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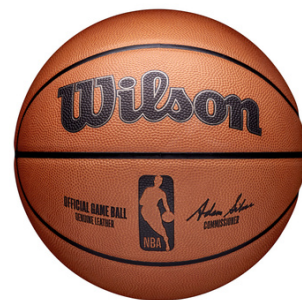
NBA WEEKLY



LeBron James, The King of Basketball makes a comeback!



the Refs Gone Wild:
See the exclusive story
on the situation.



Bonus!!! Review on the new Jordan 38 Lows and the Wilson official game ball

“Zebras” Gone Wild

By Franklin Yu

Imagine this: you are a professional NBA player for your favourite team. You are in the Finals, Game 7. It has been a back-and-forth game. With less than 3 minutes left, your team is down by 5. As you drive into the paint, you lost control of the ball and it goes out of bounds, generating a turnover. You slap your thighs lightly, frustrated at your mistake -- next thing you know, you're ejected from the game. For slapping your thighs!! Season after season, players, fans and commentators have been complaining about players unfairly getting fouls or techs from referees. This needs to change. Not only is it disappointing for fans and unfair to players, it also underlies the NBA's spotless reputation.

It is not entertaining for fans to see their players get ejected. In this modern era of the NBA, many fans no longer watch the NBA for their favourite team (although some still do). Nowadays, fans watch the NBA for their favourite players, their GOATs. The reason people watch the NBA is because the league has superstar-caliber players like LeBron James, Steph Curry or Luka Doncic. Take away these All-Stars and all we have left are players like Zach Lavine, Khris Middleton or Dejounte Murray. They are good players, but it is not as entertaining to watch. As the players get ejected, fans stop watching the matches. What does this cause? A loss of revenue for the NBA and smaller fanbases. Adam Silder, is this what you want? I think I speak for all NBA fans when I say we want the players to stay on the court, not the locker room.

Moreover, it is simply not fair for the players themselves. The main goal of being an athlete is to compete. To win. Athletes are highly emotional beings, and basketball players are no exception. Celebrating and screaming are just a way for players to express their emotions. Do they deserve to be ejected for that? Even worse, players like Jason Tatum have been ejected for hanging on the rim after a dunk! This is absurd! Players hand on the rim for two reasons: To prevent from hurting themselves; and to prevent hurting anyone under the rim. The situation is getting out of hand. Players are getting ejected for preventing injuries! How is this fair? I am not saying players should not be ejected in any situation. If they are swearing or harming others, they should be ejected. But not when they did nothing wrong.

Furthermore, these unnecessary technicals are creating a bad reputation for the NBA. In the past, during the 1990s-2000s, the league created a reputation as a fair and entertaining league for basketball fans. Nowadays it is neither. Videos on the internet have gone viral for making fun of the current citation in the NBA. Even commentators are fed up. Reggie Miller, former shooting guard for the Indiana Pacers, and a current commentator for the league, famously criticised the referees after Jason Tatum was once again handed a tech for hanging on the rim, saying "This is what I don't like about the league today, man". If a former player is looking down on the league, just imagine how much of a joke it must be overseas at other leagues like the NBL. The truth is, refs are often underappreciated if not abused verbally, by players, coaches and fans alike. However, these diabolical actions are simply not right. Refs should be protesting to the Commissioner, not taking matters into their own hands, as this not only worsens the situation but also underlies the NBA's reputation.

This is becoming more and more unbearable. It is unfair to both fans and players while burning away the NBA's spotless reputation at the same time. This needs to stop. Adam Silver, time for a reform, Commissioner.



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Jordan 38 Lows: Is It Worth It?

By Franklin Yu

After the success of Jordan 38 Highs, the star-studded brand has recently introduced the High's counterpart -- Jordan 38 Lows -- to the mass populace. As we have done with the Jordan 38 Highs, we have gathered our panel of shoe experts, basketball players and volunteers to test the Jordan 38 Lows and rate them. We tested the shoe in 3 main categories: Traction, Comfortability and Performance. After weeks of testing and receiving feedback, the results are out. Overall, it is a decent indoor basketball shoe, living up to the brand's expectations. As an outdoor basketball shoe, however, is a different story.

Traction is, without a doubt, one of the most important aspects of a basketball shoe. Every player dreads slipping on the court because their shoe doesn't have good enough traction. Not only is it embarrassing, but it also increases the risk of injury. After repeated simulations of real-game scenarios and being put to work in real NBA games for the full 48 minutes, it can be seen that the 38 Lows have wonderful traction capabilities. Players can make quick, sharp turns, stops and footwork precisely and accurately -- a basketball player's dream. Unfortunately, like many other brands such as Addidas and New Balance, Air Jordan has yet to find a way to combine both indoor and outdoor performance capabilities into one shoe. The 38 Lows have problems stopping and turning. It stops too quickly, with one volunteer twisting his ankle while playing. Moreover, the bottom gathers dust and wears off quickly, increasing the risk of injury. If you are a streetballer, maybe consider products from Li-Ning or Anta.



Comfort is also a key component of a basketball shoe. The 38 Lows is one of the more comfortable shoes the Jordan brand has produced recently, igniting hope of a comeback in the brand's comfortability. According to our shoe experts, this is due to the new introduction of the soft, memory foam cushion. This has led to drastic improvements in performance for our volunteers, with many claiming the shoe makes them able to get into the "flow state" more easily. However, the Jordan 38 Lows has a couple of flaws in the comfortability. The shoe requires a decent amount of time to break into the shoe and fit nicely. This means that unless you are a consistent hooper, I suggest you consider other shoes, as they will feel tight and uncomfortable for a longer period, affecting your performance. Moreover, some of our volunteers have received 38 Lows with manufacturing errors in them, including bumps at the front on the inside and already worn-off soles. To make matters worse, players cannot detect these errors until they test them on the court. One hooper nearly broke his lead while driving in the shoes with errors. To prevent this, I suggest buying the 38 Lows in-store and testing it on the spot instead of purchasing it online. Despite these issues, a good 38-low without errors is a must-have when considering comfort.

Performance. Traction and Comfortability don't matter if the shoe does not perform up to standard. The Jordan 38 Lows' performance? It has set a new standard in the industry, and it will be hard to beat. The soles and cushion work perfectly, enhancing players' bounce and cushioning their landing. The stretchiness of the soles also enables players to run faster than ever, providing them a crucial advantage during transitions and fast breaks. The laces work wonderfully, Unlike many other hooping shoes, the Jordan 38 Lows' laces do not loosen easily during practices or games, a rare convenience. However, your performance may vary, due to the design of the shoe. The shoe is, frankly, built like a rectangular box. This means if your feet are shaped differently from the shoes, it will seriously hinder your ability to perform, as it will cause you to trip and twist your ankle more easily, increasing the risk of injury. Once again, manufacturing errors come into play, for obvious reasons. Despite these problems, most players were able to perform fantastically and therefore able to salvage some points for the 39 Lows' performance capabilities.

All in all, the Jordan 38 Lows is an extremely capable basketball shoe for indoor hoopers. It certainly has some design and manufacturing errors Nike can work on. However, with its other components working fabulously and enhancing players' performance, the Jordan 38 Lows is a must-have in any serious hooper's arsenal of equipment.



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Why LeBron James is better than Stephen Curry at Basketball

LeBron James has been named 'The King' of Basketball since 2003 unlike Stephen Curry. LeBron James is way ahead of Stephen Curry in terms of public recognition too. When was the last time you've heard the name Stephen Curry in public? Exactly. Now on the other hand, you've heard LeBron's name plenty of times whether that's on T.V, social media, the internet, ect. The point is, LeBron is just superior.

LeBron scores basket after basket all the time while maintaining stamina, speed, and power. If you're a keen follower of the NBA you'll know what I mean about LeBron. Stephen Curry is good at Basketball, just average good, there is nothing special about him, other than scoring a couple of great shots. You can trust me on this, I saw it myself when I visited an NBA game in the USA, everyone was cheering for LeBron James.

LeBron James has won four NBA All-Stars awards in his career as well as more awards from third parties. His sheer size makes him stand out from the crowd, He is 6'9" and weighs over 250 pounds! LeBron's versatility makes him a great player on court whether he's hooping, defending or passing.

LeBron has been professionally playing Basketball since 2003 while Stephen Curry has only been throwing Basketballs around since 2009. Many fans agree LeBron's skillset far surpasses every other player including Curry. Has Stephen made any other appearances in anything other than Basketball? The answer's no. LeBron has popped up in many places like the video game, Fortnite, and he has also starred in the popular movie named Space Jam.

The Majority agrees LeBron James is The Legend and Stephen Curry is just one of his many pesty opponents. LeBron's sheer size, speed, unrivaled strength, versatility and Basketball IQ make him an unbeatable boss.

Is the new NBA game ball really worth \$400?

With the release of the new Wilson Official NBA Game Ball, you really need to ask yourself, is it really worth \$400? If you live in a mansion, drive Lambos around and go out eating in five-star restaurants every night, then yes, it is worth every cent, all 40,000 cents.

But if you don't have all that money to burn, this review might suit your decision to find out if the Basketball is really worth 400 of your hard-earned dollars.

This new Basketball was first introduced in the 2021-2022 NBA season when previously, Spalding Basketballs were used in the games. The Basketball sports an all-leather construction for grip, durability, bounce, and consistency. It remains grippy under all conditions including heat, rain, cold weather, and is still gripping when players' palms are sweaty. That's no surprise since the \$400 ball was designed for top-notch grip and consistency.

The Basketball's design remains the same with the classic 8 panel construction and brown colour with the dotted texture. All of these design accents have been used throughout NBA's history. The ball does come with mixed reviews however, on one hand, Stephen Curry says the new ball helps him shoot shots more accurately and consistently, thanks to the Basketball's new texture made out of high-quality leather. And on the other hand, LeBron James, 'The King', claims the ball's grip does not work well in wet conditions and he prefers the old Spalding Basketball. The NBA has been using Wilson's Basketballs since the beginning in 1924 until Spalding took over in 1983.

To wrap things up, the Basketball is a solid choice if you've got the money and you are dedicated to the sport, however many great alternatives exist.



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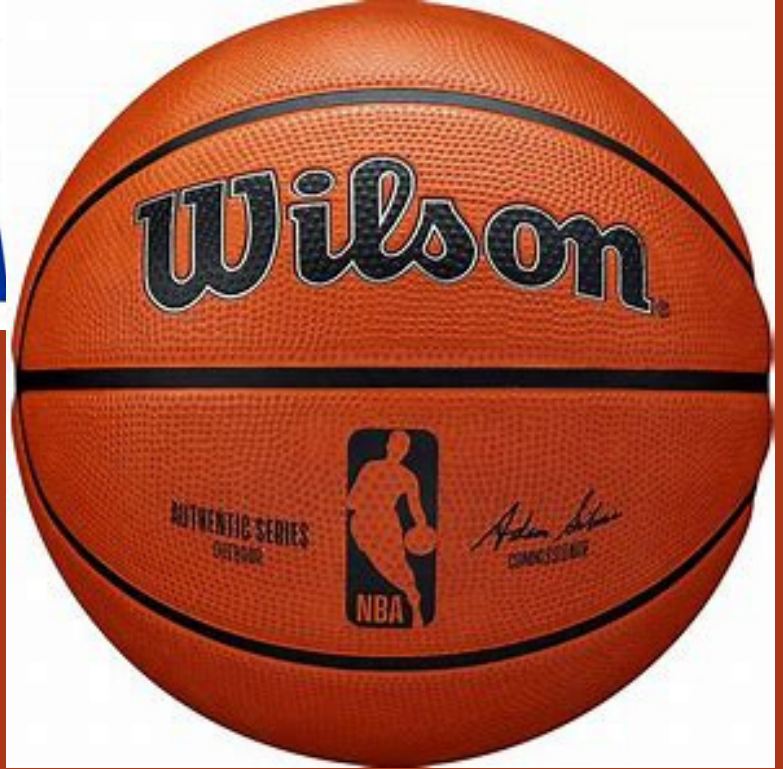




NBA

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The Wilson official Game Ball, the most premium ball you can get for \$400. Want to read a full-on review about it?

