

December 13, 1940

Mr. Earl Falkenstien, Secy.
University of Kansas
Physical Education Corporation
Robinson Gym.

Dear Mr. Falkenstien:

Thank you for your communication of the 13th giving me an excerpt from the Minutes of the Directors' meeting, December 6, 1940 regarding the N.C.A.A. playoff. I had read in the papers regarding this action, but I am glad to have the real McCoy. We will be guided definitely by the action of the Directors.

May I make this observation, that by such a ruling a coach will be forced to put in and to keep in his regulars so that he may run up a large score, and also to keep the opponents from scoring. The substitutes, necessarily, will not get a chance to play on account of the rule that the Directors made.

Previously, when the coaches of a particular sport desired certain action to be heard, they presented the matter to the Directors, and in order that it might be legal the Directors referred it to the faculty representatives for action. But when rulings such as this were made, the coaches were consulted, then the Directors and faculty representatives made the ruling upon their best judgment. It seems now as if it is not necessary to discuss with the coaches regarding a certain situation.

May I state further that I have a recollection that the Directors made a ruling that they wanted to help Uncle Sam get his fighting men in the best possible shape and they offered their services and their best judgment in attaining this desirable condition. But such rulings as they have just passed tend to cut down the possible number of competitors and thereby fail to encourage greater participation.

No coach will use a substitute now when he can make a better record and thereby win the championship. Heretofore when a game was won or lost the coach would put in the substitutes, because they are the ones that had helped the team; now he is discouraged in doing this by the action of the Directors. It is certainly not an educational attitude and is paradoxical to the motion that they passed regarding Uncle Sam's physical fitness program.

There is another rumor that is floating around among the coaches which is almost as bad. George Edwards informed the coaches last Sunday at their meeting, that a ruling had been passed by the Directors and the faculty representatives to the effect that the ten players could be taken on a trip and also only ten players could be dressed in uniform for the home game. If such a ruling has been made, then this is the plumb. There is no need for them to try any further to get the freakiest of all freakish ideas across.