

UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI
C O L U M B I A

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INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS

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Lawrence, Kan.

Dear Phog:

Your communication regarding the Basketball rules entitled "They Are Confused" has just been received. I shall take it with me to the meeting next week and present it to the Committee for discussion. I have no doubt but that it will receive thorough and objective treatment in line with the policy the Committee.

In order that the ideas you presented will be made clear to all, and that I will be in position to answer questions I have made a digest of your material. Please check it and notify me if I have misquoted or misinterpreted. Here are the points as they will be presented unless you submit corrections.

1. The Basketball Rules are the underlying cause of confusion among players, officials and spectators. (no mention of coaches).

2. Modification of the center jump rule has resulted in:

(a) Continuation of the value of the excessively tall player despite contentions that it would eliminate such players from the game.

(b) Fire-wagon play with uncontrolled speed being rewarded and applauded more than orderly, skillful, and well planned maneuvers.

(c) Danger to the hearts of players and spectators with consequent increase of heart trouble. ?

3. Elimination of confusion and reduction of the disastrous effects of the center jump modification are assured by a regulation which will force an intermittent breathing spell.

4. The five foul rule is a confession of this need, but does not hit at the source of the trouble.

5. A necessary break in the continuity of play can be assured by application of the present Technical Foul regulations to Personal Fouls.

6. Adoption of No. 5, therefore, would:

(a) Eliminate confusion caused by the rules.

(b) Slow down play so that skill rather than uncontrolled speed would predominate.

(c) Reduce the danger of heart trouble.

(d) Dispense with the policing now required at the free throw lane.

(e) Lessen the value of skyscraper players by preventing tip-ins on missed free throws.

(f) Dispense with the option of substituting an out-of-bounds play.

(g) Make unnecessary and unwise a deliberate foul near the game's close.