



MEMO

Date: October 22, 2018
From: Squash Canada Doubles Officiating Committee
Subject: Court Specification Change

Recommended Action: Addition of “Hash Marks” at the 15 foot mark from the front wall.
Description: New tape or paint to be added 5 inches up the wall and 5 inches onto the floor

Rational: Remove subjectivity from referee’s decisions and allow non-refereed or refereed matches to clearly see where the 1/3rd court line is for fair call purposes. References below relate to:
APPENDIX 1 - GUIDELINES ON HARDBALL DOUBLES RULES INTERPRETATIONS, JAN 2014

G7 Interference on Turning, Subsection 5. Makes specific reference to the front 3rd of the court. “The turning player’s opponents must make every effort to clear to give the turning player the full front wall and the side walls in the front third of the court, as well as provide freedom to the striker to play the ball.”

Subsection 6. States: “Where possible, the turning player should play the ball to the front wall or to the sidewalls in the front third of the court. If the turning player does not play the ball he will not be granted a Let if he is considered to be unreasonably trying to get out of an unfavorable position, especially when the opponents have cleared properly.”

Subsection 7. States: “If the ball hits an opponent who has cleared to allow the turning player to play the ball safely to the front third of the court, the turning player will lose the Point. Also, to ensure the safety of the players on the court in enforcing the Turning rule, if the turning player plays a shot which is considered reckless or dangerous (not safe) the striker will be penalized and a Point will be awarded to the opponents.”

Rule G20 – Point Rule Interpretation. Subsection C-1 states: “A Point shall be awarded on a crosscourt shot only in the following circumstances: 1) When the opponent deprives the striker of a clear opportunity to attempt a winning shot (i.e., in the front third of the court)...”

It is recommend that to better enforce the rules of the game and remove and any subjectivity from the referees / judges’ decision as to the exact location of the front 1/3 of the court, That court markings in the form of new tape or paint should be placed 5 inches up the wall and 5 inches onto the floor at the 15 foot mark (from the front wall to) define the exact location of the front 1/3 of the court.

Note: The front third hash-marks line should be 15 feet from the front wall, rather than 15 feet from the front tin.

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