



NEW YORK GIRLS BASKETBALL
OFFICIALS ASSOCIATION, INC.

To: NYS GIRLS BASKETBALL COMMITTEE and all NYSGBOA OFFICIALS
From: Carlo Lorenzetti, NYSGBOA Rules Interpreter
Date: Sept. 24, 2005
Subject: 2005 – 2006 NYS Girls Basketball Rules re: Knee Braces

In order to put everyone on the same page re: knee braces.

THERE ARE TWO RULES THAT APPLY TO THIS SITUATION -

Rule 3, Section 7, Article 5 – PBR 65 – “EQUIPMENT THAT COULD CUT OR CAUSE INJURY TO ANOTHER PLAYER SHALL BE PROHIBITED, “

AND

Rule 3, Section 7, Article 6 – PBR 65 – “... BASKETBALL KNEE BRACES MAY BE WORN IF THEY ARE COVERED PROPERLY. ...”

Last year there were various interpretations by different officials as to what is allowed and what is not allowed. There were also a few instances where a player was cut after colliding with a player with a hard plastic knee brace.

This is how knee braces will be considered ‘covered properly’ for the 2005 – 06 season.

ALL knee braces with exposed hard plastic or metal will be covered with the sleeve that is available to be purchased with them. IF A PLAYER DOES NOT HAVE A SLEEVE (SPORTS COVER) IN HER POSSESSION, SHE MAY NOT PLAY!!!! That player should then be advised that she should contact her physician so that she may obtain a cover for the brace so that she may comply with the rule.

After discussing these braces with a couple of orthopedic surgeons, I was informed that with almost all knee braces (the hard plastic or metal ones) a nylon or neoprene sleeve is available to cover them with. The surgeons told me that these covers do not reduce the effectiveness of the brace. A player should be able to contact the physician who fitted her with the brace to find out where she can obtain a cover for it. Some of the sleeves come in different sizes depending on the model of the brace. Also many physicians have some of these sleeves on hand for their patients and if they do not carry them they should know where to order them.

A leading supplier in the industry is:

DJ Orthopedics in California—

the sleeve is called a - “Sports Cover” - and can be ordered at 1-800-336-6569

Carlo