# 2023-24 NBA OFFICIALS MEDIA GUIDE



#### **NBA OFFICIAL**

NBA Official (http://nba.com/official) offers the latest news and information about the NBA officiating program.

The site features the NBA Rulebook, NBA Video Rulebook and NBA Replay Archive. Last Two Minute Reports, referee game assignments and pool reporter transcripts are also available.

The NBA Video Rulebook microsite serves as a resource to teams, media and fans. It features explanation of the rules of the game through videos selected from NBA games. To view the Video Rulebook, please visit https://videorulebook.nba.com/.

For real-time rules clarifications, please follow NBA Official on the social media platform X (formerly Twitter) @NBAOfficial.

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#### 2023-24 NBA KEY DATES

September 26 First allowable date for players participating in preseason games in Abu Dhabi, UAE to report to

their teams (no earlier than 11 a.m. local time)

September 27 Training Camps open for all teams participating in preseason games outside North America

October 2 First allowable date for all other veteran players to report to their teams (no earlier than 11 a.m. local time)

October 3 NBA Training Camps open
October 5 NBA Preseason games begin

October 5 & 7 NBA Abu Dhabi Games, Dallas Mavericks vs. Minnesota Timberwolves

October 20 NBA Preseason ends

October 23 Rosters set for NBA Opening Day (5 p.m. ET)
October 24 Start of the 2023-24 NBA Regular Season

October 28 NBA G League Draft

October 30 – Nov. 9 NBA G League Training Camp November 3 In-Season Tournament begins

November 9 NBA Mexico City Game, Atlanta Hawks vs. Orlando Magic November 9 Rosters set for NBA G League Opening Day (5 p.m. ET)

November 10 NBA G League Season begins

December 7 NBA In-Season Tournament Semifinals (Las Vegas, NV)

December 9 NBA In-Season Tournament Championship (Las Vegas, NV)

December 19-22 NBA G League Winter Showcase & Showcase Cup Championship Game

December 27 NBA G League 34-game regular season begins

January 5 10-day contracts may now be signed

January 10 All NBA contracts are guaranteed for the remainder of the season

January 11 NBA Paris Game, Brooklyn Nets vs. Cleveland Cavaliers

January 23-27 NBA Rivals Week

February 8 NBA Trade Deadline (3 p.m. ET)
February 16-18 NBA All-Star 2024 (Indianapolis, IN)

February 16-21 NBA All-Star break

March 1 Playoff Eligibility Waiver Deadline
March 30 NBA G League Regular Season ends
April 2 NBA G League Playoffs begin

April 14 Regular Season ends

April 15 Rosters set for NBA Playoffs 2024 (3 p.m. ET)

April 16-19 NBA Play-In Tournament April 20 NBA Playoffs 2024 begin

April 28 NBA Early Entry Eligibility Deadline (11:59 p.m. ET)

May 6-7 Conference Semifinals begin (possible move up to May 4-5)

May 12 NBA Draft Lottery 2024 presented by State Farm

May 13-19 NBA Combine (Chicago, IL)

May 21-22 Conference Finals begin (possible move up to May 19-20)

June 6NBA Finals 2024 Game 1June 9NBA Finals 2024 Game 2June 12NBA Finals 2024 Game 3June 14NBA Finals 2024 Game 4

June 17 NBA Draft Early Entry Entrant Withdrawal Deadline (5 p.m. ET)

June 17 NBA Finals 2024 Game 5 (if necessary)
June 20 NBA Finals 2024 Game 6 (if necessary)
June 23 NBA Finals 2024 Game 7 (if necessary)
June 27 NBA Draft 2024 presented by State Farm





Byron Spruell
President, League Operations
National Basketball Association

As President, League Operations, Spruell oversees critical league operations, including domestic and international Basketball Operations, Referee Operations and Basketball Strategy & Analytics.

With effective integration of these departments, he is principally responsible for the processes regarding the management of rule changes; the development, evaluation and training of game officials; the enforcement of conduct standards and discipline; and the application of analytics, innovation and strategy on the future evolution of the game. Spruell also collaborates with USA Basketball and the International Basketball Federation (FIBA) to promote the global growth of the game and development of players worldwide.

Prior to joining the NBA in August 2016, Spruell spent 20 years at Deloitte LLP, most recently as its Vice Chairman, Central Region Market Leader. He spearheaded the firm's client and business growth and strategic positioning across 22 states consisting of 31 offices and more than 14,000 Deloitte professionals across the region. He also served as Chicago Managing Principal, supervising talent and community involvement initiatives in the local office. While serving as the Global Leader of Advisory, he successfully led and managed a business of 2,100 practitioners and over \$2.1 billion in size with growth in key priority markets such as China, India, Japan, Germany, Middle East, Australia, South Africa, Brazil, Canada and the United States.

Spruell has served on several charitable boards and committees, including Big Shoulders Fund, Chicago Urban League, Northwestern Memorial HealthCare and World Business Chicago. He is currently on the boards of the Museum of Science and Industry and Metropolitan Family Services in Chicago, the Jackie Robinson Foundation in New York, the United Way and Aon, a leading global professional services firm. He is also on the Board of Governors of the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame.

Spruell, who grew up in Cleveland, earned a bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering and an MBA in Finance from the University of Notre Dame, where he was an offensive lineman and co-captain of the Fighting Irish's football team. He currently serves on the university's Board of Trustees and as an advisor on the Monogram Club. Spruell met his wife, Sedra, at Notre Dame. They have a son, Devyn, and a daughter, Aleah.



Albert Sanders Jr.
Executive Vice President, Head of Referee Operations
National Basketball Association

Albert Sanders Jr. began with the NBA as Executive Vice President, Head of Referee Operations in October 2023.

In his new role, Sanders directs the NBA officiating program with responsibility for the recruitment, hiring, supervision and evalua-

tion of all referees. He also oversees the NBA Replay Center, manages initiatives on transparency and technological innovation, and collaborates directly with teams on a range of topics.

Sanders joined the NBA from Google, where he started in 2017 and most recently served as Global Director of Government Affairs & Public Policy. He led an international team for Google Cloud, supporting global operations, artificial intelligence and infrastructure policy, product development and go-to-market strategy.

Prior to Google, Sanders provided legal and strategic advice to officials at the highest levels of government. His public service experience includes positions as Associate Counsel to President Barack Obama, Counsel for the U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee, and Counselor to the General Counsel at the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

A native of Compton, Calif., Sanders earned a bachelor's degree in Political Science from Morehouse College, a law degree from the University of Pennsylvania Carey Law School and a Certificate of Study in Business Management & Public Policy from The Wharton School. After law school, he worked as a litigation associate at Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld.



Monty McCutchen
Senior Vice President, Head of Referee Development and Training
National Basketball Association

Monty McCutchen oversees the day-to-day management and on-court performance of all officials in the NBA officiating program, which services the NBA, WNBA and NBA G League.

McCutchen assumed his current position in December 2017 after spending 25 seasons as an NBA staff official. He officiated more than 1,400 regular-season games and 169 playoff games, including 16 NBA Finals games. His last Finals assignment was Game 3 of the 2017 series between the Cleveland Cavaliers and the Golden State Warriors

Before joining the NBA, McCutchen served as a referee in the Continental Basketball Association for four seasons. He officiated playoff games all four years, including the CBA Finals in his last three seasons.

A native of San Angelo, Texas, McCutchen earned a bachelor's degree in English Literature and Speech Communication from the University of Texas at Arlington. McCutchen and his wife have a son and a daughter.



Kane Fitzgerald
Vice President of Referee Operations and Replay Center Principal
National Basketball Association

Kane Fitzgerald is in his second season as Vice President of Referee Operations and Replay Center Principal. He came off the court as a top-performing official after the 2021-22 season to assume his current role.

Fitzgerald is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the NBA Replay Center. His Referee Operations duties include creating training videos and interpreting the rules of the game for officials, teams, broadcasters and media.

Fitzgerald officiated 779 regular-season games in 13 seasons as an NBA staff official. He worked 69 playoff games, including four NBA Finals games. He also officiated the 2022 NBA All-Star Game in Cleveland.

Fitzgerald considers his most memorable NBA assignment to be his first NBA Finals: Game 3 of the 2019 Finals between the Golden State Warriors and the Toronto Raptors.

Before joining the NBA, Fitzgerald officiated in the NBA G League for four years and the WNBA for two years. He also refereed at the collegiate level for two years in the Ohio Valley, Atlantic Sun and Big South conferences. Fitzgerald started officiating high school games at age 18.

A New Jersey native, Fitzgerald played college basketball at Centenary University in Hackettstown, N.J., where he earned a bachelor's degree in Business Administration in 2004.



Mike Callahan NBA G League Training and Development Lead National Basketball Association

Mike Callahan is in his fifth season as NBA G League Training and Development Lead after a 29-year career as an NBA referee.

Callahan is responsible for the implementation, development and execution of the NBA G League referee educational curriculum.

He also oversees NBA G League referee staff evaluation and development, including the transition of top candidates to the WNBA and NBA.

Callahan officiated 1,626 regular-season games as an NBA staff official. He also worked 225 playoff games, including 21 NBA Finals games. He finished his on-court career officiating Game 4 of the 2019 NBA Finals between the Golden State Warriors and the Toronto Raptors. Before joining the NBA, Callahan spent three years officiating in the Continental Basketball Association.

Known as "Duke," the Philadelphia-born Callahan's most memorable NBA assignment came in 1990, when he officiated a game at the Spectrum in Philadelphia for the first time.



## George Toliver Associate Vice President, Referee Operations National Basketball Association

George Toliver has been a member of the NBA's Referee Operations department since 2004. In his current role, Toliver oversees the implementation of programs designed to identify new officials for the NBA's developmental pipeline.

Toliver officiated 742 regular-season games in 15 seasons as an NBA staff official. In addition, Toliver was a FIBA official from 1985-2000, with assignments that included the 1995 European Championships and the 1994 FIBA Basketball World Cup.

His officiating experience includes a stint in the Chinese Basketball Association, one year with the United States Basketball League, six years of college basketball and 11 years of high school basketball. He has also conducted clinics in Germany, Greece, Spain, Taiwan, Turkey and Poland.

Toliver earned a bachelor's degree in Social Science and a master's degree in Education from James Madison University. He played four seasons of basketball for JMU and was the team MVP in 1971 and 1972. Toliver was an instructor at JMU, in addition to being the assistant baseball coach from 1973-74 and assistant basketball coach from 1973-75. He was inducted into the James Madison University Hall of Fame in 1991.

Toliver played four years of high school basketball at King George High School in Virginia, earning All-State honors and playing the state championship game in 1969. He was inducted into the King George Sports Hall of Fame in 2012.

Toliver founded and served as general manager of the Harrisonburg (Va.) HEAT Girls Basketball Club, which helped develop skills for girls ages 6-17.

His daughter, Washington Mystics guard Kristi Toliver, is a three-time WNBA All-Star and two-time WNBA champion.



Mark Wunderlich Vice President, Referee Operations National Basketball Association

Mark Wunderlich is in his 10<sup>th</sup> season as a member of the NBA's Referee Development and Performance group.

He was an NBA staff official from 1999-2010, working 1,100 regular-season games and 80 playoff games, including two NBA

Finals games. He also officiated two NBA All-Star Games.

Before joining the NBA, Wunderlich was an official in the Continental Basketball Association from 1997-99.

Wunderlich was inducted into the Delaware County Chapter of the Pennsylvania Sports Hall of Fame in 2015.



Eddie F. Rush Referee Development Performance Advisor National Basketball Association

Eddie F. Rush is in his ninth season as a member of the Referee Development and Performance group.

In 28 seasons as an NBA referee, Rush officiated 1,567 regularseason games and 206 playoff games, including 13 NBA Finals games. He also worked the 2000 and 2008 NBA All-Star Games.

As a FIBA official for 12 years, his assignments included two FIBA Basketball World Cups (2002 in Indiana and 2006 in Japan). He was selected to work the bronze-medal game during the 2008 Summer Olympics in Beijing. Rush also has four years of officiating experiencing in both the Continental Basketball Association and the collegiate ranks.

Rush holds a bachelor's degree in Marketing from Georgia State University, where he played basketball for two seasons. After graduating, Rush worked for three years in the financial planning services industry as a licensed representative with the investment firm Waddell & Reed.

Rush is the owner of the Atlanta-based company Twilight Productions 2, which promotes concerts and comedy shows.



## **Bennett Salvatore**Referee Development Performance Advisor National Basketball Association

Bennett Salvatore is in his 10<sup>th</sup> season as a member of the Referee Development and Performance group.

Salvatore officiated 1,805 regular-season games in 33 seasons as an NBA staff official. He also refereed 238 playoff games, including 25 NBA Finals games. His assignments included the 1993 and 2002 NBA All-Star Games and the 1993 McDonald's Championship in Germany.

Before joining the NBA, Salvatore officiated for two years in the Continental Basketball Association and 10 years at the high school level.

Salvatore played baseball while attending C.W. Post. He was an All-County high school baseball player and All-State football player at Stamford Catholic High School in Connecticut. He also played basketball for three years.

In 2014, Salvatore was honored by the Fairfield County American Cancer Society as Philanthropist of the Year. He is a founding member of the Mickey Lione Jr. Fund, which awards scholarships to high school athletes and supports youth sports in Stamford.

Salvatore is also a motivational speaker for many organizations.



## Joe Crawford Referee Development Performance Advisor National Basketball Association

Joey Crawford is in his ninth season as a member of the Referee Development and Performance group.

Crawford was an NBA staff official for 39 years. He officiated 2,556 regular-season games and 374 playoff games, including 50 NBA Finals games. Crawford also worked the 1986, 1992 and 2000 NBA All-Star Games and the 1993 McDonald's Championship in Germany.

Before joining the NBA, Crawford officiated in the Eastern Basketball Association (which became the Continental Basketball Association) and at the high school level in Pennsylvania.

Crawford graduated from Cardinal O'Hara High School in Springfield, Pa., and is a member of the school's Hall of Fame. In 2008, Crawford earned a degree in Liberal Studies from Neumann College.

His late father, Shag, and his brother, Jerry, were both longtime Major League Baseball umpires.



Pete Williams
Replay Cener Operations Leader
National Basketball Association

Pete Williams is in his 10<sup>th</sup> season as a member of the Referee Operations department.

In his role as NBA Replay Operations Lead, Williams collaborates with on-court and Replay Center referees during replay situations to ensure that reviews are fast and efficient. Williams also creates training curricula, establishes protocol and assigns nightly game responsibilities for all Replay Center personnel.

Before joining the NBA in 2014, Williams was the general manager and an advance scout for Hoop1 Video, a renowned national basketball content provider. He worked as a video coordinator for the New Jersey Nets from 2004-10 and as a scout for the the Charlotte Bobcats from 2010-14.

Williams is a graduate of Fairfield University, where he played on the 1997 MAAC Championship basketball team. He lives in Ridgewood, N.J., with his wife, Jessica, son, Preston, and three daughters, Rory, Lilliana and Macy.



Gary Zielinski
Director, Amateur Officiating Development
National Basketball Association

Gary Zielinski is in his fifth season as Director, Amateur Officiating Development after an 18-year career as an NBA referee.

Zielinski provides guidance and training regarding playing rules and officiating career opportunities to amateur players, coaches and officials, with a specific focus on youth. He creates and implements youth officiating development curriculum based on the NBA's officiating program and Jr. NBA's educational initiatives. In addition, Zielinski conducts clinics and camps and identifies candidates for introduction into the referee scouting pipeline.

Zielinski officiated 1,023 regular-season games and 18 playoff games as an NBA staff official. He also worked the 2018 NBA All-Star Game in Los Angeles.

Zielinski officiated for seven seasons in the Continental Basketball Association and four seasons in the WNBA. He refereed the Finals in both leagues.



#### **2023-24 NBA OFFICIATING STAFF**

3	Nick Buchert	68	Jacyn Goble
4	Sean Wright	70	Phenizee Ransom
7	Lauren Holtkamp-Sterling	71	Rodney Mott
8	Marc Davis	72	J.T. Orr
9			
	Natalie Sago	$\frac{74}{77}$	Curtis Blair
10	John Goble	77 <b>7</b> 0	Karl Lane
11	Derrick Collins	78	Evan Scott
12	CJ Washington	81	Simone Jelks
13	Ashley Moyer-Gleich	82	Suyash Mehta
14	Ed Malloy	83	Andy Nagy
15	Zach Zarba	85	Robert Hussey
16	David Guthrie	86	Brandon Schwab
17	Jonathan Sterling	87	Danielle Scott
18	Matt Boland	89	Dannica Mosher
19	James Capers	91	Che Flores
20	Jenna Schroeder	96	Intae Hwang
21	Dedric Taylor	98	Sha'Rae Mitchell
22	JB DeRosa	70	ond rac wittenen
23	Tre Maddox	Non-	Staff Officials:
24	Kevin Scott	76	
25			Clare Aubry
	Tony Brothers	80	Biniam Maru
26	Pat Fraher	90	Pat O'Connell
27	Mitchell Ervin	92	Brent Haskill
28	Mousa Dagher	93	Jenna Reneau
29	Mark Lindsay	94	J.D. Ralls
30	John Butler	95	Tyler Ricks
31	Scott Wall	97	Tyler Mirkovich
32	Marat Kogut		
33	Sean Corbin	Pronu	unciation Guide:
34	Kevin Cutler	Brand	lon Adair (UH-dare)
35	Jason Goldenberg	Brent	Barnaky (barn-UH-key)
36	Brent Barnaky		Buchert (BOOK-ert)
37	Eric Dalen		a Dagher (MOOSE-ah Dagger)
38	Michael Smith		Dalen (DAY-len)
39	Tyler Ford		Forte (for-TAY)
40	Leon Wood		raher (FRAY-er)
41	Nate Green		Goble (JAY-sin go-BULL)
43	Matt Myers		Goble (go-BULL)
44	Brett Nansel		Hwang (IN-tay Wang)
45	Brian Forte		Kallio (kal-LEE-oh)
46	Ben Taylor		
			t Kogut (MAH-rot co-GUT)
47	Bennie Adams		h Mehta (Sue-YAHSH)
48	Scott Foster		ae Mitchell (SHUH-Ray)
49	Tom Washington		ica Mosher (MOH-sure)
50	Gediminas Petraitis		y Moyer-Gleich (gleash)
51	Aaron Smith		Nansel (nan-SUL)
52	Scott Twardoski		minas Petraitis (geh-duh-MIHN-us pih-TRY-tis)
53	Matt Kallio		zee Ransom (FEN-uh-ZEE)
54	Ray Acosta	Natali	ie Sago (SAY-go)
55	Bill Kennedy	Jenna	Schroeder (shROW-der)
56	John Conley	Scott '	Twardoski (twar-DAH-ski)
58	Josh Tiven		Van Duyne (van-DINE)
60	James Williams	-	•
61	Courtney Kirkland		
63	Derek Richardson		
64	Justin Van Duyne		
67	Brandon Adair		



## RAY ACOSTA #54



NBA Experience: 7<sup>th</sup> season

Born: December 12, 1983 (Elizabeth, N.J.)

**High School:** Lake Worth (Lake Worth, Fla.)

College: University of Central Florida '07

Ray Acosta has officiated 309 regular-season games and one playoff game in six seasons as an NBA staff official. He made his playoff debut in the 2023 NBA Playoffs.

Acosta spent six years as an NBA G League referee, working the All-Star Game and Finals in 2017.

He has 12 years of collegiate officiating experience, with stints in Conference USA as well as the Sun Belt, Southern, American Athletic, Atlantic Sun, Mid-Eastern Athletic and Big South conferences. Acosta officiated in the NCAA Tournament in 2016 and 2017.

Off the court, Acosta enjoys working out, traveling, going to the movies and attending concerts.

#### **FUN FACTS**

**Favorite TV Show:** The Sopranos

Favorite Movie: Scarface

Favorite Musician: Michael Jackson

Favorite Book: Rich Dad Poor Dad

Favorite Meal: Anything Italian

**Favorite App:** Netflix

Most Like To Visit: Maldives

**Bucket List:** Be in shark tank surrounded by great white sharks in Australia

Hidden Talent: Dancing

## **BRANDON ADAIR #67**



NBA Experience: 6<sup>th</sup> season

Born: September 14, 1985 (Norfolk, Va.)

High School: Princess Anne (Virginia Beach, Va.)

College: Virginia Wesleyan University '12

Brandon Adair (UH-dare) has officiated 232 regularseason games in five seasons as an NBA staff official. He officiated the Rising Stars competition and All-Star Saturday Night during NBA All-Star 2023 in Salt Lake City.

Adair has four years of officiating experience in both the NBA G League and the collegiate ranks, with stints in the Big South, Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association and Old Dominion Athletic conferences. He was also a high school referee in Virginia for seven years.

A standout basketball player at Princess Anne High School in Virginia Beach, Va., Adair went on to play in college at Virginia Wesleyan and professionally for two seasons in Germany.

#### **FUN FACTS**

**Favorite TV Show:** The Fresh Prince of

Bel-Air

Favorite Movie: The Pursuit of Happyness

Favorite Musician: Charlie Wilson

Favorite Book: David Baldacci books

**Favorite Meal:** Surf and turf

Favorite App: TripCase

Most Like To Visit: Rome

**Bucket List:** Sky diving

Adair has done charitable work with Something Local, Walk MS and Norfolk SPCA.

## **BENNIE ADAMS #47**



NBA Experience: 29<sup>th</sup> season

Born: April 8, 1967 (New Orleans, La.)

**High School:** Eleanor McMain (New Orleans, La.)

College: Southern University '90; M.S. at Southern '93

Bennie Adams has officiated 1,374 regular-season games and 20 playoff games in 28 seasons as an NBA staff official. Adams officiated the 2015 NBA Mexico City Game, the 2011 NBA All-Star Game in Los Angeles and the 2008 NBA Europe Live Tour. He was also a USA Basketball official from 1995-2005.

Adams considers his most important and memorable assignment to be the current game he is officiating. One game that stands out was a regular-season game between the Houston Rockets and the Los Angeles Lakers on April 10, 2018. In that game, 32-year-old Lakers rookie Andre Ingram scored 19 points in his NBA debut after spending a decade in the NBA G League.

#### **FUN FACTS**

Favorite TV Show: Law & Order

Favorite Musician: Prince

**Favorite Book:** The Little Engine That Could

Favorite Meal: Everything that Mom cooks

**Most Like To Visit:** A remote tropical island with wifi for only 1 hour daily

Bucket List: Move to that island

**Hidden Talent:** Cooking

Adams officiated in both the Continental Basketball Association and college basketball (Southeastern, Ohio Valley, Atlantic Sun and Southwestern Athletic conferences) for three years each. He also has 10 years of high school officiating experience in Louisiana.

The New Orleans native has both a bachelor's and master's degree in Mathematics from Southern University. He is a former math instructor at Southern.

Adams and fellow NBA official Mitchell Ervin both attended high school at Eleanor McMain in New Orleans.

## **BRENT BARNAKY #36**



**NBA Experience:** 14<sup>th</sup> season

Born: May 30, 1975 (Hamilton, Ohio)

**High School:** Clearwater (Clearwater, Fla.)

**College:** University of Central Florida '97;

Shepard Broad College of Law '01

Brent Barnaky (barn-UH-key) has officiated 749 regular-season games and nine playoff games in 13 seasons as an NBA staff official.

Barnaky was a member of the crews that refereed NBA games in London and Rio De Janiero in 2014 and in Mexico City in 2018. He also worked the Rising Stars competition during NBA All-Star 2014 in New Orleans.

Barnaky considers his most memorable NBA assignment to be a game between the Los Angeles Lakers and the Minnesota Timberwolves on Dec. 14, 2014, when Kobe Bryant passed Michael Jordan on the all-time scoring list.

#### **FUN FACTS**

Favorite TV Show: Ozark

**Favorite Movie:** For Love of the Game

Favorite Musician: Chris Botti

**Favorite Book:** Ego Is the Enemy

Favorite Meal: Chicken parmesan

Favorite App: FaceTime

**Most Like To Visit:** Italy

Bucket List: Great Barrier Reef scuba dive

Barnaky came to the NBA with 10 years of collegiate officiating experience in several major conferences, including the SEC, Big East and Conference USA. He officiated the NBA G League playoffs from 2008-10 and the NBA G League Finals in 2009 and 2010.

Barnaky earned a juris doctorate from Nova Southern University Shepard Broad College of Law in Florida. He has experience as a civil trial lawyer.

Barnaky and his wife have three children.

## **CURTIS BLAIR #74**



**NBA Experience:** 16<sup>th</sup> season

Born: September 24, 1970 (Roanoke, Va.)

High School: Patrick Henry (Roanoke, Va.)

**College:** University of Richmond '92

Curtis Blair has officiated 832 regular-season games and 32 playoff games in 15 seasons as an NBA staff official. In 2019, he made his playoff debut as an NBA referee and worked the NBA All-Star Game in Charlotte.

Blair has six seasons of NBA G League experience and refereed the 2008 NBA G League Finals. He also officiated in several collegiate conferences, including the ACC, Atlantic 10 and Colonial Athletic Association.

The Virginia native graduated with a bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice from the University of Richmond,

where he was a member of the 1991 basketball team that upset second-seeded Syracuse in the first round of the NCAA Tournament.

Blair was selected by the Houston Rockets in the second round of the 1992 NBA Draft. He played professionally in Australia, Austria and Turkey.

#### **FUN FACTS**

Favorite TV Show: Dexter

Favorite Movie: Grease

Favorite Musician: K-Ci & JoJo

Favorite Meal: Lamb curry

Most Like To Visit: Brazil

**Hidden Talent:** Tennis

## MATT BOLAND #18



NBA Experience: 21st season

Born: September 28, 1966 (Cromwell, Conn.)

High School: Marianapolis Prep (Thompson, Conn.)

College: Quinebaug Valley Community College '90

Matt Boland has officiated 1,127 regular-season games and one playoff game in 20 seasons as an NBA staff official. He also worked the 2016 NBA All-Star Game in Toronto.

Before joining the NBA, Boland officiated two years in the NBA G League, five years in the WNBA and seven years in the Continental Basketball Association. He refereed the Finals in all three leagues. Boland also has five years of officiating experience in the United States Basketball League.

Boland officiated at the collegiate level for four years, working in the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference, Ivy League and Ohio Valley Conference, among others. He

#### **FUN FACTS**

Favorite TV Show: Seinfeld

Favorite Movie: Tin Cup

**Favorite Musician:** Tom Petty

Favorite Book: High Performance Habits

Favorite Meal: Pizza

**Favorite App:** Dark Sky

Most Like To Visit: Scotland

Bucket List: Play golf at Augusta National

also has high school officiating experience in Connecticut, where he refereed state finals games in 1997 and 1998.

Boland served in the Connecticut National Guard from 1987-95. He was commissioned 2nd Lieutenant in 1990 before being promoted to 1st Lieutenant in 1992.

An accomplished golfer, Boland has competed in several PGA of America events and worked as a PGA professional.

## **TONY BROTHERS #25**



**NBA Experience:** 30<sup>th</sup> season

Born: September 14, 1964 (Norfolk, Va.)

**High School:** Booker T. Washington (Norfolk, Va.)

College: Old Dominion University '86 & '22 (M.A.)

Tony Brothers has officiated 1,690 regular-season games in 29 seasons as an NBA staff official. He has also refereed 187 playoff games, including 16 NBA Finals games. Brothers' assignments have also included the 1999 McDonald's Championship in Italy and the 2008 China Games.

Brothers considers his most memorable NBA assignment to be his first NBA Finals: Game 2 of the 2012 Finals between the Miami Heat and the Oklahoma City Thunder.

Before joining the NBA, Brothers spent four years officiating in the Continental Basketball Association, including three Finals and an All-Star Game. Brothers also has

#### **FUN FACTS**

**Favorite TV Show: 24** 

Favorite Movie: Claudine

Favorite Musician: Earth, Wind & Fire

Favorite Book: The Bible

**Favorite Meal:** Fried croakers

**Favorite App:** Spotify

Most Like To Visit: Israel

**Hidden Talent:** Cooking

seven years of high school officiating experience in Virginia and one year of service at the junior college level.

To honor his late mother, Dorothy Brothers, a former Bank of America executive, Brothers and his wife co-founded the Still Hope Foundation, which seeks to assist single mothers in building a strong, successful family unit by offering quality resources and supportive relationships.

Brothers attended Old Dominion University, where he earned a bachelor's degree in Business Administration and Management Information Systems and a master's degree in Public Administration.

Brothers is married to Kimberley J. Brothers and has six children.

## NICK BUCHERT #3



**NBA Experience:** 14<sup>th</sup> season

Born: April 17, 1983 (Orlando, Fla.)

High School: University (Orlando, Fla.)

**College:** University of Phoenix

Nick Buchert (BOOK-ert) has officiated 748 regularseason games and nine playoff games in 13 seasons as an NBA staff official. He also refereed the Rising Stars competition during NBA All-Star 2014 in New Orleans.

Buchert has nine years of officiating experience in college basketball and four years in the NBA G League. He officiated the 2010 NBA G League Finals and the 2010 NBA G League All-Star Game.

His interests include traveling, cooking, working out and biking. An avid wine collector, Buchert has more than 500 bottles in his wine cellar.

Buchert has done volunteer work with March of Dimes, among other community outreach projects.

#### **FUN FACTS**

**Favorite TV Show:** Game of Thrones and Walking Dead

Favorite Movie: Gladiator

Favorite Musician: David Gray

Favorite Book: October Sky

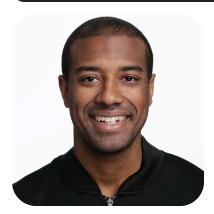
**Favorite Meal:** Steak

**Favorite App:** Bandsintown

Most Like To Visit: Rome

**Bucket List:** Attend Super Bowl

## **JOHN BUTLER #30**



**NBA Experience:** 5<sup>th</sup> season

Born: August 20, 1986 (Biloxi, Miss.)

High School: San Diego (San Diego, Calif.)

College: Grand Canyon University

John Butler has officiated 162 regular-season games in four seasons as an NBA staff official.

Butler officiated five seasons in the NBA G League and two seasons in the WNBA. In the NBA G League, he worked the playoffs from 2015-19 and the Finals in 2018 and 2019.

Butler has four years of collegiate officiating experience, working in the Big West, West Coast and PacWest conferences. He also officiated high school games in California for three years.

His interests include traveling, visiting museums, reading, cooking, fitness, video games, collecting sneakers, movies, music and sports.

#### **FUN FACTS**

Favorite TV Show: Chappelle's Show

**Favorite Movie:** Do the Right Thing

Favorite Musician: Jay-Z

Favorite Book: Chop Wood Carry Water

Favorite Meal: Red beans and rice

**Favorite App:** The Bible

Most Like To Visit: Africa

## **JAMES CAPERS #19**



NBA Experience: 29<sup>th</sup> season

Born: November 8, 1961 (Chicago, Ill.)

**High School:** Hales Franciscan (Chicago, Ill.)

College: Northern Illinois University '84

James Capers has officiated 1,556 regular-season games in 28 seasons as an NBA staff official. He has also worked 178 playoff games, including 14 NBA Finals games.

Capers officiated the 2018 NBA All-Star Game in Los Angeles and the 2010 NBA All-Star Game in Arlington, Texas. He has worked NBA games in Beijing, Johannesburg, London, Paris and Tokyo.

Capers considers his most memorable NBA assignment to be his first NBA Finals: Game 3 of the 2012 Finals between the Miami Heat and the Oklahoma City Thunder.

In addition to his NBA experience, Capers spent six years as a referee in the Continental Basketball Association, where he officiated three Finals and two All-Star Games.

#### **FUN FACTS**

Favorite TV Show: Black-ish

**Favorite Movie:** Malcolm X

Favorite Musician: Jill Scott

**Favorite Book:** The Shack

Favorite Meal: Lobster roll on Martha's

Vineyard

Favorite App: Pandora

**Bucket List:** Attend English Premier League soccer match

Hidden Talent: Bid whist

Capers has served on the National Basketball Referees Association Executive Board and helped negotiate collective bargaining agreements with the NBA. He was the first official appointed to serve on the NBA Competition Committee. Capers also has been the referee representative on the Jr. NBA Board.

Capers is the son of former NBA official James Capers Sr.

## **DERRICK COLLINS #11**



NBA Experience: 23<sup>rd</sup> season

Born: July 15, 1965 (New Orleans, La.)

High School: Brother Martin (New Orleans, La.)

College: Xavier University of Louisiana '88

Derrick Collins has officiated 1,300 regular-season games and 35 playoff games in 22 seasons as an NBA staff official.

Before joining the NBA, Collins officiated five seasons in the Continental Basketball Association and three seasons in the WNBA, working the Finals in both leagues.

He has seven years of collegiate officiating experience in various conferences, including the SEC, Big 12, Conference USA, Sun Belt, Southland and Southwestern Athletic. Collins also officiated high school basketball in Louisiana.

#### **FUN FACTS**

**Favorite TV Show:** Martin

**Favorite Movie:** Glory

**Favorite Musician:** Bob Marley

Favorite Book: The Bible

Favorite Meal: Gumbo

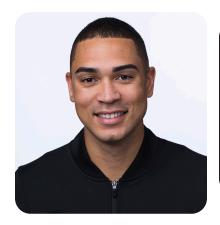
Most Like To Visit: Africa

**Bucket List:** Fly an airplane

Collins was a member of the Xavier University of Louisiana basketball team for four seasons, earning All-America Honorable Mention honors. He holds a bachelor's degree in Mass Communications.

Collins enjoys fishing, horseback riding, pool, weight training, bowling and golf.

## **JOHN CONLEY #56**



**NBA Experience:** 3<sup>rd</sup> season

Born: October 1, 1989 (Orlando, Fla.)

High School: Lake Highland Prep (Orlando, Fla.)

**College:** University of Central Florida '15;

M.A. at Central Florida '20

John Conley has officiated 65 regular-season games in two seasons as an NBA staff official. Conley also refereed 25 regular-season games as a non-staff official in the 2020-21 season.

Conley officiated for seven seasons in the NBA G League. He worked the 2019 NBA All-Star Celebrity Game in Charlotte.

Conley officiated collegiate games for 10 years in the Sunshine State, Sun, Suncoast, Mid-Florida and Southern conferences.

His first experience as a referee was officiating games with his mother in a men's 40-and-over league.

#### **FUN FACTS**

Favorite TV Show: I Think You Should Leave

Favorite Musician: Michael Jackson

**Favorite Book:** Be the Pack Leader

Favorite Meal: Potatoes and pasta

Favorite Movie: Dumb and Dumber

Most Like To Visit: Australia

**Bucket List:** Skydive in Dubai

**Hidden Talent:** Dog training

## **SEAN CORBIN #33**



NBA Experience: 29<sup>th</sup> season

Born: March 18, 1966 (Baltimore, Md.)

**High School:** Towson Catholic (Towson, Md.)

College: Coppin State University '90

Sean Corbin has officiated 1,513 regular-season games and 94 playoff games in 28 seasons as an NBA staff official. He also refereed the 2007 NBA All-Star Game in Las Vegas and at the 2004 Summer Olympics in Athens.

Corbin considers his most memorable NBA assignment to be a triple-overtime game between the Boston Celtics and the Vancouver Grizzlies on Feb. 17, 1999.

Corbin officiated four years in the Continental Basketball Association and nine years in the collegiate ranks, with stints in the Big East, Southern, Southeastern, Mid-Eastern Athletic and Metro Atlantic Athletic conferences. He also has four years of high school officiating experience.

The Baltimore native played basketball and baseball at Coppin State University.

#### **FUN FACTS**

Favorite TV Show: CSI: Miami

**Favorite Movie:** The Godfather and The Godfather Part II

Favorite Musician: Brian Culbertson

Favorite Book: Quiet Strength

Favorite Meal: Steak and lobster

Favorite App: News

Most Like To Visit: Johannesburg

**Bucket List:** Drive cross country in RV

**Hidden Talent:** Cooking

## **KEVIN CUTLER #34**



**NBA Experience:** 14<sup>th</sup> season

Born: August 8, 1968 (Los Angeles, Calif.)

**High School:** Ganesha (Pomona, Calif.)

College: Cal State Long Beach '99;

M.S. at Cal State Dominguez Hills '05

Kevin Cutler has officiated 714 regular-season games and 10 playoff games in 13 seasons as an NBA staff official.

He considers his most memorable NBA assignment to be his first playoff game: Houston Rockets vs. the Minnesota Timberwolves in a first-round series on April 21, 2018.

Cutler refereed for six seasons in the NBA G League, working two Finals series and the 2018 All-Star Game. He also spent six years as a college basketball official, including assignments in the 2009 National Invitational Tournament and the 2010 NCAA Tournament.

Cutler enjoys playing golf, reading and spending time with family.

#### **FUN FACTS**

**Favorite TV Show:** Homicide: Life on the

Favorite Musician: Luther Vandross

Favorite Book: Positive Intelligence

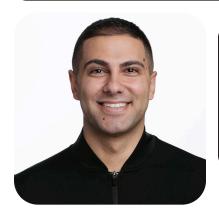
Favorite Meal: Chicken

Most Like To Visit: Africa

**Bucket List:** Play 20 of the top 100 U.S. golf courses

**Hidden Talent:** Playing the trumpet

## **MOUSA DAGHER #28**



NBA Experience: 6<sup>th</sup> season

Born: March 4, 1991 (Homs, Syria)

**High School:** Burbank (Burbank, Calif.)

College: Glendale Community College '13

Mousa Dagher (MOOSE-ah Dagger) has officiated 195 regular-season games in five seasons as an NBA staff official.

Dagher officiated two seasons in the NBA G League. He also has six years of collegiate officiating experience, with stints in the WAC, Big West and Big Sky conferences.

A Syrian native, Dagher moved to the United States in 2006 at age 15. He is former owner of the Brewberry Cafe in Anaheim, Calif. Dagher enjoys playing the piano, playing pickleball, traveling and spending time with family.

#### **FUN FACTS**

Favorite TV Show: America's Got Talent

Favorite Movie: Coach Carter

Favorite Musician: Drake

Favorite Book: Rich Dad, Poor Dad

Favorite Meal: Sushi

**Favorite App:** YouTube

Most Like To Visit: Thailand

**Bucket List:** Explore Europe with wife

**Hidden Talent:** Playing the piano

## ERIC DALEN #37



**NBA Experience:** 16<sup>th</sup> season

Born: July 12, 1972 (Minnetonka, Minn.)

High School: Minnetonka (Minnetonka, Minn.)

College: University of Minnesota

Eric Dalen (DAY-len) has officiated 752 regular-season games and two playoff games in 15 seasons as an NBA staff official. He also refereed the Rising Stars competition during NBA All-Star 2012 in Orlando.

Dalen made his NBA playoff debut in the 2021-22 season when he officiated Game 1 of a first-round series between the Atlanta Hawks and the Miami Heat.

He considers his most memorable NBA assignment to be his first game as a full-time staff official: Los Angeles Lakers at Denver Nuggets on Nov. 1, 2008.

#### **FUN FACTS**

**Favorite TV Show:** NCIS

**Favorite Movie:** We Were Soldiers

Favorite Musician: Zac Brown

Favorite Meal: Chili

Favorite App: Netflix

Most Like To Visit: Cruise around the

world

**Bucket List:** Take a ride in a fighter jet

Dalen officiated five seasons in the NBA G League, where he worked both the All-Star Game and Finals in 2008. He also refereed three years at the collegiate level in the SEC.

Dalen played college football as a tight end at the University of Minnesota. He is married and has four children.

## **MARC DAVIS #8**



NBA Experience: 26<sup>th</sup> season

Born: December 13, 1967 (Chicago, Ill.)

**High School:** St. Ignatius Prep (Chicago, Ill.)

College: U.S. Naval Academy

Marc Davis has officiated 1,503 regular-season games in 25 seasons as an NBA staff official. He has worked 189 playoff games, including 20 NBA Finals games. Davis also officiated the 2014 NBA All-Star Game in New Orleans and the 2020 NBA All-Star Game in Chicago.

In addition to his NBA service, Davis has three years of officiating experience in both the Continental Basketball Association and at the collegiate level.

A Chicago native, Davis was enshrined in the Illinois Basketball Coaches Association Hall of Fame in 2021. In 2012, he was recognized by the Chicago Public League Coaches Association with induction into the Chicago Public League Hall of Fame.

Davis enjoys playing golf and pickleball.

### **FUN FACTS**

Favorite TV Show: The Wire

**Favorite Movie:** Glory

Favorite Musician: John Coltrane

Favorite Book: Lonesome Dove

Favorite Meal: Pancakes

Favorite App: Cisco AnyConnect

Most Like To Visit: Venice

**Bucket List:** Fly a helicopter along the Chicago River

## JB DEROSA #22



**NBA Experience:** 7<sup>th</sup> season

Born: April 14, 1991 (Paducah, Ky.)

High School: Glen Oak (Canton, Ohio)

College: Malone University '13

JB DeRosa has officiated 320 regular-season games and five playoff games in six seasons as an NBA staff official. He made his debut as a playoff official in the 2021-22 season.

DeRosa spent five years as an NBA G League referee, working the Finals in 2016 and 2017.

DeRosa has extensive collegiate officiating experience. He officiated men's basketball from 2014-17, including assignments in the SEC and Conference USA. DeRosa also officiated women's basketball from 2009-13, including stints in the Big East and Atlantic 10 conferences.

### **FUN FACTS**

Favorite TV Show: The Big Bang Theory

Favorite Movie: Kingsman series

Favorite Musician: Kenny Chesney

Favorite Meal: Salmon and risotto

Most Like To Visit: Jost Van Dyke in Brit-

ish Virgin Islands

**Bucket List:** Play golf at Pebble Beach

**Hidden Talent:** Cooking

The son of former NBA official Joe DeRosa, JB started refereeing in local CYO and recreational leagues in northeast Ohio at age 13. JB excelled in track and field in high school and college.

During the offseason, he enjoys playing golf and traveling with his wife.

## MITCHELL ERVIN #27



NBA Experience: 9th season

Born: November 20, 1979 (New Orleans, La.)

**High School:** Eleanor McMain (New Orleans, La.)

College: University of New Orleans '02

Mitchell Ervin has officiated 430 regular-season games and eight playoff games in eight seasons as an NBA staff official. He made his debut as a playoff official in the 2021-22 season.

Ervin considers his most memorable NBA assignment to be his first game as a full-time NBA official, when the Golden State Warriors' Stephen Curry scored 53 points against the New Orleans Pelicans on Oct. 31, 2015. He also worked the Rising Stars competition at NBA All-Star 2019 in Charlotte.

Before joining the NBA, Ervin officiated in the NBA G League for four years, working the playoffs and Finals in 2014 and 2015 and the All-Star Game in 2014.

### **FUN FACTS**

**Favorite TV Show:** BMF

Favorite Movie: Coming to America

Favorite Musician: Drake

Favorite Book: Between the World and Me

Favorite Meal: Chargrilled oysters

Favorite App: TikTok

Most Like To Visit: Africa

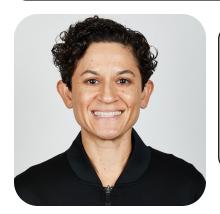
**Bucket List:** Sky diving

His résumé includes eight years of collegiate officiating experience, with assignments in the Big 12, Conference USA and other conferences. He refereed six years at the high school level in New Orleans and Houston.

Ervin previously worked for the sports representation firm SportsWest Football, the New Orleans Saints, the New Orleans Sports Foundation and as a middle school physical education teacher and coach. He and his wife founded a non-profit organization, The Ervin Element, to help mentor adolescents and young adults, as well as assist families in need.

Ervin graduated with a dual bachelor's degree in Sport Management and Exercise Physiology from the University of New Orleans, where he was a walk-on member of the 1997-98 basketball team and a member of the Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity. As a high schooler at Eleanor McMain in New Orleans (which fellow NBA official Bennie Adams also attended), Ervin was an All-District point guard who led his team to the 1997 state quarterfinals and earned All-State Academic Honorable Mention honors.

## **CHE FLORES #91**



NBA Experience: 2<sup>nd</sup> season

Born: July 18, 1979 (Los Angeles, Calif.)

High School: Bellarmine-Jefferson (Burbank, Calif.)

College: Cal State Northridge '03

Che Flores is in their second season as an NBA staff official. In 2022-23, they officiated 35 regular-season games in their first season on staff. Flores refereed 12 regular-season games as a non-staff official during the 2021-22 NBA season.

Flores officiated 10 seasons in the WNBA and nine seasons in the NBA G League. They worked the Finals in both leagues in 2022.

The California native has 13 years of officiating experience in college basketball, with stints in the Pac-12, Big 12, Mountain West, West Coast, Big Sky, Western Athletic and Big West conferences.

### **FUN FACTS**

Favorite TV Show: Game of Thrones

Favorite Movie: Pee-wee's Big Adventure

Favorite Musician: James Blake

Favorite Book: The Mindful Athlete

Favorite Meal: Cherry pie

**Favorite App:** Ten Percent Happier

Most Like To Visit: Outer space

**Bucket List:** Learn to play piano

As an official in women's college basketball, Flores referred the national championship game in 2021 and the Final Four in 2019.

## TYLER FORD #39



**NBA Experience:** 9<sup>th</sup> season

Born: June 8, 1985 (Lima, Ohio)

High School: Allen East (Lafayette, Ohio)

College: Ball State University '07; M.A. at Ball State '09

Tyler Ford has officiated 463 regular-season games and 31 playoff games in eight seasons as an NBA staff official. He was named as an alternate official for the 2023 NBA Finals.

Ford considers his most memorable NBA assignment to be his first playoff game: the Philadelphia 76ers vs. the Brooklyn Nets in a first-round series on April 13, 2019.

Before joining the NBA officiating staff, Ford refereed five seasons in the NBA G League, where he worked the Finals in 2015 and the All-Star Game in 2014.

Ford spent four seasons officiating in the WNBA. He also officiated Division I college basketball for three seasons in the Big Top. Mid. American Conference and Summ

sons in the Big Ten, Mid-American Conference and Summit League.

### **FUN FACTS**

Favorite TV Show: Yellowstone

Favorite Movie: Remember the Titans

Favorite Musician: Old Dominion

**Favorite Book:** The Power of a Positive Team

**Favorite Meal:** Steak

Favorite App: Netflix

Most Like To Visit: Ireland

Bucket List: Play golf at Augusta National

The Ohio native served as the Assistant Director of Intramural Sports at Purdue University from 2009-15. Ford holds both bachelor's and master's degrees in Sport Administration from Ball State University.

He enjoys playing golf in his free time.

# **BRIAN FORTE #45**



**NBA Experience:** 17<sup>th</sup> season

Born: August 18, 1975 (Fairfax, Va.)

High School: Westminster (Atlanta, Ga.)

College: Furman University '99

Brian Forte (for-TAY) has officiated 956 regular-season games and 37 playoff games in 16 seasons as an NBA staff official. He also worked the 2022 NBA All-Star Game in Cleveland.

Forte considers his most memorable NBA assignment to be his first playoff game: the Brooklyn Nets against the Toronto Raptors in a first-round series on April 19, 2014.

Forte worked six seasons in the NBA G League, officiating two Finals series. He also officiated collegiately in the SEC and Southern Conference, refereeing the con-

#### **FUN FACTS**

Favorite TV Show: Breaking Bad

Favorite Movie: The Godfather Part II

**Favorite Book:** The Count of Monte Cristo

Favorite Meal: Sushi

Favorite App: Netflix

Most Like To Visit: Spain

ference tournament in both leagues in 2007. That same year, he was selected to officiate the NCAA Tournament.

The son of former NBA referee Joe Forte, Brian received a bachelor's degree in Computing and Business from Furman University. He previously worked as a computer programmer.

## **SCOTT FOSTER #48**



NBA Experience: 30<sup>th</sup> season

Born: April 8, 1967 (Silver Spring, Md.)

High School: Magruder (Rockville, Md.)

College: University of Maryland '93

Scott Foster has officiated 1,675 regular-season games in 29 seasons as an NBA staff official. Foster has also refereed 241 playoff games, including 24 NBA Finals games. He worked the 2010 NBA All-Star Game in Arlington, Texas, and the 2019 NBA All-Star Game in Charlotte.

Foster considers his memorable NBA assignment to be Game 7 of the 2010 NBA Finals between the Los Angeles Lakers and the Boston Celtics. He refereed the game with two of his mentors, Dan Crawford and Joey Crawford.

His officiating experience includes two years each in the Continental Basketball Association and college basketball (Southern and Big South conferences) and six years at the high school level in Maryland.

#### **FUN FACTS**

Favorite TV Show: Shameless and Ozark

Favorite Movie: Braveheart

Favorite Musician: Michael Franti & Spearhead

Favorite Book: Golf Is Not a Game of Perfect

**Favorite Meal:** Maryland blue crabs and corn on the cob

Favorite App: PGA Tour Live

Most Like To Visit: Italy

Bucket List: Win the U.S. Open Pickleball

Championships

Hidden Talent: Body surfing

## PAT FRAHER #26



NBA Experience: 23<sup>rd</sup> season

Born: January 13, 1974 (St. Paul, Minn.)

**High School:** Hastings (Hastings, Minn.)

**College:** University of Minnesota '97

Pat Fraher (FRAY-er) has officiated 1,303 regular-season games in 22 seasons as an NBA staff official. He has also refereed 81 playoff games, including two NBA Finals games. His assignments have included the 2015 NBA All-Star Game in New York.

Before joining the NBA, Fraher officiated four years in the WNBA and seven years in the Continental Basketball Association.

Fraher has two years of collegiate officiating experience in the Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference and 10 years of high school officiating experience in Minnesota.

An Evans Scholarship recipient, Fraher earned a bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Minnesota. At Hastings High School in Min-

nesota, Fraher was a member of the football, basketball and golf teams.

#### **FUN FACTS**

Favorite TV Show: Game of Thrones

Favorite Movie: Caddyshack

**Favorite Musician:** Billy Joel

Favorite Book: Be a Man

Favorite Meal: BBQ

**Favorite App:** NBA (of course!)

**Most Like To Visit:** Italy

Bucket List: Play golf at Augusta National

and Pebble Beach

**Hidden Talent:** Sleeping anywhere

## JACYN GOBLE #68



NBA Experience: 8<sup>th</sup> season

Born: February 22, 1981 (Miami, Fla.)

**High School:** Coral Park Senior (Miami, Fla.)

College: Miami Dade Community College;

Florida International University

Jacyn Goble (JAY-sin go-BULL) has officiated 348 regular-season games and nine playoff games in seven seasons as an NBA staff official.

Goble made his debut as a playoff official in the 2020-21 season. He worked the Rising Stars competition and All-Star Saturday Night at NBA All-Star 2022 in Cleveland.

Goble officiated four years in the NBA G League, refereeing the playoffs in 2015 and 2016 and the Finals in 2016.

Before becoming a full-time referee, Goble worked as a police officer for the Miami-Dade Police Department for 13 years.

### **FUN FACTS**

Favorite TV Show: Power

Favorite Movie: The Godfather

**Favorite Musician:** Marc Anthony

Favorite Book: Pirates in Blue

Favorite Meal: Veal parmigiana

Favorite App: Netflix

Most Like To Visit: Tahiti

Bucket List: Roll own cigar in Cuba

Goble's brother, John, is in his 17th season as an NBA staff official.

## **JOHN GOBLE #10**



**NBA Experience:** 17<sup>th</sup> season

Born: November 25, 1978 (Miami, Fla.)

**High School:** Miami Senior (Miami, Fla.)

College: Florida International University '01

John Goble (go-BULL) has officiated 993 regularseason games in 16 seasons as an NBA staff official. He has also refereed 125 playoff games, including eight NBA Finals games. Goble worked the 2023 NBA All-Star Game in Salt Lake City.

Goble officiated four seasons in the NBA G League, where he was selected to work the 2007 Finals. He also refereed in several collegiate conferences, including the SEC, Conference USA and Sun Belt.

Goble received a bachelor's degree in Physical Education from Florida International University. He worked as an account executive and teacher before joining the NBA.

#### **FUN FACTS**

**Favorite Movie:** The Godfather

**Favorite Musician:** Enjoys hip-hop, salsa and reggaeton music

**Favorite Meal:** Skirt steak, black beans & rice and fried plantains

Favorite App: Amazon

Most Like To Visit: Australia

Hidden Talent: Cuban coffee barista

Goble's brother, Jacyn, is in his eighth season as an NBA staff official.

## **JASON GOLDENBERG #35**



**NBA Experience:** 7<sup>th</sup> season

Born: November 14, 1984 (Atlanta, Ga.)

High School: Milton (Alpharetta, Ga.)

College: University of Georgia '07

Jason Goldenberg has officiated 250 regular-season games in six seasons as an NBA staff official.

Goldenberg joined the NBA officiating staff after five years as an NBA G League referee. He worked the 2015 NBA G League Finals.

Goldenberg has four seasons of collegiate officiating experience, working in the Big South, Southern and Ohio Valley conferences.

During the offseason, he enjoys traveling around the world and experiencing new cultures, food and beaches.

### **FUN FACTS**

Favorite TV Show: Curb Your Enthusiasm

**Favorite Movie:** Tommy Boy

Favorite Musician: Rüfüs Du Sol

**Favorite Book:** Ego Is the Enemy

Favorite Meal: Chicken parmesan

Favorite App: NBA

Most Like To Visit: Australia

Bucket List: Sail around the world in a mega yacht

## NATE GREEN #41



**NBA Experience:** 5<sup>th</sup> season

Born: December 2, 1977 (Des Moines, Iowa)

**High School:** Theodore Roosevelt (Des Moines, Iowa)

College: Indiana State '05; MBA at Indiana State '12

Nate Green has officiated 128 regular-season games in four seasons as an NBA staff official.

Green officiated four seasons in the NBA G League, including the 2019 Finals. His officiating experience also includes six years in college basketball (ACC, Atlantic 10, SEC and American conferences) and five years at the high school level in Indiana.

The Iowa native was a standout basketball player at Indiana State, winning 1999-2000 Missouri Valley Player of the Year and Defensive Player of the Year honors. He played two seasons in the NBA G League and seven seasons as a pro in Italy.

### **FUN FACTS**

Favorite TV Show: The Wire

Favorite Movie: Coming to America

**Favorite Musician:** Syleena Johnson

Favorite Book: Lone Survivor

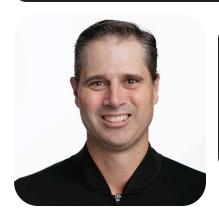
Favorite Meal: Tagliatelle bolognese

**Favorite App:** Netflix

Most Like To Visit: Africa

Green is involved in his community's annual Diversity Walk, which celebrates people from all backgrounds and walks of life. He enjoys playing golf, bass fishing and wine collecting.

## **DAVID GUTHRIE #16**



**NBA Experience:** 19<sup>th</sup> season

Born: May 21, 1974 (Athens, Ga.)

High School: W.A. Berry (Birmingham, Ala.)

College: North Carolina State University '99

David Guthrie has officiated 1,013 regular-season games in 18 seasons as an NBA staff official. He has also worked 99 playoff games, including 10 NBA Finals games. Guthrie was part of the officiating crew for the 2019 NBA All-Star Game in Charlotte, N.C.

He considers his most memorable NBA assignment to be his first NBA Finals: Game 2 of the 2018 Finals between the Cleveland Cavaliers and the Golden State Warriors.

Before joining the NBA, Guthrie officiated in the NBA G League and the Continental Basketball Association. He refereed the NBA G League playoffs from 2003-05 and the NBA G League Finals in 2004 and 2005.

Guthrie has collegiate officiating experience in several conferences, including the ACC and SEC. He worked the 2003 and 2004 NCAA Tournaments.

#### **FUN FACTS**

**Favorite TV Show:** The West Wing

Favorite Movie: The Shawshank Redemption

**Favorite Musician:** The Eagles

**Favorite Book:** The Match

**Favorite Meal:** Steak, whipped potatoes

and broccoli

Favorite App: PGA Tour

Most Like To Visit: Hawaii

**Bucket List:** Play golf at Augusta National and Cypress Point

Hidden Talent: Hitting fungoes

Guthrie played minor league baseball in the Cincinnati Reds' organization, with stints in Princeton, W. Va.; Billings, Mont.; Charleston, W. Va.; and Chattanooga, Tenn.

He attended Southern Union Community College in Wadley, Ala., and North Carolina State University on baseball scholarships. Guthrie played baseball and basketball at W.A. Berry High School in Birmingham, Ala.

Guthrie and his wife have two sons and a daughter.

## LAUREN HOLTKAMP-STERLING #7



**NBA Experience:** 10<sup>th</sup> season

Born: November 24, 1980 (Jefferson City, Mo.)

High School: Jefferson City (Jefferson City, Mo.)

College: Drury University '03; M.S. at Drury '04

MDV from Emory University '10

Lauren Holtkamp-Sterling has officiated 351 regularseason games in nine seasons as an NBA staff official.

Holtkamp officiated six seasons in the NBA G League and four seasons in the WNBA. She worked the 2013 and 2014 NBA G League Finals and the 2014 WNBA Conference Finals.

Holtkamp officiated in numerous collegiate conferences, including the ACC, Big Ten, Big 12, Big East and Colonial Athletic. She also refereed various FIBA competitions, including the 2010 World University Games and the 2012 and 2013 FIBA AmeriCup competitions.

### **FUN FACTS**

Favorite TV Show: Seinfeld

Favorite Musician: Florence and the Machine

Favorite Book: Anything by Stephen King

Favorite Meal: Breakfast

Favorite App: Garmin Connect and

Google

Most Like To Visit: Greece

**Bucket List:** Travel internationally

Hidden Talent: Mixed media art

The Missouri native graduated from Drury University with a bachelor's degree in Business Administration in 2003 and a master's degree in Communication in 2004. Holtkamp was a member of Drury's 2002-03 basketball team, which advanced to the Sweet 16 of the Division II NCAA Tournament. She earned a Master of Divinity from Emory University in 2010.

Holtkamp is married to NBA official Jonathan Sterling. They have a daughter.

## **ROBERT HUSSEY #85**



NBA Experience: 2<sup>nd</sup> season

Born: January 20, 1993 (Queens, N.Y.)

**High School:** Mount Dora Christian Academy

(Mount Dora, Fla.)

**College:** University of Central Florida '17

Robert Hussey is in his second season as an NBA staff official. In 2022-23, he officiated 33 regular-season games in his first season on staff. He refereed 10 regular-season games as a non-staff official during the 2021-22 NBA season.

Hussey officiated the 2022 NBA All-Star Celebrity Game in Cleveland with Matt Kallio, another first-year NBA staff official at the time.

Hussey officiated five seasons in the NBA G League, where he made his playoff debut in 2019 and worked the Finals in 2022. He also officiated two seasons in the WNBA, including the playoffs in 2022.

### **FUN FACTS**

Favorite TV Show: Chappelle's Show

**Favorite Movie:** John Q

Favorite Musician: J. Cole

**Favorite Book:** The Four Agreements

Favorite Meal: Ackee and yellow yam

**Favorite App:** ESPN

Most Like To Visit: Iceland

**Bucket List:** See the Seven Wonders of the World

In addition to his officiating experience in the NBA G League and WNBA, Hussey refereed five years in college basketball (Sunshine State, Sun, Mid-Florida and Southern conferences) and five years at the high school level in Florida.

Hussey enjoys spending time with his family, working out and cooking vegan food.

## **INTAE HWANG #96**



NBA Experience: 1st season

Born: August 10, 1979 (Masan, South Korea)

**High School:** Masan Joongang (Masan, South Korea)

College: Busan University of Foreign Studies '06

Intae Hwang is in his first season as an NBA staff official. He refereed seven regular-season games as a non-staff official during the 2022-23 NBA season.

Hwang officiated two seasons in the NBA G League, including the 2023 NBA G League Finals, and one season in the WNBA. He has refereed games at NBA Summer League annually beginning in 2017.

Hwang has 15 years of experience as a FIBA official. Highlights include working the women's gold medal

game at the 2016 Summer Olympics in Rio and officiating the men's 2019 FIBA Basketball World Cup in China.

A South Korean native, Hwang officiated 11 seasons in the Korean Basketball League (KBL). During that time, he refereed 22 KBL playoff games, eight KBL Finals games and the 2019 KBL All-Star Game.

Off the court, Hwang enjoys spending time outdoors with his family, going to the library and eating at Korean restaurants.

### **FUN FACTS**

Favorite Movie: Parasite

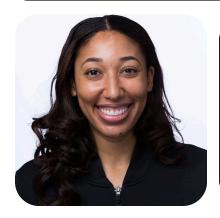
**Favorite Musician:** Yim Jae-beom

Favorite Book: Du bon usage de la lenteur

Favorite Meal: Korean BBQ

Favorite App: NBA REPS

## **SIMONE JELKS #81**



NBA Experience: 4th season

Born: March 9, 1986 (Cleveland, Ohio)

High School: Charles F. Brush (Lyndhurst, Ohio)

College: University of Southern California '08

M.P.H. at Case Western Reserve University '11

M.ED at Cleveland State University '13

Simone Jelks has officiated 40 regular-season games in three seasons as an NBA staff official.

Jelks officiated three seasons in the NBA G League. She also has three years of collegiate officiating experience, with stints in the Mid-American Conference and Horizon League.

An Ohio native, Jelks played college basketball at the University of Southern California, where she was named to the 2007-08 Pac-12 All-Defensive Team. After college, she played professionally in Puerto Rico and Croatia.

Jelks left Charles F. Brush High School in Lyndhurst, Ohio, as the career leader in points, steals, rebounds and

free throws made. She was named to the school's Athletic Hall of Fame in 2015.

### **FUN FACTS**

Favorite TV Show: The Handmaid's Tale

Favorite Movie: Love & Basketball

Favorite Musician: Anita Baker

Favorite Book: The Bible

Favorite Meal: Collard greens and peach

cobbler

Favorite App: GoodNotes

Most Like To Visit: Spain

Hidden Talent: Spoken word poetry

Jelks earned a master's degree in Public Health at Case Western Reserve University and a master's degree in Urban Secondary Teaching from Cleveland State University. She worked as a high school Spanish teacher for six years.

## MATT KALLIO #53



NBA Experience: 2<sup>nd</sup> season

Born: September 26, 1986 (Edmonton, Alberta, Canada)

**High School:** M.E. LaZerte (Edmonton, Alberta, Canada)

College: University of Alberta '08

Matt Kallio (kal-LEE-oh) is in his second season as an NBA staff official. In 2022-23, he officiated 31 regular-season games in his first season on staff. He refereed 10 regular-season games as a non-staff official during the 2021-22 NBA season.

At NBA All-Star 2022 in Cleveland, Kallio refereed the NBA G League Next Gem Game and the NBA All-Star Celebrity Game with Robert Hussey, a fellow first-year NBA staff official at the time.

Kallio officiated seven seasons in the NBA G League and four seasons in the WNBA. He has extensive experience as a FIBA official, including assignments at the 2019 FIBA Basketball World Cup in China and the 2020 Summer Olympics in Tokyo (which were held in 2021).

### **FUN FACTS**

**Favorite TV Show:** Game of Thrones

Favorite Movie: Good Will Hunting

Favorite Musician: Eric Clapton

**Favorite Book:** Tuesdays with Morrie

Favorite Meal: Steak and asparagus

Favorite App: TripIt

Most Like To Visit: Portugal

**Bucket List:** Norwegian cruise

A native of Canada, Kallio served as an official for 12 years in the Canadian Collegiate Athletic Association and 11 years for U Sports, the national sport governing body of university sport in Canada.

## **BILL KENNEDY #55**



**NBA Experience:** 26<sup>th</sup> season

Born: November 10, 1966 (Phoenix, Ariz.)

**High School:** St. Mary's (Phoenix, Ariz.)

College: Arizona State University

Bill Kennedy has officiated 1,420 regular-season games in 25 seasons as an NBA staff official. He has also worked 139 playoff games, including six NBA Finals games.

Kennedy considers his most memorable NBA assignment to be his first NBA Finals: Game 3 of the 2010 Finals between the Boston Celtics and the Los Angeles Lakers.

In addition to his NBA service, Kennedy has five years of officiating experience in the Continental Basketball Association, including working the 1996 and 1997 CBA Finals. He also officiated two games in the 1998 WNBA

Finals and has 15 years of high school officiating experience in Arizona.

The Arizona native attended Arizona State University after graduating from St. Mary's High School in Phoenix. At St. Mary's, he was named Knight of the Year in 1984 for his athletic achievements.

Kennedy's charitable efforts include working with former NBA official Tommy Nuñez in running the National Hispanic Basketball Classic to help raise money for inner-city youth. He also works with the Boys & Girls Club.

#### **FUN FACTS**

**Favorite Musician:** Luther Vandross

Favorite Meal: Filet mignon and a good bottle of red

Most Like To Visit: Jerusalem

**Bucket List:** Egyptian pyramids

Hidden Talent: Karaoke

## **COURTNEY KIRKLAND #61**



NBA Experience: 24<sup>rd</sup> season

Born: October 22, 1974 (Flint, Mich.)

**High School:** Flint Northwestern (Flint, Mich.)

College: Southern University '99

Courtney Kirkland has officiated 1,371 regular-season games in 23 seasons as an NBA staff official. He has also worked 59 playoff games, including four NBA Finals games.

Kirkland was a member of the crew that officiated the 2021 NBA All-Star Game in Atlanta, which honored Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs). All three officials in the game – Kirkland (Southern University), the late Tony Brown (Clark Atlanta) and Tom

### **FUN FACTS**

Favorite TV Show: Billions

**Favorite Movie:** The Matrix

Favorite Book: Total Money Makeover

Favorite App: NBA

Washington (Norfolk State) – attended HBCUs. Kirkland also officiated the 2020 NBA All-Star Game in Chicago, making him one of five officials in history to work consecutive All-Star Games.

His officiating experience includes two seasons in the WNBA and three seasons in the Continental Basketball Association, working the Finals in both leagues. He was a high school official for four years in Louisiana.

Kirkland earned a bachelor's degree in Computer Science from Southern University. At North-western High School in his native Flint, Mich., he was part of the basketball team that reached the state semifinals in 1991 and 1992.

Kirkland helps train and develop referees through the Manage the Grays Officiating Camp. He enjoys playing golf, exercising and writing.

## **MARAT KOGUT #32**



**NBA Experience:** 15<sup>th</sup> season

Born: August 5, 1979 (Kiev, Ukraine)

High School: FDR (Brooklyn, N.Y.)

College: St. John's University (Jamaica, N.Y.) '08

Marat Kogut (MAH-rot co-GUT) has officiated 762 regular-season games in 14 seasons as an NBA staff official.

Kogut considers his most memorable NBA assignment to be a game between the Boston Celtics and Los Angeles Lakers on Jan. 30, 2011, the first meeting between the teams after their matchup in the 2010 NBA Finals.

His officiating experience includes three years in the WNBA and four years in the NBA G League. Kogut refereed in several NCAA Division I conferences, including the Ohio Valley, Atlantic Sun and Big South. He also officiated New York metro area high school games for four years.

### **FUN FACTS**

**Favorite TV Show:** Family Guy

Favorite Movie: Catch Me if You Can

Favorite Musician: Billy Joel

Favorite Book: Tuesdays with Morrie

Favorite Meal: Sushi

Favorite App: Amazon

Most Like To Visit: Japan

Hidden Talent: Magician

Kogut immigrated to the United States with his family seven days after he was born in Ukraine. Raised in Brooklyn, N.Y., he started officiating at age 16 at local recreational youth leagues.

Kogut is a former head men's basketball manager for St. John's University. In addition to being an amateur magician, Kogut enjoys playing the piano, volleyball and golf.

## KARL LANE #77



NBA Experience: 13<sup>th</sup> season

**Born:** February 26, 1975 (Little Rock, Ark.)

High School: Glendbard East (Lombard, Ill.)

College: Philander Smith University

Karl Lane has officiated 686 regular-season games and 14 playoff games in 12 seasons as an NBA staff official.

He considers his most memorable NBA assignment to be his first playoff game: Game 2 of a 2018 first-round series between the Philadelphia 76ers and the Miami Heat.

His officiating experience includes four seasons in the NBA G League and nine years each at the collegiate (Southwestern Athletic and Gulf South conferences) and high school levels.

Lane worked as an in-school suspension teacher for two years in Little Rock, Ark.

### **FUN FACTS**

Favorite TV Show: Power

Favorite Movie: Star Wars movies

Favorite Musician: Jay-Z

Favorite Book: Star Wars books

Favorite Meal: Mexican

Favorite App: Candy Crush

Most Like To Visit: Rome

**Bucket List:** See the Seven Wonders of the

World

Hidden Talent: Home repair

## **MARK LINDSAY #29**



**NBA Experience:** 17<sup>th</sup> season

Born: August 21, 1977 (Drexel Hill, Pa.)

High School: Malvern Prep (Malvern, Pa.)

College: West Chester University '99

Mark Lindsay has officiated 907 regular-season games and 31 playoff games in 16 seasons as an NBA staff official. He officiated the 2023 NBA All-Star Game in Salt Lake City.

Lindsay considers his most memorable NBA assignment to be Game 5 of the 2022 Eastern Conference Finals between the Boston Celtics and the Miami Heat.

Lindsay refereed for five seasons in the NBA G League, including playoff games in 2005, 2006 and 2007. He officiated in several collegiate conferences, including the ACC, Colonial Athletic Association, Atlantic Sun, Big South and Ohio Valley.

### **FUN FACTS**

Favorite TV Show: Family Guy

Favorite Movie: The Shawshank Redemption

Favorite Musician: Dave Matthews

Favorite Book: Can't Hurt Me

Favorite App: Apple Podcasts

Most Like To Visit: Rome

**Bucket List:** Family trip to Italy

**Hidden Talent:** Spelling

The Pennsylvania native received a bachelor's degree in Elementary Education and graduated with honors from West Chester University, where he was a three-year letterman in varsity basketball. He has worked as a teacher and real estate agent.

Lindsay directs the Proactive Referee Officiating Camp, which raises money to benefit underprivileged youth who attend the Treasure Beach Basketball Camp in rural Jamaica.

Lindsay, who is married with three children, enjoys reading, working out, bicycling and yoga.

## TRE MADDOX #23



**NBA Experience:** 13<sup>th</sup> season

Born: October 7, 1967 (Great Lakes, Ill.)

High School: Wyandotte (Kansas City, Kan.)

College: Dakota State University

Tre Maddox has officiated 644 regular-season games and 31 playoff games in 12 seasons as an NBA staff official. He made his playoff debut as an NBA referee in 2019.

He considers his most memorable NBA assignment to be his first game: a double-overtime matchup between the LA Clippers and the Utah Jazz on Nov. 6, 2010.

Maddox officiated four seasons in the NBA G League and six years at the collegiate level in the Pac-12, West Coast and PacWest conferences. He also has eight years of high school officiating experience.

#### **FUN FACTS**

**Favorite TV Show:** Power

Favorite Movie: Training Day

Favorite Musician: Michael Jackson

Favorite Book: Quiet Strength

Favorite Meal: Steak and lobster

Favorite App: Fight List

Most Like To Visit: Dubai

Bucket List: Attend The Open Championship

Hidden Talent: Play the piano

## ED MALLOY #14



NBA Experience: 22<sup>nd</sup> season

Born: March 17, 1971 (Media, Pa.)

High School: Cardinal O'Hara (Springfield, Pa.)

College: Thomas Jefferson University '93

Ed Malloy has officiated 1,274 regular-season games in 21 seasons as an NBA staff official. He has also worked 136 playoff games, including 11 NBA Finals games. Malloy officiated the 2017 NBA All-Star Game in New Orleans.

Before joining the NBA, Malloy officiated one season in the NBA G League and three seasons each in the WNBA and the Continental Basketball Association. He refereed the 2002 NBA G League Finals and the 2001 CBA Finals.

Malloy attended St. Joseph's University before transferring to Thomas Jefferson University, where he earned a bachelor's degree in Marketing. A standout basketball

### **FUN FACTS**

Favorite TV Show: Jeopardy!

Favorite Movie: Top Gun: Maverick

**Favorite Musician:** AC/DC

Favorite Book: Tom Clancy novels

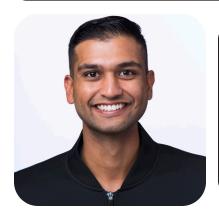
Favorite Meal: Penne Alla Vodka

Favorite App: Spotify

Most Like To Visit: Sorrento, Italy

player, Malloy helped lead Jefferson to a 30-2 record and a spot in the quarterfinals of the NCAA Division II Tournament in the 1992-93 season.

# **SUYASH MEHTA #82**



**NBA Experience:** 4<sup>th</sup> season

Born: July 15, 1991 (Baltimore, Md.)

High School: Centennial (Ellicott, Md.)

College: University of Maryland '13

Suyash (Sue-YAHSH) Mehta has officiated 117 regular-season games in three seasons as an NBA staff official.

Mehta officiated five seasons in the NBA G League, working the playoffs three times (2017-19) and serving as a Finals alternate in 2019.

He refereed in numerous collegiate conferences, including the Atlantic 10, Big South, Colonial Athletic Association and Conference USA. He also has NCAA Division III and junior college officiating experience.

The Baltimore native studied Neurobiology & Physiology at the University of Maryland. He started his officiating career in Maryland's intramural department.

### **FUN FACTS**

**Favorite TV Show:** The Office

Favorite Movie: Slumdog Millionaire

Favorite Musician: Bob Seger

Favorite Book: The Alchemist

Favorite Meal: Butter chicken with garlic naan

Favorite App: Spotify

Most Like To Visit: South Africa

**Bucket List:** Play golf at Pebble Beach

Hidden Talent: Badminton

Mehta's parents are from India and moved to the United States in the 1980s. His father is a retired physician who specialized in internal medicine. Mehta speaks Hindi and Punjabi fluently.

# SHA'RAE MITCHELL #98



**NBA Experience:** 1<sup>st</sup> season

Born: November 12, 1985 (Provo, Utah)

High School: Valley (Sacramento, Calif.)

College: UC Santa Barbara '09

Sha'Rae (Shuh-Ray) Mitchell is in her first season as an NBA staff official. She refereed 11 regular-season games as a non-staff official during the 2022-23 NBA season and four games as a non-staff official in the 2021-22 season.

Mitchell officiated five seasons in the NBA G League, where she refereed playoff games three years and was a Finals alternate. She officiated two seasons in the WNBA, including one year of playoff assignments.

The California native has five years of officiating experience in college basketball, with assignments in the Pac-12, West Coast, Big Sky and Western Athletic conferences. Mitchell refereed the California State High School Championship in 2015 and 2016.

### **FUN FACTS**

Favorite TV Show: Law & Order: SVU

Favorite Movie: Pretty Woman

Favorite Musician: Beyonce

Favorite Book: Conversations with God (1-3)

Favorite Meal: Caesar salad

**Favorite App:** ESPN and Spotify

Most Like To Visit: Africa

**Bucket List:** Get my PhD

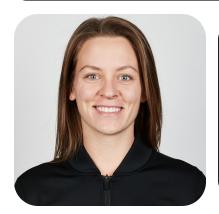
**Hidden Talent:** Breakdancing

Prior to becoming a referee, Mitchell worked on the women's basketball coaching staffs at Stanford University, UCLA and Coastal Carolina University.

Mitchell played basketball at UC Santa Barbara, where she was named to the All-Big West Tournament Team and earned All-Big West Honorable Mention accolades in the 2007-08 season. She lettered in six varsity sports at Valley High School in Sacramento, Calif.

Mitchell is the mother of twin 8-year-olds. She enjoys reading, hiking and collecting shoes.

## **DANNICA MOSHER #89**



NBA Experience: 2<sup>nd</sup> season

Born: February 25, 1993 (Freeport, Fla.)

High School: Freeport (Freeport, Fla.)

College: University of Central Florida '15 and '18

Dannica Mosher (MOH-sure) is in her second season as an NBA staff official. In 2022-23, she officiated 33 regular-season games in her first season on staff. She refereed 12 regular-season games as a non-staff official during the 2021-22 NBA season.

Mosher officiated five seasons in the NBA G League and four seasons in the WNBA. In 2022, she worked both the NBA G League Finals and the WNBA Finals.

The Florida native has eight years of collegiate officiating experience, with assignments in the Sunshine State, Sun and American Athletic conferences. She also refereed at the high school level in Florida for five years.

Mosher holds bachelor's degrees in Biology (2015) and Nursing (2018) from the University of Central Florida.

### **FUN FACTS**

Favorite TV Show: Friends and Ridiculousness

**Favorite Movie:** Willy Wonka & the Chocolate Factory

Favorite Musician: Justin Timberlake

Favorite Book: Lying With Strangers

Favorite Meal: Oxtail

Favorite App: Yelp

Most Like To Visit: Thailand

Bucket List: Own a cat cafe

Mosher was a standout basketball player at Freeport High School in Florida. She got her start as a referee working intramural games at Central Florida.

## **RODNEY MOTT #71**



**NBA Experience:** 26<sup>th</sup> season

Born: September 3, 1957 (New Albany, Ind.)

**High School:** Bishop Turner (Buffalo, N.Y.)

College: San Diego State University '86

Rodney Mott has officiated 1,446 regular-season games and 55 playoff games in 25 seasons as an NBA staff official. He also refereed the 2013 NBA All-Star Game in Houston.

Before joining the NBA, Mott spent four years officiating in the Continental Basketball Association. He also worked eight years in the Los Angeles Pro Am league, three years at the junior college level and four years in the high school ranks in San Diego.

Mott is a U.S. Navy veteran with three years of active duty and three years in reserves.

#### **FUN FACTS**

Favorite TV Show: Black-ish

Favorite Movie: The Shawshank Redemption

Favorite Musician: Stevie Wonder

Favorite Book: World Without Cancer

Favorite Meal: Vegetable stir fry

Favorite App: eBay

Most Like To Visit: Jerusalem

Hidden Talent: Interior design

## **ASHLEY MOYER-GLEICH #13**



NBA Experience: 6<sup>th</sup> season

Born: August 5, 1987 (Lebanon, Pa.)

High School: Cedar Crest (Lebanon, Pa.)

College: Millersville University '10

Ashley Moyer-Gleich (gleash) has officiated 172 regular-season games in five seasons as an NBA staff official. She officiated the Rising Stars competition and All-Star Saturday Night during NBA All-Star 2023 in Salt Lake City.

Moyer-Gleich officiated three seasons in the NBA G League, including the 2018 playoffs. She served as a WNBA referee in 2018.

The Pennsylvania native has four years of collegiate officiating experience, with stints in the ACC, Atlantic 10, Patriot League and Ivy League, among other conferences. She also has five years of high school officiating experience in Pennsylvania.

### **FUN FACTS**

**Favorite TV Show:** Ted Lasso

**Favorite Movie:** Gone in 60 Seconds

Favorite Musician: Rihanna

Favorite Book: Charlotte's Web

Favorite Meal: Spanish food

Favorite App: Future

**Most Like To Visit:** Italy

**Bucket List:** African safari

**Hidden Talent:** Double Dutch

Moyer-Gleich played basketball at Millersville University in Pennsylvania. She competed in the Sweet 16 of the 2010 Division II NCAA Tournament.

Off the court, Moyer-Gleich likes being outdoors with her family, planning events and shopping. She also enjoys Bikram yoga and taking her son to Hersheypark.

### **MATT MYERS #43**



NBA Experience: 6th season

Born: October 6, 1983 (St. Louis, Mo.)

**High School:** Jefferson City (Jefferson City, Mo.)

College: Hampton University '06

Matt Myers has officiated 187 regular-season games in five seasons as an NBA staff official.

Myers officiated 12 seasons in the NBA G League and two seasons in the WNBA. He worked the NBA G League Finals in 2012, 2013 and 2018 as well as the 2013 NBA G League All-Star Game. Myers also officiated the men's 2019 FIBA Basketball World Cup in Beijing.

Myers spent 12 years as a collegiate official, working in the Big South, Mid-Eastern Athletic and Southern conferences, among others. He also has five years of high school officiating experience in Virginia.

The Missouri native earned a bachelor's degree in Electrical Engineering and was a member of the golf team at

Hampton University. He played golf and soccer at Jefferson City High School in Missouri.

Myers has his scuba certification. This past summer he completed a dive in Zanzibar. He also went on a safari in Serengeti National Park in Tanzania.

His other interests include photography, golf and pickleball.

#### **FUN FACTS**

**Favorite TV Show:** The Wire

Favorite Movie: The Shawshank Redemption

Favorite Musician: Jay-Z

Favorite Book: A Promised Land

Favorite Meal: Buffalo wings

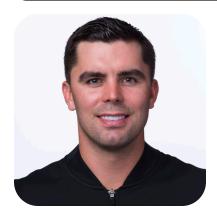
Favorite App: Words with Friends

Most Like To Visit: Bora Bora

**Bucket List:** Attend the Masters

**Hidden Talent:** Golf

# ANDY NAGY #83



NBA Experience: 4<sup>th</sup> season

Born: July 16, 1991 (Toledo, Ohio)

**High School:** St. Francis de Sales (Toledo, Ohio)

College: Owens Community College '16

Andy Nagy has officiated 136 regular-season games in three seasons as an NBA staff official.

Nagy has six seasons of NBA G League experience. He refereed the NBA G League playoffs three times (2016-18) and the NBA G League Finals twice (2017, 2018).

The Ohio native has nine years of collegiate officiating experience, refereeing Division I men's and women's games in the Atlantic 10, Atlantic Sun, Horizon League and Mid-American Conference, among others.

Nagy unofficially began his officiating career at 14, when his father allowed him to referee a Catholic Youth Orga-

nization game during a Christmas tournament. He began officiating high school games at 16 and

later worked games in the Ohio Regional Campus Conference.

### **FUN FACTS**

Favorite TV Show: Seinfeld

Favorite Musician: Metallica

**Favorite Meal:** Filet mignon

**Favorite App:** Spotify

**Most Like To Visit:** Maldives

**Bucket List:** To get a hole-in-one

Hidden Talent: Barbecue expert

## **BRETT NANSEL #44**



**NBA Experience:** 8<sup>th</sup> season

Born: June 10, 1977 (Miles City, Mont.)

**High School:** Custer County District (Miles City, Mont.)

College: North Dakota State University '01

Brett Nansel (nan-SULL) has officiated 314 regularseason games in seven seasons as an NBA staff official.

Nansel considers his most memorable NBA assignment to be a game between the Golden State Warriors and the Indiana Pacers on Dec. 5, 2016, when the Warriors' Klay Thompson scored 60 points in 29 minutes.

Nansel officiated eight years in the NBA G League. In addition to his professional basketball experience, Nansel refereed NCAA Division I basketball for eight years, including five NCAA Tournament appearances (2012-16).

The Montana native has worked as a wildland firefighter (1997-01) and a high school history teacher (2002-14).

Nansel enjoys hunting, fly fishing and spending time on a family farm and cattle ranch with his wife and three children.

### **FUN FACTS**

**Favorite TV Show:** Anything on outdoor channels

Favorite Movie: Top Gun

Favorite Musician: Alan Jackson

Favorite Book: Wooden

**Favorite Meal:** Barbecue ribeye steak

**Favorite App:** NFHS Network

Most Like To Visit: Australia

**Bucket List:** Catch a grander (1,000-pound marlin)

Hidden Talent: Tenor saxophone

## J.T. ORR #72



**NBA Experience:** 13<sup>th</sup> season

Born: October 20, 1973 (Pomona, Calif.)

High School: Bonita (LaVerne, Calif.); Glendora (Glendora, Calif.)

College: Mt. San Antonio College (Walnut, Calif.)

J.T. Orr has officiated 595 regular-season games in 12 seasons as an NBA staff official.

Orr's officiating experience includes five seasons in the NBA G League and 13 years at the collegiate level in the Pac-12, West Coast and Big West conferences, among others. He officiated the 2011 NCAA Tournament. Orr also worked eight years as a high school referee in Southern California.

The California native previously spent more than 10 years as a counselor for young men in the foster care and probation systems of Los Angeles County.

### **FUN FACTS**

Favorite TV Show: Three's Company

Favorite Movie: Fletch

**Favorite Musician:** Pearl Jam

Favorite Book: The Outsiders

Favorite Meal: Biscuits and gravy

Favorite App: Maps

Most Like To Visit: Glacier National Park

**Bucket List:** Start a dog rescue

Hidden Talent: Impressionist painting

## **GEDIMINAS PETRAITIS #50**



NBA Experience: 9th season

Born: February 5, 1989 (Kaunas, Lithuania)

**High School:** Northwest (Germantown, Md.)

**College:** University of Maryland '11

Gediminas Petraitis (geh-duh-MIHN-us pih-TRY-tis) has officiated 450 regular-season games and 11 playoff games in eight seasons as an NBA staff official.

In 2019, Petraitis made his playoff debut as an NBA official and refereed the Rising Stars competition at NBA All-Star in Charlotte.

Petraitis officiated the 2015 NBA G League Finals as part of a three-year stint in the NBA's official minor league. He has also served as a FIBA referee.

Petraitis officiated three seasons at the collegiate level, mainly in the Big South Conference. He also worked in various Division II, III and junior college leagues. Petraitis began his officiating career at the high school level in Maryland.

### **FUN FACTS**

Favorite TV Show: Narcos

Favorite Movie: Coming to America

Favorite Musician: Swedish House Mafia

Favorite Book: The Great Gatsby

Favorite Meal: Cepelinai

Favorite App: Peloton

Most Like To Visit: Iceland

**Bucket List:** Cycling in French Alps

Hidden Talent: Ballroom dancing

Born in Lithuania, Petraitis graduated from the University of Maryland with dual degrees in Accounting and Finance. He became a U.S. citizen in 2015.

His father, Vidmantas, officiated college basketball games.

Petraitis enjoys traveling and occasionally dusting off and playing his accordion.

## PHENIZEE RANSOM #70



**NBA Experience:** 6<sup>th</sup> season

Born: December 9, 1974 (Atlanta, Ga.)

High School: Woodward Academy (College Park, Ga.)

College: University of Georgia '98

Phenizee (FEN-uh-ZEE) Ransom has officiated 192 regular-season games in five seasons as an NBA staff official.

Ransom officiated seven seasons in the NBA G League, including the Finals in 2017 and 2018. He also worked the NBA G League International Challenge during NBA All-Star 2018 in Los Angeles.

Ransom has eight years of collegiate officiating experience, with assignments in the Mid-Eastern Athletic, Southwestern Athletic, Big South, Ohio Valley, Southern and Sun Belt conferences, among others. He also spent six years officiating high school basketball in Georgia.

The Georgia native was a standout basketball player at Winston-Salem State University, where he was named the 1993-94 Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association Rookie of the Year and earned 1994-95 All-CIAA honors. He went on to play two years at the University of Georgia (1996-98).

His interests include golf and leadership development.

#### **FUN FACTS**

**Favorite TV Show:** 60 Minutes

**Favorite Movie:** Enter the Dragon

**Favorite Musician:** The Foreign Exchange

Favorite Book: The Tao of Abundance

Favorite Meal: Hibachi chicken and shrimp

**Favorite App:** Shazam

Most Like To Visit: Cairo

**Bucket List:** Learn to play the piano

**Hidden Talent:** Public speaking

## **DEREK RICHARDSON #63**



**NBA Experience:** 27<sup>th</sup> season

Born: February 3, 1962 (Brooklyn, N.Y.)

**High School:** R.B. Stall (Charleston, S.C.)

College: Cal State Dominguez Hills '91

Derek Richardson has officiated 1,388 regular-season games and one playoff game in 26 seasons as an NBA staff official. He also refereed the 2010 NBA All-Star Game in Arlington, Texas.

Before joining the NBA, Richardson spent eight years officiating in the Continental Basketball Association. He also worked for 10 years as a Group Supervisor II for the Los Angeles County Department of Children and Family Services.

Richardson is the Executive Director of the Why Can't We Make A Difference Foundation (WCWMAD). WCWMAD's mission is to increase elementary school students' academic and emotional interest in school through academic and social enrichment programs in the underserved school communities of Los Angeles.

### **FUN FACTS**

Favorite TV Show: Abbott Elementary

Favorite Movie: Field of Dreams

**Favorite Musician:** Roy Ayers and Marvin Gay

**Favorite Book:** Post Traumatic Slave Syndrome

**Favorite Meal:** Plankton, rice & beans and steamed cabbage

Favorite App: SoundHound

Most Like To Visit: Jerusalem and Sierra Leone

In October 2022, Richardson purchased the K. Anthony Elementary School in Inglewood, Calif., and renamed it after his late mother. It is now known as the Dolores T. Richardson School.

Known as "Coach" to the youth he mentors and "D-Rich" to his peers, Richardson played basketball at Los Angeles Southwest College and earned an associate's degree in Criminal Justice. He went on to earn a degree in Administration of Justice from Cal State Dominguez Hills.

## NATALIE SAGO #9



**NBA Experience:** 6<sup>th</sup> season

Born: May 24, 1989 (St. Louis, Mo.)

**High School:** Farmington (Farmington, Mo.)

College: University of Missouri-St. Louis '13

Natalie Sago (SAY-go) has officiated 233 games in five seasons as an NBA staff official. She also worked the Rising Stars competition and All-Star Saturday Night at NBA All-Star 2022 in Cleveland.

Sago officiated four seasons in the NBA G League and three seasons in the WNBA. She worked the NBA G League International Challenge at NBA All-Star 2018 in Los Angeles.

Sago has three years of collegiate officiating experience, working in the Atlantic 10, Missouri Valley, Summit League and Metro Atlantic Athletic conferences, among others. She also has two years of high school officiating experience in Missouri.

### **FUN FACTS**

**Favorite TV Show:** Unsolved Mysteries

Favorite Movie: Hardball

Favorite Musician: Morgan Wallen

Favorite Book: W1nning

**Favorite Meal:** Steak

Favorite App: Instagram

Most Like To Visit: Fiji

**Bucket List:** Watch a game in all 30 MLB stadiums (more than halfway there)

Hidden Talent: Juggling

In high school, Sago was part of a Farmington basketball team that finished as the Missouri state runner-up in 2007. She played softball for Jefferson College (2007-09) and Drury University (2009-11), serving as team captain for both schools.

Sago earned a bachelor's degree in K-12 Physical Education from the University of Missouri-St. Louis in 2013. She has two mini Aussiedoodles named Bogey and Divot.

## JENNA SCHROEDER #20



**NBA Experience:** 5<sup>th</sup> season

Born: September 27, 1985 (Flint, Mich.)

High School: Clio (Clio, Mich.)

College: Saginaw Valley State University '09

Jenna Schroeder (shROW-der) has officiated 137 games in four seasons as an NBA staff official.

Schroeder officiated three seasons in the NBA G League and two seasons in the WNBA. She has seven years of collegiate officiating experience, working games in the ACC, American, Atlantic 10 and Big East conferences.

A Flint, Mich., native, Schroeder played college basket-ball at Oakland University (2004-05) and Saginaw Valley State University (2005-08). She graduated from Saginaw Valley State with a bachelor's degree in Communications.

### **FUN FACTS**

Favorite TV Show: 30 Rock

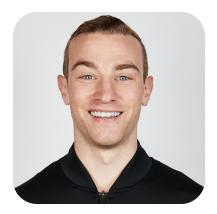
Favorite Movie: Dirty Dancing

**Favorite Musician:** Bob Seger

Most Like To Visit: Australia

**Bucket List:** See Billy Joel, Eric Clapton and the Rolling Stones in concert

# **BRANDON SCHWAB #86**



**NBA Experience:** 3<sup>rd</sup> season

Born: October 14, 1992 (Orlando, Fla.)

High School: West Orange (Winter Garden, Fla.)

College: University of Central Florida '15

Brandon Schwab has officiated 81 games in two seasons as an NBA staff official. He also refereed 20 regular-season games as a non-staff official during the 2020-21 season.

The Florida native officiated five years in the NBA G League and four years at the collegiate level, working in the Sunshine State and Sun conferences.

His first officiating experience came when he took part in intramural sports as a student at the University of Central Florida.

#### **FUN FACTS**

Favorite TV Show: Community

**Favorite Movie:** The Matrix

Favorite Book: Man's Search for Meaning

**Favorite Meal:** Panang curry and mango with sticky rice

Most Like To Visit: Machu Picchu

**Favorite App:** Apple Podcasts

# **DANIELLE SCOTT #87**



**NBA Experience:** 3<sup>rd</sup> season

Born: June 27, 1991 (Woodland Hills, Calif.)

High School: John Burroughs (Burbank, Calif.)

College: Cal State Northridge '13

Danielle Scott has officiated 42 games in two seasons as an NBA staff official. She also refereed 26 regular-season games as a non-staff official during the 2020-21 season. Scott worked the 2020 NBA All-Star Celebrity Game in Chicago.

Her officiating experience includes four seasons in the NBA G League and eight years each at the collegiate (Mid-Eastern Athletic, PacWest and Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic conferences) and high school (Southern California) levels.

Scott began as an official when she worked games with her mom in a men's recreational league.

### **FUN FACTS**

Favorite TV Show: The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air

Favorite Movie: Love & Basketball

**Favorite Book:** Think Like a Monk

Favorite Meal: Fettuccini Alfredo

Favorite App: Pinterest

Most Like To Visit: Santorini

**Bucket List:** Learn sign language

**Hidden Talent:** Photography

Scott graduated from Cal State Northridge in 2013, earning a bachelor's degree in Business Management with a minor in Finance.

### **EVAN SCOTT #78**



**NBA Experience:** 5<sup>th</sup> season

Born: May 22, 1992 (Taejon, South Korea)

**High School:** Thomas A. Edison (Alexandria, Va.)

College: Radford University '14

Evan Scott has officiated 145 games in four seasons as an NBA staff official.

Scott officiated three seasons in the NBA G League, where he refereed the 2019 Finals. He has five years of collegiate officiating experience in the Big South, Old Dominion Athletic and Capital Athletic conferences.

Scott also has two years of high school officiating experience in Virginia. The first game he ever officiated was in a church league.

Born in South Korea, Scott came to the United States when he was 4 months old. He played two seasons of rugby at Radford University in Virginia. Scott was a three-sport athlete in high school, competing in baseball, basketball and swimming.

He enjoys spending time with his son and weightlifting.

### **FUN FACTS**

Favorite TV Show: SportsCenter

Favorite Movie: Inception

Favorite Musician: Prince

Favorite Book: Stalling for Time

Favorite Meal: Steak and asparagus

**Favorite App:** FaceTime

Most Like To Visit: Amalfi Coast

## **KEVIN SCOTT #24**



**NBA Experience:** 13<sup>th</sup> season

Born: April 24, 1978 (Oconee County, S.C.)

**High School:** Stephens County (Toccoa, Ga.)

College: Georgia Southern University B.S. '00 and M.S. '02

Kevin Scott has officiated 653 regular-season games in 12 season as an NBA staff official. Scott has also worked 35 playoff games, including one NBA Finals game.

Scott made his debut as an NBA Finals official in 2023, when he refereed Game 3 between the Denver Nuggets and the Miami Heat.

Scott considers his most memorable NBA assignment in the regular season to be a quadruple-overtime game between the Atlanta Hawks and the Utah Jazz on March 25, 2012.

His officiating experience includes four seasons in the NBA G League, where he refereed the playoffs from 2009-11 and was selected to work the Finals in 2011.

### **FUN FACTS**

**Favorite TV Show:** 48 Hours

Favorite Movie: The Shawshank Redemption

Favorite Musician: Eric Church

Favorite Book: Friday Night Lights

Favorite Meal: Cheese pizza

**Favorite App:** The Weather Channel

Most Like To Visit: Great Barrier Reef

Bucket List: African safari

**Hidden Talent:** Facial recognition

Scott has extensive experience officiating at the collegiate level, with four years in the SEC, six years in the Southern Conference, seven years in the Big South Conference and 10 years in the Atlantic Sun Conference.

He enjoys playing golf, fitness training, fishing and attending NASCAR events.

# **AARON SMITH #51**



**NBA Experience:** 8<sup>th</sup> season **Born:** September 11, 1987

High School: West Chester East (West Chester, Pa.)

College: West Chester University '10

Aaron Smith has officiated 395 regular-season games and one playoff game in seven seasons as an NBA staff official. He made his playoff debut as an NBA referee in 2023.

Smith officiated four years in the NBA G League, where he worked the playoffs from 2015-17, the Finals in 2016 and 2017 and the All-Star Game in 2016. He also had assignments in the WNBA from 2013-16.

At the collegiate level, he officiated four seasons in the Big South Conference, including the conference championship game in 2016.

### **FUN FACTS**

**Favorite TV Show:** Top Boy

Favorite Movie: The Shawshank Redemption

Favorite Musician: John Legend

Favorite Book: Unbroken

Favorite Meal: Any breakfast meal

Favorite App: Peloton

Most Like To Visit: Thailand and Vietnam

**Bucket List:** Compete on Jeopardy!

Smith graduated from West Chester University in 2010 with a bachelor's degree in History. At West Chester, he played one season of varsity basketball.

Before becoming a full-time official, Smith worked as a substitute teacher at the high school and middle school levels. He spent three years as a support staff member for a cyber charter school.

## MICHAEL SMITH #38



NBA Experience: 31st season

Born: February 5, 1955 (Memphis, Tenn.)

High School: South Side (Memphis, Tenn.)

Michael Smith has officiated 1,711 regular-season games and 60 playoff games in 30 seasons as an NBA staff official. He officiated the 2023 NBA All-Star Game in Salt Lake City and the 2008 NBA All-Star Game in New Orleans.

Smith officiated five years in the Continental Basketball Association and eight years at the collegiate level in the Big Ten, SEC and Conference USA. He also has 10 years of high school officiating experience. Smith refereed the 1990 McDonald's High School All-American Game.

He played basketball and baseball at South Side High School in Memphis, Tenn.

### **FUN FACTS**

Favorite TV Show: NCIS: New Orleans

Favorite Movie: Training Day

Favorite Musician: Charlie Wilson

Favorite Book: The President Is Missing

Favorite Meal: Dinner

Favorite App: ESPN

Most Like To Visit: White House

**Bucket List:** Sky diving

# **JONATHAN STERLING #17**



NBA Experience: 7<sup>th</sup> season

Born: April 16, 1982 (Hampton, Va.)

High School: Satellite Beach High (Satellite Beach, Fla.)

College: Flagler College '06

Jonathan Sterling has officiated 271 regular-season games in six seasons as an NBA staff official. He also worked the Rising Stars competition and All-Star Saturday Night at NBA All-Star 2022 in Cleveland.

Sterling officiated six years in the NBA G League, working the 2015 and 2016 playoffs and the 2017 Finals. He was also a member of the WNBA officiating staff for three years and has served as a FIBA official.

At the collegiate level, he worked for seven seasons in the American, Sun Belt, Southern, Southern Intercollegiate Athletic, Sunshine State and Peach Belt conferences. He also has experience as a Conference USA referee.

### **FUN FACTS**

**Favorite TV Show:** Chapelle Show and Brother vs. Brother

Favorite Movie: Coming to America

Favorite Musician: Drake

Favorite App: Maps

Most Like To Visit: Australia

**Bucket List:** Dive with sharks

**Hidden Talent:** Break dancing

Sterling graduated from Flagler College in Florida with a bachelor's degree in Business Management. He was an All-Conference basketball player and team captain at Flagler.

His interests and hobbies include detailing cars, bike riding, golf, water sports, scuba diving and traveling. Sterling is married to NBA official Lauren Holtkamp-Sterling.

## **BEN TAYLOR #46**



NBA Experience: 11<sup>th</sup> season

Born: October 7, 1985 (Murfreesboro, Tenn.)

**High School:** Cannon County (Woodbury, Tenn.)

College: Middle Tennessee State University '09

Ben Taylor has officiated 564 regular-season games and 31 playoff games in 10 seasons as an NBA staff official. He was named as an alternate official for the 2023 NBA Finals.

Taylor considers his most memorable NBA assignment to be a regular-season game between the Miami Heat and the Charlotte Bobcats on March 3, 2014, when Miami's LeBron James scored 61 points.

Taylor joined the full-time NBA staff in 2013-14 after six seasons as a referee in the NBA G League. He also has experience as a FIBA referee.

A Tennesee native, Taylor received a bachelor's degree in Public Relations from Middle Tennessee State University in 2009.

### **FUN FACTS**

Favorite TV Show: The West Wing

Favorite Movie: Field of Dreams

Favorite Musician: Brian McKnight

Favorite Book: Mitch Rapp series

**Favorite Meal:** Ribeye steak

Favorite App: TripIt

Most Like To Visit: Scotland

**Bucket List:** Play golf at Augusta National

Hidden Talent: Dancing

Taylor enjoys spending the offseason with his wife and son, playing golf and helping teach young referees.

# **DEDRIC TAYLOR #21**



**NBA Experience:** 10<sup>th</sup> season

Born: November 14, 1975 (Miami, Fla.)

High School: North Miami Beach (Miami, Fla.)

**College:** Florida International University

Dedric Taylor has officiated 507 regular-season games and three playoff games in nine seasons as an NBA staff official.

Taylor joined the full-time NBA staff after four seasons as a referee in the NBA G League. He officiated in numerous collegiate conferences, including the SEC, Conference USA, Sun Belt, Southern, Mid-Eastern Athletic and Atlantic Sun.

Previously, Taylor worked as an Athletic Specialist for the City of North Miami Beach Parks & Recreation Department. He was also a UPS driver for 13 years.

Taylor enjoys fishing and playing golf.

### **FUN FACTS**

**Favorite TV Show:** Good Times

Favorite Movie: Crash

**Favorite Musician:** Michael Jackson

Favorite Book: Tears We Cannot Stop

Favorite Meal: Breakfast

Favorite App: Candy Crush

Most Like To Visit: Africa

**Bucket List:** Sky diving

**Hidden Talent:** Playing the trumpet

and juggling

# **JOSH TIVEN #58**



NBA Experience: 14<sup>th</sup> season

Born: March 12, 1978 (Norwich, Conn.)

High School: Ledyard (Ledyard, Conn.)

Josh Tiven has officiated 790 regular-season games in 13 seasons as an NBA staff official. He has also worked 76 playoff games, including seven NBA Finals games.

In the 2019-20 season, Tiven made his debut as an NBA Finals official when he officiated Game 1 of the series between the Los Angeles Lakers and the Miami Heat.

He considers his most memorable NBA assignment to be Game 7 of the 2021 Eastern Conference Semifinals between the Milwakuee Bucks and Brooklyn Nets, won by the Bucks 115-111 in overtime.

Tiven officiated five years in the NBA G League, working three Finals series and the 2008 All-Star Game. In addition, he refereed two years in the WNBA and seven years at the collegiate level.

### **FUN FACTS**

Favorite TV Show: Seinfeld

Favorite Movie: Minority Report

**Favorite Musician:** Dermot Kennedy

Favorite Book: Firstborn (novel written

by his father, Bruce)

Favorite Meal: Chicken parmesan with

vodka sauce

**Favorite App:** Instagram

Most Like To Visit: Hawaii

Bucket List: Play golf at Augusta National

Hidden Talent: Yo-yo expert

Tiven is married with two daughters. He enjoys playing golf.

# **SCOTT TWARDOSKI #52**



NBA Experience: 13<sup>th</sup> season

Born: March 6, 1973 (Enumclaw, Wash.)

**High School:** Highland (Cowiche, Wash.)

College: Linfield College (McMinnville, Ore.);

City University (Renton, Wash.)

Scott Twardoski (twar-DAH-ski) has officiated 636 regular-season games and two playoff games in 12 seasons as an NBA staff official. He was selected to work the playoffs in 2019 and 2022.

Twardoski refereed for six seasons in the NBA G League, where he officiated the All-Star Game and Finals in 2011. He also has seven seasons of WNBA experience, which includes working the 2010 Finals and the 2011 All-Star Game.

In addition to his officiating experience in professional basketball, Twardoski refereed college basketball games for 12 years in the Pac-12, Big 12, Big Sky and West Coast conferences. He also has 10 years of high school officiating experience.

### **FUN FACTS**

**Favorite TV Show:** M\*A\*S\*H

Favorite Book: Core 52

Favorite Meal: Steak and mushrooms

Favorite App: Pinochle

Most Like To Visit: Norway

**Bucket List:** Photograph hot air balloon festivals around the world

**Hidden Talent:** Landscape and astrophotography

Twardoski previously worked as an English teacher for five years in Covington, Wash., and as a speaker for five years at Learning for Living in Meadow Vista, Calif.

Twardoski works with several charities and non-profit organizations, including Phoenix Rescue Mission, Feed My Starving Children and Sports Officials Care.

## **JUSTIN VAN DUYNE #64**



NBA Experience: 10<sup>th</sup> season

Born: November 8, 1981 (Arcadia, Calif.)

High School: Los Altos High (Hacienda Heights, Calif.)

College: University of La Verne '05

Justin Van Duyne (van-DINE) has officiated 483 regular-season games and three playoff game in nine seasons as an NBA staff official.

Van Duyne made his debut as a playoff official in the 2021-22 season. He considers his most memorable NBA assignment to be the first playoff game that he officiated: Philadelphia 76ers at Toronto Raptors in Game 3 of a 2022 first-round series.

Van Duyne joined the NBA officiating staff after four seasons as a referee in the NBA G League. He also officiated in numerous collegiate conferences, including the Pac-12, Mountain West, Big West, WCC and WAC.

### **FUN FACTS**

Favorite TV Show: Entourage

**Favorite Movie:** The Bourne movies

Favorite Musician: Jimmie Allen

Favorite Book: Moneyball

Favorite Meal: Sushi

**Favorite App:** The Chive

Most Like To Visit: Ireland

**Bucket List:** Visit every MLB stadium

The California native spent nine years as a police officer in Ontario, Calif. He was also a middle school physical education teacher in California for two years.

He enjoys spending time with his wife and three children, playing golf, collecting and playing pinball machines, and boating.

# **SCOTT WALL #31**



NBA Experience: 29<sup>th</sup> season

Born: September 11, 1966 (Jacksonville, Ill.)

High School: Shawnee Mission NW (Shawnee, Kan.)

College: Emporia State University

Scott Wall has officiated 1,443 regular-season games and 14 playoff games in 28 seasons as an NBA staff official.

Wall considers his most memorable NBA assignment to be the 2012 NBA All-Star Game in Orlando, Fla., where the Western Conference defeated the Eastern Conference 152-149.

He has four years of officiating experience with USA Basketball, four years in the collegiate ranks in the ACC, Ohio Valley and Atlantic Sun conferences, and five years at the high school level in Kansas and Alabama.

Wall volunteers with Georgianna United Methodist Church on local mission programs.

#### **FUN FACTS**

**Favorite TV Show:** NCIS

Favorite Movie: James Bond 007 movies

Favorite Musician: Tim McGraw

Favorite Book: Mitch Rapp series

Favorite Meal: Pot roast

**Favorite App:** Angry Birds

Most Like To Visit: Rome

**Bucket List:** Sky dive

His father, Bill, is a former USA Basketball Director. His mother, Patricia, is a former Southeastern Conference Associate Commissioner.

# CJ WASHINGTON #12



NBA Experience: 8th season

Born: September 20, 1979 (Baton Rouge, La.)

High School: Thibodaux (Thibodaux, La.)

College: Southern University '02

CJ Washington has officiated 283 regular-season games in seven seasons as an NBA staff official.

His officiating experience includes eight years in the NBA G League, where he refereed in the Finals five times and the All-Star Game once.

Washington spent 10 years as a Division I collegiate official, with assignments in the SEC, Conference USA, Southwestern Athletic Conference and Southland Conference. He also has five years of high school officiating experience in Louisiana and Texas.

Washington previously worked as a licensed residential building inspector and a residential real estate appraiser.

### **FUN FACTS**

Favorite TV Show: Godfather of Harlem

Favorite Movie: Life

**Favorite Musician:** Anthony Hamilton

Favorite Book: IXI Rise of the King

Favorite Meal: Lasagna

Most Like To Visit: Italy

**Bucket List:** Attend a football game at Notre Dame Stadium

The Louisiana native graduated from Southern University in Baton Rouge, La., with a bachelor's degree in Mass Communications in 2002. While in college, he became a member of the Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity.

Washington and his wife have two children. He enjoys traveling with family and friends, reading, watching movies and playing golf.

# **TOM WASHINGTON #49**



NBA Experience: 33<sup>rd</sup> season

Born: December 25, 1957 (Ft. Smith, Ark.)

High School: Central (Philadelphia, Pa.)

College: Norfolk State University '78

Tom Washington has officiated 1,780 regular-season games in 32 seasons as an NBA staff official. He has also refereed 181 playoff games, including four NBA Finals games.

Washington was a member of the crew that officiated the 2021 NBA All-Star Game in Atlanta, which honored Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs). All three officials in the game – Washington (Norfolk State), the late Tony Brown (Clark Atlanta) and Courtney Kirkland (Southern University) – attended HBCUs.

### **FUN FACTS**

Favorite TV Show: Martin

Favorite Movie: Boomerang

**Favorite Musician:** Brian Culbertson and Stevie Wonder

Favorite Book: The Bible

Favorite Meal: Salmon

Washington also worked the NBA All-Star Game in 2004 (Los Angeles) and 2017 (New Orleans).

He considers his most memorable NBA assignment to be his first NBA Finals: Game 4 of the 2008 Finals between the Boston Celtics and the Los Angeles Lakers. His proudest moment as an official came in Game 2 of the 2012 NBA Finals between the Miami Heat and the Oklahoma City Thunder, when he worked alongside Tony Brothers and Dan Crawford in the first Finals game with a three-person crew of Black referees.

In addition to his NBA service, Washington officiated two years in the Continental Basketball Association, one year of college basketball in Division II and III, and five years at the high school level in Pennsylvania.

Off the court, Washington has volunteered with the Big Brothers Big Sisters Amachi program and Children's Choice, among other organizations.

Washington is a cum laude graduate with a bachelor's degree in Sociology from Norfolk State University.

# JAMES WILLIAMS #60



NBA Experience: 14<sup>th</sup> season

Born: May 23, 1979 (Memphis, Tenn.)

High School: LaPorte (LaPorte, Ind.)

College: Purdue University '01

James Williams has officiated 756 regular-season games in 13 seasons as an NBA staff official. Williams has also worked 56 playoff games, including four NBA Finals games. He refereed the NBA All-Star Game in 2013 (Houston) and 2022 (Cleveland).

Williams served as a college basketball official from 2001-10. He also officiated two seasons in the WNBA and worked two NBA G League Finals and the 2010 NBA G League All-Star Game.

Williams graduated from Purdue University with a bachelor's degree in Law & Society and History. He was honored as an Outstanding Graduating Senior by the School of Liberal Arts.

#### **FUN FACTS**

Favorite TV Show: Snowfall

Favorite Movie: The Shawshank Redemption

Favorite Book: 1619

Favorite Meal: Soul food

Favorite App: RefMasters

Most Like To Visit: Africa

**Bucket List:** Becoming Mayor of Chicago

**Hidden Talent:** Throwing a baseball

The Memphis, Tenn., native enjoys reading, sports, movies, travel, working out and biking.

## **LEON WOOD #40**



NBA Experience: 28th season

Born: March 25, 1962 (Columbia, S.C.)

High School: Saint Monica (Santa Monica, Calif.)

College: Cal State Fullerton '84

Leon Wood has officiated 1,506 regular-season games and 25 playoff games in 27 seasons as an NBA staff official. He also refereed the 2013 NBA All-Star Game in Houston.

Wood officiated in the Continental Basketball Association for three years and college basketball for one year.

As a player, Wood was the 10<sup>th</sup> pick in the famed 1984 NBA Draft, which also included Hakeem Olajuwon, Michael Jordan and Charles Barkley. He played in the NBA for six seasons with the Philadelphia 76ers, Washington Bullets, New Jersey Nets, San Antonio Spurs, Atlanta Hawks and Sacramento Kings, averaging 6.4 points, 3.2 assists and 1.2 rebounds in 274 games.

### **FUN FACTS**

Favorite TV Show: Law & Order

**Favorite Movie:** Black Panther and The Equalizer 1 & 2

Favorite Musician: Hip-hop music

Favorite Meal: Steak

Favorite App: Hulu

Most Like To Visit: Africa and Australia

A 6-3 guard, Wood also played in the Continental Basketball Association, earning All-CBA Second Team honors in 1989-90. Wood was a member of USA Basketball's gold-medal-winning teams at the 1984 Summer Olympics in Los Angeles and the 1983 Pan-Am Games in Venezuela.

Wood played for the University of Arizona for one season before transferring to Cal State Fullerton, where he was a three-time All-Pacific Coast Athletic Conference First Team selection (1981-84). Cal State Fullerton retired his No. 20 jersey and inducted him into the school's Hall of Fame.

At Saint Monica Preparatory in Santa Monica, Calif., Wood was named to the Parade High School All-America Third Team in 1979. He was later inducted into the Orange County Sports Hall of Fame.

His hobbies include golf, tennis and weightlifting.

## **SEAN WRIGHT #4**



**NBA Experience:** 19<sup>th</sup> season

**Born:** August 29, 1971 (New York, N.Y.)

High School: W.P. Davidson (Mobile, Ala.)

College: Spring Hill College '93; MBA at University of Mobile '96

Sean Wright has officiated 1,065 regular-season games in 18 seasons as an NBA staff official. He has also refereed and 87 playoff games, including one NBA Finals game.

Wright made his debut as an NBA Finals official in 2021, when he worked Game 2 between the Milwaukee Bucks and the Phoenix Suns.

Wright previously refereed in the NBA G League, where he officiated the 2004 playoffs and the 2005 Finals.

At the collegiate level, Wright officiated in the SEC, Colonial, Big South, Southern, Ohio Valley, Atlantic Sun and Southwestern Athletic conferences. He refereed the men's NCAA Division II Tournament in 2004.

#### **FUN FACTS**

Favorite TV Show: Law & Order

Favorite Movie: Love Jones

Favorite Musician: Michael Jackson

Favorite Book: Crime and Punishment

Favorite Meal: Roasted chicken and veggies

**Favorite App:** Son's football team app

Most Like To Visit: Greece

**Bucket List:** Fly a plane

**Hidden Talent:** Chess

### ZACH ZARBA #15



NBA Experience: 21<sup>th</sup> season

**Born:** April 29, 1975 (New York, N.Y.)

High School: Midwood (Brooklyn, N.Y.)

College: SUNY New Paltz '97

Zach Zarba has officiated 1,246 regular-season games in 20 seasons as an NBA staff official. He has also refereed 146 playoff games, including 12 NBA Finals games. Other assignments have included the 2016 NBA All-Star Game in Toronto.

Zarba considers his most memorable NBA assignment to be his first NBA Finals: Game 3 of the 2013 Finals between the Miami Heat and the San Antonio Spurs.

Before joining the NBA, Zarba officiated in the NBA G League for two years, where he worked the Finals. He

also refereed one year in the Continental Basketball Association and two years in the International Basketball League.

Zarba has three years of collegiate officiating experience in the ACC, SEC, Colonial Athletic Association, Atlantic Sun Conference, Ohio Valley Conference and Northeast Conference. He has three years of high school officiating experience in New York.

At SUNY New Paltz, Zarba was a member of the basketball team and served as captain in his senior season. He graduated with a bachelor's degree in Political Science.

Zarba's community service work includes support for the Brooklyn Youth Sports Club, It's from the Sole and Camp Felix.

### **FUN FACTS**

**Favorite TV Show:** The Wire

**Favorite Movie:** The Godfather

Favorite Meal: Shrimp oreganata

Favorite App: Twitter

Most Like To Visit: Italy

**Hidden Talent:** Cooking

### **NBA OFFICIALS: ACTIVE LEADERS**

(Statistics entering 2023-24 season)

MOST YEARS OF SI	<b>ERVICE</b>	MOST PLAYOFF GA	<b>MOST PLAYOFF GAMES</b>	
Tom Washington	32	Scott Foster	241	
Michael Smith	30	Marc Davis	189	
Tony Brothers	29	Tony Brothers	187	
Scott Foster	29	Tom Washington	181	
Bennie Adams	28	James Capers	178	
James Capers	28	Zach Zarba	146	
Sean Corbin	28	Bill Kennedy	139	
Scott Wall	28	Ed Malloy	136	
Leon Wood	27	John Goble	125	
Derek Richardson	26	David Guthrie	99	

MOST REGULAR-SEAS	ON GAMES	MOST NBA FINALS GAMES		
Tom Washington	1,780	Scott Foster	24	
Michael Smith	1,711	Marc Davis	20	
Tony Brothers	1,690	Tony Brothers	16	
Scott Foster	1,675	James Capers	14	
James Capers	1,556	Zach Zarba	12	
Sean Corbin	1,513	Ed Malloy	11	
Leon Wood	1,506	David Guthrie	10	
Marc Davis	1,503	John Goble	8	
Rodney Mott	1,446	Josh Tiven	7	
Scott Wall	1,443	Bill Kennedy	6	

#### **NEW PLAYING RULES FOR 2023-24 NBA SEASON**

#### **IN-GAME FLOPPING PENALTY**

Under the new rule, when a game official calls a flop – or a physical act that reasonably appears to be intended to cause the officials to call a foul on another player – the offending player will be charged with a non-unsportsmanlike technical foul and the opposing team will be awarded one free throw attempt, which could be attempted by any player who is in the game when the technical foul is assessed. A player will not be ejected from a game based on flopping violations.

Referees will not be required to stop live play to call a flopping violation. If necessary (for example, to avoid stopping live play while the offensive team has an immediate scoring opportunity), the officials will wait until the next neutral opportunity to stop live play to administer the flopping penalty. After the penalty free throw, the league's resumption of play principles will apply, meaning that the team with actual or imminent possession when play was stopped will be awarded possession when play resumes.

It is possible that the officials could call both a foul and a flopping violation on the same play.

A flopping violation will not be directly reviewable by a Coach's Challenge. However, the referees could call a flop via replay review of a called foul triggered by a Coach's Challenge or referee-initiated replay review of certain types of called fouls (such as a potential flagrant foul, block-charge call, end-of-period foul or clear-path foul).

The league office's ability to assess flops after a game will remain in place. New for the 2023-24 season, the postgame monetary penalty system for flops has been modified to replicate that of technical fouls, with fines starting at \$2,000 and increasing incrementally for repeat offenders.

A flopping violation called by the officials in real time will not result in a fine or count toward the postgame financial penalty system. When a flop is called by the referees, the lone penalty will be the in-game competitive penalty of the opposing team being awarded one free throw attempt.

The new in-game flopping penalty will be in effect on a one-year trial basis.

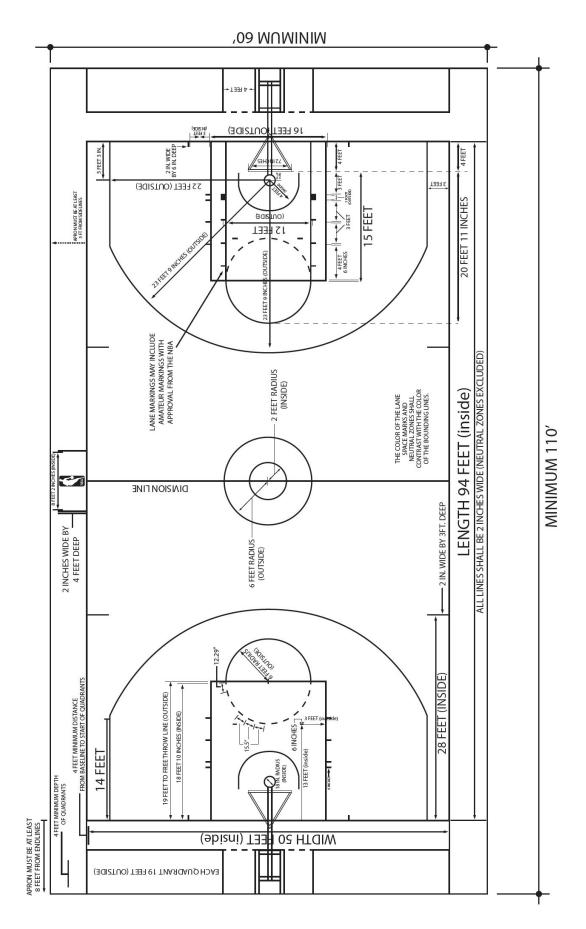
#### **EXPANDED USE OF COACH'S CHALLENGE**

The Coach's Challenge has been expanded to award teams a second Challenge if their first Challenge is successful.

A team must continue to use a timeout to trigger a Challenge, which means a team will not be able to use its first or second Challenge unless it still has a timeout available. In addition, a team will continue to retain the timeout used to initiate its first Challenge if the Challenge is successful and did not trigger a mandatory timeout.

For game length and game flow reasons, a team will not retain the timeout used to initiate its second Challenge even if the Challenge is successful.

### OFFICIAL NBA COURT DIAGRAM





#### 24-SECOND VIOLATION



Tap head signal '24'

#### 3-PT. FIELD GOAL

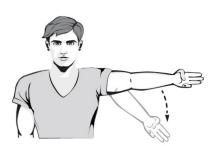


Official will raise one arm on attempt



If goal is successful raise the other arm

# 3-SECOND OFFENSIVE VIOLATION



Fingers sideways

# DEFENSIVE 3-SECOND VIOLATION



Chop down two times followed by technical foul signal

#### **BASKET INTERFERENCE**



Rotate finger wipe out basket

#### **BLOCKING**



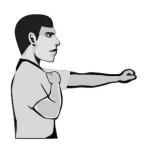
Hands on hips

# CANCEL SCORED CANCEL PLAY



Shift arms across body

#### **CHARGING**

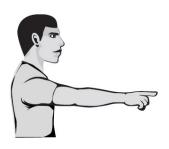


Clenched fist

#### **DIRECTION OF PLAY**

#### **DOUBLE FOUL**

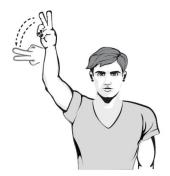
#### **GOALTENDING**



Point - Direction call team color

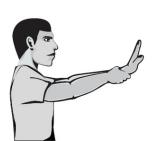


Cross clenched fist above head



"Flag" from wrist

#### HAND CHECKING



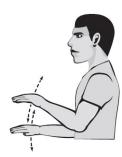
Arm straight out opposite arm grabbing wrist.

#### **HOLDING**



Signal Foul: grasp wrist

#### **ILLEGAL DRIBBLE**



Patting motion call team color

#### **ILLEGAL FOREARM**



Arm bent 90° in front of body

# ILLEGAL SCREEN OUT-OF-BOUNDS



Arms outstretched and crossed in front of chest

### ILLEGAL USE OF HAND



Signal foul: strike wrist



Thumbs up

#### LOOSE BALL FOUL

# OFFENSIVE PLAYER OUT-OF-BOUNDS



Extended arms to shoulder level



Arms outstretched to side from shoulder to waist in downward motion

#### **PERSONAL FOUL**



**REPLAY** 

**TECHNICAL FOUL** 



Clenched fist



Signal foul: imitate push



Twirl finger



Form T

#### TIME-IN

#### TIME-OUT

# TO DESIGNATE OFFENDER

### TRAVELING



Chop hand to side



Open palm



Hold up number of player



Rotate fists