



For Immediate Release

Contact: Laurie Rich
Director of Communications
Perennial Strategy Group
202.638.5090
lrich@perennialsg.com

Veteran Referee Jack Nies Officiates 2,000th NBA Game

Washington, D.C., April 16, 2008 – Jack Nies refereed his 2,000th NBA game last night right where he called some of his very first.

The veteran NBA referee, now in his 31st year with the league, officiated Tuesday's matchup between the New Jersey Nets and the Charlotte Bobcats at the Nets' Izod Stadium in East Rutherford, New Jersey. The Stadium is about 25 minutes from his hometown of Bayonne, New Jersey, and about an hour from Monmouth College, near where Nies started his refereeing career by officiating Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) games.

"Jack has come a long way from his CYO days," NBRA Spokesman Lamell McMorris said. "With 2,000 NBA games and 30 years under his belt in a league with the highest level of basketball in the world, he is in the ultimate of elite company."

After the CYO, Nies spent 7 years with the Eastern League. He received his shot at the NBA in 1978, and since then has become one of the league's most venerated officials. He has had the third-longest career in the league among active referees, and has missed only nine games in his 30-year tenure. Only Dick Bavetta at 33 years in the league, and Joey Crawford at 31 have officiated for more seasons.

Wearing jersey number 35, Nies has worked nine NBA Finals Games, one NBA All-Star Game, the 1997 McDonald's Championship in Paris and the 1994 Mexico Challenge. At 70 years old, he shows no signs of stopping, but continues to head out on the court, night after night, in city after city, to make the right call.

About the NBRA

The National Basketball Referees Association represents the referees of the National Basketball Association.