

NBA Blackout Rules (Basketball)- Article no. 1788



Resolution Steps

NBA Blackouts Information on TNT

- **Blackouts** are established by the **NBA** to protect the **ticket sales** and local television **rights** for **home teams**
- As part of **TNT's contractual agreement** with the **NBA**, games are always blacked out within a **35-mile radius** from the **Headend** (where signal is received) to the home team's city of operation; **no exceptions**
- In the case of a **blackout**, **TNT** makes every **effort to provide** the local cable operator with **alternate programming**
- Due to **time** and **technical limitations**, as well as **local sponsorship obligations**, cable operators **can't** always provide alternate programming

Sports Programming Blackout Rules

- Occasionally, the company is **required by law** to **prevent** showing certain programs; blackouts affect **sporting events**, as well as **other programming**

- Blackouts are imposed to **protect** the local team's ability to **attract a live audience**, and television rights revenue by preventing duplication of any event by multiple carriers
- In each case, there is **one network** designated as the **Exclusive Carrier** of an event of a **specific sports team**
- The **exclusive network** arranged for this privilege at its **own expense**; **FCC regulations** require a blackout to **all** other event carriers

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