



# **BASKETBALL SCOREBOARD & SHOT CLOCK GUIDANCE**

# **BASKETBALL SCOREBOARDS**

## **INTRODUCTION**

This document provides guidance and information in relation to scoreboards and shot clocks for basketball competitions across all aspects of the game, from school and community use to international competitions.

Scoreboards can be used at all levels of the game, ranging from community facilities in schools, where a tabletop electronic scoreboard would be suitable, to wall-mounted scoreboards for National League (NBL) and club level competitions, and international arenas that can incorporate a central scoreboard cube suspended above the centre of the court.

A range of information can be displayed on a scoreboard; a digital countdown to show score, time, team fouls, personal fouls, possession, time-outs and players names. The amount of information required depends on the level of competition, but as a minimum the scoreboard should display the score of the home and away team and the game time countdown timer.

This document provides information about the range of scoreboards and shot clocks that are available for the different levels of the game across the following facility and competition categories:

- Community – School competitions, minimum standards for local leagues and informal recreational play.
- Club – NBL level competitions, regional and local leagues, colleague and university competitions.
- Premier – British Basketball League (BBL) level competition.
- International – international competition and National team and club level.

A breakdown of the scoreboard and shot clock specifications as per the technical guidance document has been provided below (see figure 1.1).

**Figure 1.1. scoreboard and shot clock specifications (Basketball England technical guidance):**

	INTERNATIONAL			PREMIER			CLUB			COMMUNITY		
	Gold	Silver Age Group Euros	Bronze Friendly Matches	Gold BBL	Silver BBL	Bronze SBC's	Gold NBL1&2 WNBL1	Silver NBL3&4 WNBL2	Bronze NBL Age Groups	Gold Local League	Silver Secondary Schools	Bronze Primary Schools
<b>SCOREBOARD/VIDEOBOARD</b>												
<b>BASKETBALL GOALS:</b>												
a. Two large FIBA electronic scoreboards/videoboards – one at each end with digital countdown to show score, time, team fouls and player details; or b. Central cube plus single large scoreboard opposite team benches	•	•	•	•								
Single FIBA electronic scoreboard with digital countdown to show score, time, team fouls and time outs					•	•	•	•				
Running score and electronic/digital game time to be shown									•	•		
FIBA Live statistics	•	•	•	•	•		•					
<b>GAME CLOCK:</b>												
Game clocks to be part of scoreboard	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•			
<b>SHOT CLOCK:</b>												
FIBA shot clock with integral game clock mounted on both backboards	•	•	•	•	•							
24 second device						•	•	•				
<b>TV CABLE ACCESS TO SPORTS HALL:</b>												
Provide 200mm 'cat flap' for TV cables	•	•	•	•	•	•	•					

### NBL SCORING REQUIREMENTS:

In all NBL competitions, scoring equipment is required. The home club should ensure that its home venue provides an electronic scoreboard and game clock which can be read by the players, match officials and spectators throughout the course of the match. The clock must at least show the passing of time in minutes and running score.

For all matches in the Senior NBL and Under 18 & 16 Premier Leagues, in addition a suitable 24-second device, visible to all participants, must be provided for the administration of the 24-seconds rule. The preferred location for 24 second clocks is above the backboard.

For NBL Division One and Two and WNBL Division One, electronic scoreboard with digital countdown to show score, time, team fouls and time-outs are mandatory. For more information, please see [NBL FACILITY STANDARDS](#).

## **COMMUNITY**

This category relates to School Competitions plus minimum standard for local league and informal recreational play.

### **GUIDANCE**

The inclusion of a scoreboard in community facilities allows the court to be used for competitive games and makes the hall more attractive to clubs and users requiring scoring equipment.

Where possible, an electronic scoreboard would be preferable. The electronic scoreboard and game clock should be placed so they can be read by the players, match officials and spectators throughout the course of the match. The clock must at least show the passing of time in minutes and running score.

Tabletop scoreboards should be situated either on or adjacent to the scorer's table at centre court. This is to ensure ease of operation by the table officials and cross-referencing and communication between the table official operating the scoreboard and score book.

Power sockets should ideally be integrated into sports hall at the half court level, either into the wall or via floor boxes. This will enable the scoreboard to be easily connected to a power supply and reduce the need for long extension cables.

New sports hall designs for basketball should incorporate power sockets at the half court within their designs, with plugs located at ground level. Portable scoreboards can be wirelessly operated but will still require power near their location.

Extension cables might be required if the power sockets are not located at the half court area of the sports hall.

### **CONSIDERATIONS**

At this level, a wirelessly operated scoreboard would be the best option. Note that high-level power will still be required to supply the scoreboard in its location. Wireless controllers need to be kept on charge when not in use. The recommended minimum height of a scoreboard on a wall is 4m or higher. Wall-mounted boards be sure to leave space around the board of 30cm minimum to allow for maintenance.

### **APPROXIMATE COSTS**

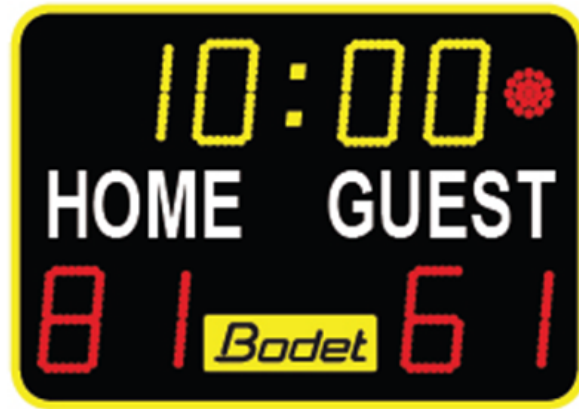
Tabletop scoreboards start at around £700

A basic electronic scoreboard starts from £1,600 – excluding installation



## EXAMPLES

Community scoreboard (suitable for local leagues) - Score and electronic/digital game time



## CLUB

This category relates to all clubs in the Division 3 NBL and Division 1 and 2 WNBL, plus Regional & Local Leagues, College and University Competitions.

### GUIDANCE

For competitive games in the NBL, scoreboards with digital countdown to show score, time, would be the minimum specification suitable, with higher level club competitions requiring a board with team fouls and time outs.

### CONSIDERATIONS

At some levels of Basketball England NBL play, shot clocks are also required, please see section 5 for details.

Wireless scoreboards are acceptable and may be most suitable at this level. A power supply will still be required in close proximity to the board's position.

Wireless controls need to be kept on charge when not in use.

Scoreboards should be placed in a location where all participants; players, coaches, referees, table officials and spectators can see the board.

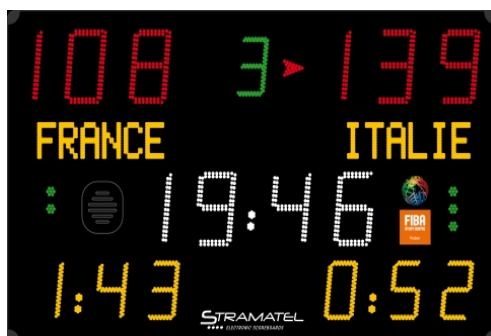
Wall-mounted boards be sure to leave space around the board of 30cm minimum to allow for maintenance.

### APPROXIMATE COSTS

A club-standard scoreboard, including team fouls and time outs, start from around £2500, excluding delivery and installation.

### EXAMPLE

Club Gold standard scoreboard example:



## INTERNATIONAL & PREMIER

International relates to international Competition at National and Club level.

Premier relates to Premier Clubs competing in the NBL 1, BBL and WBBL.

### SPECIFICATION

Club gold standard scoreboards are acceptable in D1 and D2 Basketball England competitions but may not be suitable for BBL/WBBL clubs.

For guidance on scoring for professional competitions such as BBL/WBBL or European club competitions we recommend contacting the league or competition organiser.

Facilities to meet premier gold and international gold specifications should provide two large, wired FIBA electronic scoreboards / videoboards. – one at each end with digital countdown to show score, time, team fouls and player details.

In addition, 24 second shot clocks are also required.

### EXAMPLE

Premier Gold standard scoreboard example:



### GUIDANCE (FIBA)

#### CONSIDERATIONS AND LOCATION

For FIBA games, scoring systems are to be wired to avoid any potential wireless interference. Two large scoreboards are required, one at each end of the playing court and, if so desired, and ceiling height allows, a further scoreboard placed above the centre of the playing court. This does not exclude the need for the other two scoreboards. This will ensure that the scoreboards are clearly visible to everyone involved in the game, including the spectators.

If video displays are used for the scoreboards, it must be assured that the complete required information shall be visible at any time during the game. The readability of the displayed information shall be the same as on a digital scoreboard. The control panels cannot be computer keyboard panels.

The scoreboard shall include and/or indicate:

- The digital countdown game clock.
- The points scored by each team, and for level one the cumulative points scored by each individual player.
- The number of each individual player, and for level one their corresponding surnames.
- The team's names.

The number of fouls committed by each player on the team from one to five. The fifth foul shall be indicated in red or orange. The number may be shown with five (5) indicators or a number display with a minimum height of 135mm.

In addition, the fifth foul may be indicated with a slow flashing display (~ 1 Hz) for five seconds.

- The number of team fouls from one to five, stopping at five.
- The number of the period from one to four, and E for an extra period.
- The number of charged time-outs per half from zero to three.
- The team indicator for the throw-in at the next alternating possession jump ball situation.
- A clock for timing the time-out (optional). The game clock must not be used for this purpose.

For level one (compulsory) and level two (recommended):

- The display on the scoreboard shall be in bright contrasting colours. The background of the display shall be antiglare.
- The display numbers on the game clock and game score shall be a minimum height of 300mm (level one) or 250mm (level two) and a minimum width of 150mm (level one) or 125mm (level two).
- The display numbers of team fouls and periods shall be a minimum height of 250mm and a minimum width of 125mm.
- The display numbers of the team names, players' surnames and numbers, and points scored by the players shall be a minimum height of 150mm.
- The scoreboard game clock, game score and the twenty-four second device should have a minimum viewing angle of 130°.

The scoreboard shall:

- Not have any sharp edges or burrs.
- Be mounted securely.
- Be able to withstand severe impact from any ball.
- Have specific protection, if necessary, which should not impair the readability of the scoreboard.
- Have electromagnetic compatibility in accordance with the statutory requirements of the respective country.



For BBL / WBBL clubs wanting to compete in FIBA club competitions, consideration should be given to the FIBA competition rules.

A scoreboard at each end of the court is usually required along with shot clocks providing 24 second clock, game time, plus backboard LEDs in red and yellow to indicate the end of each quarter and expiration of 24 seconds.

### APPROXIMATE COSTS

FIBA level 3 scoreboards start at around £6,000, level two £6,500 and level one £9,000, all excluding delivery and installation.

### VIDEO SCOREBOARDS

Example of video scoreboard:



The use of video screens as a scoreboard is now possible with many FIBA-approved suppliers providing a video scoring option.

The benefits of a video screen scoreboard is that it is multifunctional. They can provide all the same information as a traditional scoreboard but can be customised for other events, as well as also providing video and picture playback when not in use as a scoreboard.

**CONSIDERATIONS AND LOCATIONS:**

All the rules that apply to traditional scoreboards (as above) apply to video screens in terms of the information displayed, it's size and colour and link with shot clocks where required.

To be used in competitions, video screens need to be used in conjunction with traditional scoreboard controllers. The use of a laptops or mobile phones to control a scoreboard may not be allowed in some competitions.

Video screens and the associated video software can be significantly more expensive than traditional scoreboards.

**APPROXIMATE COSTS:**

Costs vary depending on screen size, but a starting point would be around £50,000.

# BASKETBALL SHOT CLOCKS

## INTRODUCTION

A shot clock (24 second clock) is used in basketball to quicken the pace of the game. The shot clock times a play and provides that a team on offense that does not promptly try to score points loses possession of the ball.

Shot clocks are required in Under 16, Under 18 and Senior level Basketball England NBL competitions as well as in BBL, WBBL and international competitions.

There are a range of shot clocks available to cater for all competition levels. The timing information displayed depends on the level of competition but as a minimum a shot clock should display the time remaining on that possession and be able to reset to 14 seconds.

## COMMUNITY, CLUB AND PREMIER

### GUIDANCE

At a community level and local league, shot clocks are not mandatory but they would be a welcome addition to many facilities where clubs have aspirations to play in the NBL or Jnr. NBL.

In competitions including NBL Division One, WNBL Division One, BBL and WBBL, a shot clock should be used that incorporates the game time countdown timer as well.

Shot clocks should be positioned at both ends of the court so that they are visible for all participants in the game, the preferred location is 30cm above the backboard.

Below is an example of a shot clock that can be used in both community level and club level competitions.

### EXAMPLES



School and local league appropriate Shot Clock:



NBL 1, BBL, WBBL level Shot Clock including game time countdown:

## **CONSIDERATIONS**

At NBL Division One, Two and Three, plus WNBL Division One and Two and U18/U16 Premier, shot clocks are also required.

Wireless shot clocks are acceptable and may be most suitable at this level.

A power supply will still be required in close proximity to the score table position. Wireless controls need to be kept on charge when not in use.

Shot clocks should be placed in a location where all players, coaches, referees, table officials and spectators can see the time. The preferred location is 30cm above the backboard.

If wall-mounting shot clocks, be sure to leave space around the clock of 30cm minimum to allow for maintenance.

If spectators are on all four sides of the court, they should all be able to see a shot clock. Therefore, shot clocks with multiple sides are recommended.

## **APPROXIMATE COSTS**

Community level shot clock start at around £700

Premier NBL Division One level shot clock start at around £2,500



## INTERNATIONAL

This category relates to international Competition at National and Club level.

### GUIDANCE

For international games, a wired scoring system is required to rule out all possible radio interference. This needs planning during the building phase of a facility to include high-level or inground wiring runs.

### SPECIFICATION

If the venue has spectators on all four sides of the court, shot clocks with multiple faces are required, three or four is common.

The shot clock should be placed 30cm above the basket. On portable baskets a folding support arm can be purchased or made to order, which can fold down to allow for easy storage on portable units.

Shot clocks must have the ability to countdown in tenth of a second for the last 5 seconds.

An orange LED strip is required along the inside edge of the backboard to provide a visual indicator when time expires and a yellow light across the scorers table is required at some levels of competition.

### APPROXIMATE COSTS

4-sided Shot Clocks start from £6,000, excluding supporting brackets and installation.



International Shot Clock example, back board mounted.



International Shot Clock example, Cube specification. Backboard mounted.



FIBA level one scoring example - Scoreboard with player names, score and foul count along with cube shot clock and LED backboard

### APPROVED SCOREBOARD PARTNER

Sportserve are the official scoring supplier to Basketball England and can provide a complete range of scoreboards, video screens, shot clocks and table equipment.

Basketball England affiliated clubs receive a 10% discount, please quote - BasketballEngland23



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