

## Launceston Basketball Association Drop Back Rule Interpretations

These interpretations are to be read in conjunction with the Launceston Basketball Association By Laws, as found on the Launceston Basketball Association website, [www.launceston.basketball/inside-lba](http://www.launceston.basketball/inside-lba)

Any questions regarding these Interpretations must be directed first to your Club, and then via the process outlined in the Launceston Basketball Association Communication Process, as found on the Launceston Basketball Association Website [www.launceston.basketball/inside-lba](http://www.launceston.basketball/inside-lba)

### By Law 8 Drop Back Rule

**Statement:** When a team is leading by twenty (20) points in Development League and Baptist B Grade, and thirty (30) points in Baptist A Grade, its players must immediately “drop back” into their backcourt behind halfway when playing defence.

**Example:** Team A leading scores and the margin between Team A and Team B becomes equal to or greater than:

- a) 20 points in Development League & Baptist B Grade
- b) 30 points in Baptist A Grade

#### Interpretation:

In both **a)** and **b)** the requirement for the drop back rule to be enforced has been reached for the respective competitions. Team A must now allow Team B to clearly establish control of the ball in the Team B Front Court once Team B has gained clear control of the ball in the Team B backcourt. A violation of this rule will result in Team A being penalised and Team B receiving 1 free throw and a sideline ball in their front court.

**Statement:** Once the team that is down secures control of the ball (dribbling or holding the ball) in its backcourt, they shall be allowed to dribble the ball unimpeded across halfway and establish front court status.

**Example:** Team A is leading Team B by a margin greater than the Drop Back Rule threshold for the competition. Team B then steals the ball from Team A in the Team B backcourt. Team A then:

- a) starts to Defend in the Team B backcourt, pressuring the ball carrier.
- b) drops back and waits for Team B to establish control of the ball in the Team B front court before pressuring the ball carrier.

#### Interpretation:

- a) In this situation, Team A has violated the Drop Back Rule and shall be penalised. Team B shall receive 1 free throw and a sideline ball in their front court.
- b) No violation of the drop back rule has occurred, play continues.

**Statement:** If the margin reduces below the drop back threshold, then the “Drop Back” rule does not apply.

**Example:** Team A is leading Team B by:

- a) 20 points in Development League & Baptist B Grade and Team B who scores brings the margin back to 18 points.
- b) 30 points in Baptist A Grade and Team B who scores brings the margin back to 28 points.

**Interpretation:**

In both **a)** and **b)** the requirement for the drop back rule to be enforced is no longer valid for the respective competitions. Team A may now freely defend and pressure the ball as the drop back rule is no longer in play until the scores reaches the required margin again.

**Statement:** The “Drop Back Rule” is to be applied in ALL Baptist and Development League competitions and is not optional.

**Example:** Team A is leading Team B and the drop back rule is in play. The Coach of Team B says that they are ok with the drop back rule not being used and for Team A to be freely allowed to defend and pressure the ball.

**Interpretation:** The drop back rule is not optional and must be always enforced when the margin between the teams is equal to or greater than:

- a) 20 points for Development League and Baptist B Grade
- b) 30 points for Baptist A Grade

Coaches can not request the rule not be used; it is to be enforced at all times once the margin threshold has been reached whether the coaches/teams want it in play or not.