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## JOINT BASKETBALL COMMITTEE

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### CHANGES IN THE BASKETBALL RULES FOR 1932-1933

The following is a summary of the changes in the Basketball Rules which will go into effect next season. The wording of the changes given herein is not final; the outline of the new "ten-second rule" in particular may be revised considerably before the Guide is published.

The present line across the center-circle is to be extended in both directions until it intersects the side-lines.

(a) When a team gains possession of the ball in its own back-court, this team must advance the ball over the center line within a period of ten seconds unless the ball, while out of control of the team, has been touched by an opponent. In the latter event, a new play results and the ten second period begins again when possession of the ball is regained in the back-court. When a team has advanced the ball over the center line this team may not return the ball to its back-court until (1) a try for goal has been made, or (2) a jump ball has taken place, or (3) an out-of-bounds award has been made, or (4) the ball has been recovered from the possession of the opponents.

(b) When a team gains possession of the ball in its front-court as a result of (1), (2), (3) or (4) above, it may cause the ball to go back over the center line once only. Penalty:—Failure to comply with the provisions of this section is a violation—loss of ball to opponents. Touching the center line is "over," as in out-of-bounds decisions. The referee (or umpire) should count silently and it is suggested that the following method of counting seconds be used: "thousand-and-one, thousand-and-two," etc. None of the provisions of this section apply to courts less than sixty feet long.

A player shall not withhold the ball from play for more than three seconds while standing in the free throw lane with his back to his basket. Penalty; violation—loss of ball to opponents.

Blocking is to be defined as *personal contact* which impedes the progress of an opponent who has not the ball. Legally shutting off the approach of an opponent (no contact involved) should be called screening.

Face-guarding takes place when a player disregards the ball and faces an opponent, thereafter shifting his position as the opponent shifts, thus interfering with the latter's progress. Face-guarding is a personal foul.

Players are to be numbered on the front and back of their shirts. Letters may not be used instead of numbers.

If a player in possession of the ball near the boundary line is forced out-of-bounds, a negligible amount of contact being involved, the officials are authorized to award the ball to this player. If the officials are in doubt as to which player is responsible for the out-of-bounds ball, jump ball should be declared.

If on a free throw the ball misses the ring and back-board, it is to be awarded to an opponent out-of-bounds on the end instead of on the side.

The Committee disapproves the use of the huddle if the game is delayed thereby, and authorizes a technical foul if such delay exceeds three seconds.

Whenever a foul is called on an opponent of a player who immediately after the foul succeeds in making a field goal, the goal is to be allowed if there is doubt whether the ball was in the air before the whistle sounded.

GEORGE T. HEPBRON, *Chairman Rules Revision Committee*  
OSWALD TOWER, *Editor*

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