

January 16, 1939.

Coach Aldor H. Wepfer,
Minocqua High School,
Minocqua, Wisconsin.

Dear Coach Wepfer:

Answering your kind letter of the 12th instant, may I kindly call attention to the terminology which you have used. "Blocking is personal contact which impedes the progress of an opponent who has not the ball."

"Blocking is a personal foul and therefore there is no such play as a 'legal block'. Legally shutting off the approach of an opponent should be called 'screening'."

I am sure that you meant to seek information on the percentage of teams throughout the country who use a system of screening.

I believe practically all the teams in the big conferences use wither a moving screen or a set screen. This applies also to most of the larger conferences regarding the individual members, all of which use a fast break at times with a slowing up at times, and an indulgence in a set play.

Purdue comes the closest of the Big Ten teams to a rapid fast break. I would suggest that you write H. G. Olsen, the basketball coach at Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio, and he will be able to give you the information on the Big Ten. For our Big Six Conference, including the Universities of Nebraska, Missouri, Oklahoma and Kansas, as well as Kansas State College and Iowa State College, all of the Big Six teams use a fast break at times, coupled with set screen plays. For the Missouri Valley Conference, which includes Oklahoma. A. and M. College, Drake University, Tulsa University, Creighton University, Grinnell College, Washburn College, Washington University and St. Louis University, the same is true regarding the fast break, coupled with the set plays.

The difficulty with high school teams is that the youngsters are generally immature and the changing condition in schools precludes most of the high school teams using the set plays. Only the larger schools use the set plays. The others use a free moving of the ball around and the teams rotating until they get a favorable shot at the basket.

Trusting this gives you the information desired, I am
Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education,
Varsity Basketball Coach.