Special Olympics Basketball Coaching Guide Teaching Basketball Skills



Defending

| Your Athlete Can | Never | Sometimes | Often |
|---|-------|-----------|-------|
| Assume proper body stance: legs bent, head and hands up and weight on balls of feet | | | |
| Maintain proper body position while moving sideways, forward and backward | | | |
| Maintain proper body position while moving in relation to the ball | | | |
| Maintain proper body position while moving in relation to opponent and the ball | | | |
| Totals | | | |

Faults & Fixes Chart - Defending

| Error | Correction | Drill/Test Reference |
|--|---|----------------------|
| Athlete gets too close to a player who receives a pass, allowing them to drive past. | Form an imaginary triangle between athlete, the ball and the player athlete is defending, making sure athlete can see both the ball and the player. | |
| When defending during a shot, athlete fouls the shooter. | Remind athlete to keep arms straight up overhead and not reaching over. | |
| The offensive ball handler moves around the athlete. | Make sure athlete ismoving the feet and sliding to match their movement – side to side and up and back. | Ike Like Mike |

Coaches' Tips for Basketball - At-A-Glance

Tips for Practice

- 1. Ball focus and movement are essential, since the goal of defense is to stop or to limit the offense from scoring. Specific tasks help a defender know what to perform and how to perform it.
- 2. Work on both man-to-man and zone defenses so athletes know different strategies for different situations.
- 3. Teaching footwork and hand placement while on defense will help athletes focus on specific skills.