

JOINT BASKETBALL COMMITTEE

Oswald Tower, Editor

Andover, Massachusetts

BULLETIN ON THE 1932-1933 BASKETBALL RULES

Rule 14, Section 12. When a player has possession of the ball in his free throw lane with his back toward his basket, he must get the ball outside the lane within three seconds. The three-second limit applies even though he turns toward the basket. In other words, the three-second count starts as soon as he takes the position described, and continues as long as he is in the free throw lane regardless of whether he is facing the basket during part of the count. This ruling was made by the Executive Committee of the Joint Basketball Rules Committee October 24 and cancels previous interpretations concerning this rule.

Rule 8, Section 8. Failure to comply with the provisions of the ten-second rule is a violation, involving loss of ball to the opponents. At what point out of bounds is the ball awarded? If team A fails to get the ball out of its back court within ten seconds, the ball is awarded to team B out of bounds on the side opposite the point where it is when the official's whistle blows to call the violation. If team A, having advanced the ball to its front court, returns the ball to its back court illegally, the violation occurs when the ball passes the center line and therefore the ball is awarded out of bounds at one end of the center line. The whistle should not be blown, however, until the ball is touched in the back court by team A, because if it is first touched by team B it continues in play and the violation is disregarded. When the ball is passed back over the center line illegally by team A and then goes out of bounds in team A's back court without touching any player, team A has committed two violations. In this case, the ball would be awarded to team B where it went out of bounds unless team B prefers to have the ball at mid-court. In other words, team B has an option.

If team A receives the ball in its front court from an out of bounds pass, regardless of the out of bounds point from which the pass was made, team A may cause the ball to go back over the center line once. The same is true if team A receives the ball on a jump ball tap, even though the jump ball may have taken place in team A's back court.

Some teams whose courts are small propose to use the ten-second rule by drawing two lines across the court, thirty-five or forty feet from either end line, instead of a center line. It is recognized that such a plan is desirable on many courts and the Committee does not object to it provided it is agreeable to all teams which are scheduled to play on the courts which are so changed. State or sectional associations are authorized to make such special arrangements for teams under their jurisdiction.

November 1, 1932.