

Deep-court interference

(created by Ian Allanach)

Theory and practice

Understanding paired indicators

Video illustrations

Description of “deep-court”



- The interference takes place in either of the rear quarters of the court
- It will usually be behind the T and can be close to side or back walls

Scenarios

- Player A plays a relatively loose shot - sometimes this puts A out of position
- Player B recognises situation and plays good length ball into back corner
- Or
- Player B takes ball early and volleys deep, giving A less time to play
- A has to get to the ball, contact is made and A appeals

Specific issues associated



1

- The action is closer to the referee than other forms of interference
- The ball is going towards the rear corner
- The angles of movement of the players are important
- There can be time to see the development of this interference

Specific issues associated



2

- Player B is playing a calculated shot
- Recognising the opportunity, player B can use body to advantage, delaying the shot and keeping A clear
- Recognising the danger, player A can anticipate and move quickly to cover
- Early clue is the shaping up of player B
- There will be Lets, but overly generous refereeing will give Lets when No Lets are required

Caution

- Interference situations can be complex
- These 8 pairs of indicators cover a wide range of possibilities
- Introducing priority indicators
- Any one priority indicator (***) should be sufficient to direct the decision

Deep-court interference 1



- **Yes let**
 1. Striker moving when interference occurs
 2. Striker's line is direct to the ball
- **No let**
 1. Striker is relatively static
 2. Striker's line is indirect to the ball***

Deep-court interference 2



- **Yes let**
 3. Striker making every effort to get to ball
 4. Striker is seen to try to get past opponent
- **No let**
 3. Striker's effort is questionable
 4. Striker's movement is into opponent

Deep-court interference 3



- | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes let 5. Opponent has contributed to interference 6. Striker would have reached the ball | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No let 5. Striker makes all the contact or holds racket to make contact*** 6. Questionable whether striker would reach |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

Deep-court interference 4



- **Yes let**

7. Striker line is “blocked”

8. N/A

- **No let**

7. Striker has clear access to ball

8. Striker shouts “I could have reached that” – (doubt in own mind).

The balancing act

- This type of interference can come down to two opposing actions on which the referee must rule :
- Does the non-striker allow access to deep court without blocking?
- Is the physical effort made by striker, to get past/through opponent to the ball, genuine?