania 4 NRI.

With the above clinics, the training process of NRIs has been completed in all the FIBA Zones and are now in place 46 regional and 140 NRIs worldwide.

It has been said, "behind each successful referee stands a good instructor." Therefore, all efforts must be made to

increase the number and the level of the FIBA National Referee Instructors.

D FIBA REFEREE SUPERVISORS

Following the discussion at the FIBA Technical Commission meeting on January 21-22, 2005 in San Juan, Puerto Rico, with regards to the fact that a "referees' monitoring system should be implemented at the main official FIBA competitions," the FIBA Referee Supervisors were then introduced the same year. The main reasons were as follows:

- ▼ The necessity to work with the referees during the championship at a more professional level.
- ▼ The Supervisors were already present in almost all the other sports.
- ▼ The immediate feedback on the referee's performance allows for a possible improvement of the referees' performance already during the championship.
- ▼ It allows a better unification of the officiating criteria, one of the most criticized aspects of officiating at the FIBA World Championships; as the referees are coming from all FIBA Zones.

In 2005, the FIBA Referee Supervisors were first implemented at the FIBA U19 World Championship for Women in Tunisia and at the FIBA U21 World Championship for Men in Argentina.

The basic duties of the Supervisors are to evaluate the performance of the referees during the championship and to hold daily clinics with referees viewing and analyzing the games played in the previous day.

After the championships, the FIBA Referee Evaluation Report is sent by the FIBA Secretariat to each referee via his/her respective national basketball federation. The six-page report contains positive and negative remarks on his/her officiating and it ends with recommendations for the future.

We have received very positive feedback from the national federations and referees and it proved to be the right procedure to help improve officiating worldwide.

FIBA EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS

According to the FIBA Statutes, the FI-

BA Technical Commission is responsible for the training, examination, and qualification of international referees, as well as for preparing them for the main international competitions of men's and women's basketball. Moreover, the Commission is the competent body for all matters concerning the practical application of the Official Basketball Rules.

Consequently, for the effective education and training of the referees, the FIBA Commission provided educational and printed materials to the FIBA Zones, to all national basketball federations, to the FIBA international and national instructors, referees, coaches, players, and to all those who are interested in basketball in general and in officiating in particular.

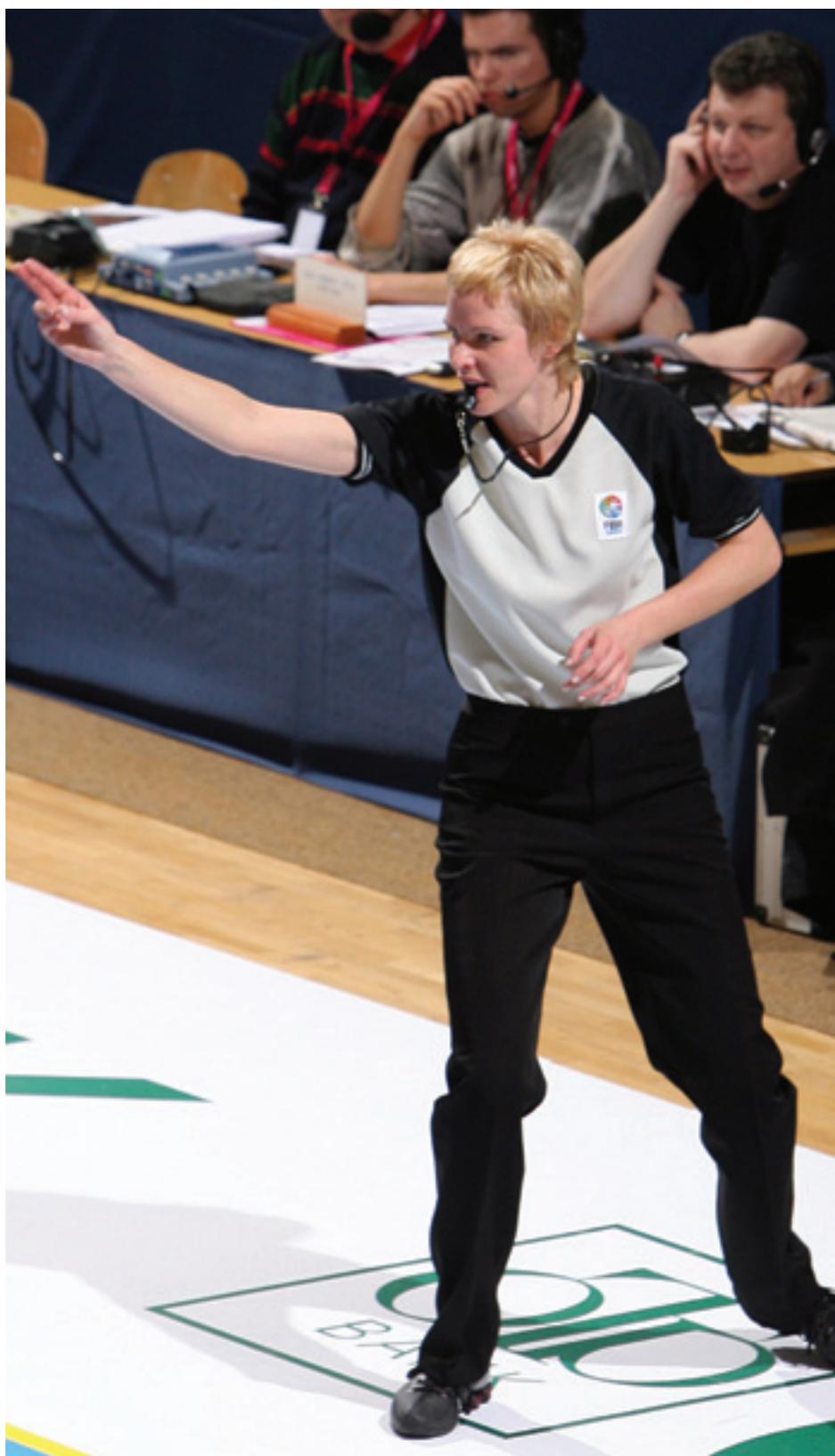
The FIBA Secretariat is regularly asked by almost all the above-mentioned bodies and individuals to supply them with different kind of materials on officiating such as rulebooks, videos, DVDs, CDs, and rule interpretations.

In the last years, the FIBA Technical Commission has produced a large number of quality materials (listed below).

We have received numerous expressions of appreciation for the work done.

- ▼ FIBA Official Rule Book and Basketball Equipment 2004 and 2006.
- ▼ FIBA Two and Three-Person Officiating 2004 and 2006.
- ▼ FIBA Official Interpretations of Rules 2004 and 2006.
- ▼ FIBA Minibasketball Rules 2005.
- ▼ FIBA Statistics Manual Basketball for Everybody (illustrated, easy reading rule book).
- ▼ FIBA Official Physical Fitness Test for Referees CD.
- ▼ FIBA Guidelines for Referee Education - Volume 1, Criteria for Officiating DVD.
- ▼ FIBA Guidelines for Referee Education - Volume 2, Three-Person Officiating DVD.

All the above resources are displayed on the FIBA website and FIBA has encouraged all the national federations to translate them to their national language (where appropriate) and has encouraged all basketball fans to



make their own copies for a better understanding of basketball and basketball officiating.

The new FIBA Manual for National Federations contains a chapter dedicated to the Referees – Guidelines for Recruitment of New Referees, National Development Program, and Guide-

lines for the Work of Table Officials.

Thirty-four articles from top experts on basketball officiating were published in 20 issues of the FIBA Assist magazine.

In each issue, there are 10 rule questions where the readers can test their knowledge of basketball rules.