

It's All About the Game!

The clock is counting down the last seconds of a season defining game. The play is beyond intense! The players are pushing each other to the limits of their skills and abilities. Winning or losing hangs on the outcome of every move and every bounce of the ball. THE final shot goes up! Make it, and the win goes to the offense. Miss it and victory will be determined by the rebound. The unthinkable happens. The ball lodges!

In 1891 when Dr. James Naismith nailed that first fruit basket to the wall in his Springfield, Massachusetts YMCA gymnasium, he had a lot more issues to worry about than the ball getting lodged between the peach basket and the wall. As the equipment, players, and techniques evolved, provisions and rules were developed to maintain the intentions that the outcome of the game be decided solely upon the skills and efforts of the players. Rims became more rigid and were attached to smooth solid wood backboards. The balls were made of real leather.



The occasion where the ball might become lodged between rim and backboard was virtually non-existent. However, with the advent of the glass backboard, spring loaded breakaway rims along with the increased speed and power at which the game is played, there has evolved a significant increase in the frequency of game stoppage and outcomes potentially decided by this change of possession due to the ball lodging. These disruptions to the game are often significant and occasionally even game changing. While the issue seems simple, the solution requires careful consideration.

Why is 'Ball Lodging' a problem?

- Stops game play and ball possession is awarded to the team per the Possession Arrow with no consideration of fault.
- Interruption of the flow of the game with stoppage of play just when ball possession is being intently contended for by the skills and efforts of players.
- Increasing frequency of occurrence of this unintended game interruption a clear violation of the original integrity and spirit of the Game.

Factors contributing to "Ball Lodging"

- Glass Backboards- increase the ability of the ball to grip the surface
- Breakaway Rims- permits the rim to move relative to the backboard
- Ball Surfaces- more grip on the backboard and on the rim
- Bigger, stronger, faster players: More ball action on the rim, More aggressive play
- Rule interpretations that favor/ permit more 'under-the-basket' and 'on-the-rim' play

RimGuard™ ball deflectors

- Clear smooth glass hemispherical shape
- *Simply stops ball short of reaching critical depth in the rim/ backboard “V” zone*
- Nothing to service, repair, or adjust
- Safe- poses no risk to players: No sharp edges or restrictions
- Effective: Natural rim-backboard bounce- No ‘strange’ bounces
- Retrofit capable -Can be easily and permanently fitted to all current glass backboards
- Unobtrusive, Simple & Safe



Restoring and Preserving the Integrity and Spirit of the Game-

- Only the on-the court skills, efforts and actions of the players are to determine the outcome.
- The court and equipment must be unbiased and must not interfere with the competition.
- The ebb and flow of the on-the-court momentum is crucial to competition.
- The Rules, Regulations and equipment must be impartial and protect the integrity of the Game.

RimGuard™ ball deflectors simply and significantly reduce the opportunity for the ball to become lodged by slowing the ball down just enough to prevent the momentum of the ball to penetrate into the “V” area. No strange bounces or interference to the game.

RimGuard™ ball deflectors restore and safeguard the integrity of the game of basketball while remaining quietly and virtually invisible to the fans and players. It does not pose any risk of injury nor does it interfere with the mechanics of the spring-loaded breakaway rims. Existing equipment can be retro-fitted with RimGuard™ ball deflectors in minutes without tools, disassembly or removal of the backboard or rim. Play can resume immediately after installation. With RimGuard™ ball deflectors installed the only difference in the game will be that ball lodging will be virtually eliminated from the game of basketball.

RimGuard™ ball deflectors are available in a professional installation kit. The kit allows a person with basic mechanical capabilities to easily install RimGuard™ ball deflectors on 6 existing glass backboards.

Each Kit contains: 1. Step-by-Step instructions w/ diagrams, 2. Alcohol wipes- to clean the glass, 3. A Location template, 4. 12 RimGuard™ ball deflectors -enough for 6 backboards. Each ball deflector comes ready to peel-n-stick on to the backboards using a special space age adhesive backing.

www.rimguardsports.com

PlayMore RimGuard™ - *It's All About the Game!*

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