

# When is a foul shot in S-O-M game?

By NEIL GREENBERG, Brooklyn, NY

I realize you cannot respond to all letters and also realize that the foul shooting situation in the basic Strat-O-Matic Basketball game has been explained to death.

But, after buying the Sporting News' NBA Guide, things are still hazy. The problem, in essence, is when the different foul rolls result in shooting. Fouls may occur in five ways in the basic game:

A. A player attempting a shot may roll an offensive foul reading off the opposing team's defense card. This counts as a personal foul to the player rolling the offensive foul, but does not count as a team foul. No shots are taken and defensive team obtains possession.

Editor's note: Yes, all of what you say is correct.

B. A player attempting a shot may roll an "X + F (1)" in his shot column. The player is credited with a basket and always shoots one free throw? Player on defensive team guarding that player is charged with a personal foul and team is charged with a team foul. Yes.

C. A player attempting a shot may roll an "F (2)" in his shot column. This player always shoots two free throws? Player on defensive team guarding that player is charged with a personal foul and team is charged with a team foul. Yes.

D & E. Player attempting a shot rolls a "F (1)" in his shot column, or reading of opponent's defense results in an "F (1)" reading. In both cases offensive player is fouled.

If I understand previous explanations in the Review, these fouls count as a personal foul to the player shooting's defensive matchup, and count as a team foul to the defensive team.

However, the player shooting is not always entitled to a free throw(s). Defensive team had to have committed four previous team fouls in the quarter, or this had to be the second or subsequent foul in the last two minutes of a quarter (only if defense has not previously committed four team fouls). If the four fouls or two-minute situation arises, only then is the player allowed a free throw, and is he allowed two free throws?

Yes, you are correct on everything. If the penalty situation is in effect (more than four team fouls or the second foul in the last two minutes), then the shooter is given two free throws.