

JOINT BASKETBALL COMMITTEE

The Basketball Rules for 1931 - 1932.

The following is a summary of the Joint Basketball Rules Committee's decisions concerning the basketball rules at the annual meeting, April 10-11, 1931. This information is for the benefit of those desiring the substance of the changes prior to the publication of the Guide. No attempt is made here to give the exact wording of the new rules.

The Question and Answers which hereto have appeared as an appendix are to be revised and placed in the Rules, each appearing as an approved ruling under the section to which it applies.

The two-minute time-out periods are to be reduced to one minute. This will shorten the delays which are a source of criticism, and which some feel are not conducive to the best welfare of the players. Even with this change the rules make ample provision for injured or exhausted players.

Under Rule 5, Section 6, a "suggestion" will be inserted to the effect that players be numbered both front and rear. This is for the convenience of officials and is not made compulsory.

A change in Rule II, Section 1, makes it possible to grant time-out whenever the ball is dead, thus abolishing the exception "after the ball is in position for one or more free throws".

When a team has no coach or other person authorized to make substitutions, the referee will be required to obtain the approval of the captain for a substitution.

A note is to be inserted in the list of personal fouls directing specific attention to the fact that a player may be disqualified for fouling an opponent who is in the act of shooting, if the offender is exceptionally rough and makes no attempt to block the ball.

The note under Rule 1, Section 4, recommending that space be marked on the free throw lanes is to be made a part of Section 4, these spaces thus becoming mandatory.

In connection with the note to Rule 7, Section 3, the back-court will be the half of the court remote from a player's own basket.

The recommendation contained in the note to Rule 9, Section 3, with reference to overtime periods for boys of high school age or younger, becomes a part of Section 3 and the provisions thereof compulsory. If the score is still tied at the end of the second overtime period, the team which first scores two points in the third overtime period shall be the winner unless the teams have agreed to settle it otherwise during the intermission following the first overtime period.

On any free throw, if the free thrower consumes more than ten seconds, or crosses the line too soon, or if one of his team mates enters the lane too soon, or if the players of both teams break this rule, the ball is to be tossed up at the center instead of at the nearer free throw line. This applies to all free throws, with the obvious exception of multiple throws in which it would apply only to the last throw. An insertion under this same section will forbid players to touch the ball on a free throw until it has touched the basket or back-board. If the ball does not enter the basket, or touch the ring or back-board, it is to be awarded to an opponent of the free thrower out of bounds on the side. This applies only to free throws following which the ball would ordinarily be in play if the free throw is missed. On free throws resulting from double fouls or technical fouls players are not to line up on the free throw lanes.

#2 The Basketball Rules for 1931-1932.

The Committee discussed blocking at great length and appointed a special committee to prepare an article discussing the various phases of blocking. This committee will also attempt to prepare diagrams and possibly submit photographs to illustrate blocking, which is always illegal, and "screening", which is often legal.

Various proposals were discussed with a view to reducing free throws. These plans would eliminate the free throw penalty in the case of certain personal fouls, and would merely charge a personal foul to the offender. This problem was referred to the rules revision committee for further study during the next season.

George T. Hepbron, Chairman Rules
Revision Committee.

Oswald Tower, Editor.

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Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio

Vice-Chairman, WM. MCK. BARBER
24 Broad Street, New York City

Secretary, GEORGE T. HEPBRON
105 Nassau Street, New York City

Treasurer, A. E. METZDORF
97 Elmdorf Ave., Rochester, N. Y.

JOINT BASKETBALL COMMITTEE

OSWALD TOWER, *Editor*

ANDOVER, MASSACHUSETTS

BULLETIN NO. 2 ON THE 1932-1933 BASKETBALL RULES

Since the first bulletin was issued, numerous questions of sufficient general interest have been raised to warrant a second bulletin. By means of these it is hoped to secure uniform interpretations of the new rules to the end that all sections may operate in harmony. The following interpretations do not change those of Bulletin No. 1, but merely add to them.

RULE 14, SECTION 12. When is a player considered to have his back to the basket? The position of his feet and shoulders determine this. If he is in a half-way position, that is, if his feet point toward the side line and his shoulders are parallel to the side line, his back is *not* considered to be toward the basket; but if his feet or shoulders are in any degree toward his back court from this position, his back is toward the basket.

If a player receives the ball in his free throw lane while his back is not toward the basket, of course the three second count does not affect him; but if he then turns so that his back is toward the basket, the three second count begins and continues, and he must get the ball outside the lane in not less than three seconds. Dribbling the ball in the lane or passing it to another player in the lane is not getting it outside the lane. If he passes the ball within three seconds and it is intercepted in the lane by an opponent, obviously he would not be penalized even though technically he did not get the ball outside the lane. Moreover, if he passes the ball to a teammate who is going in for a shot at the basket, no penalty should be imposed even though the teammate may be in the lane and therefore the ball may be in the lane more than three seconds. In this case, as in others where the players comply with the spirit of the rules, officials must exercise judgment and common sense, regardless of how definitely the rules may be worded.

If a player holding the ball with his back to his basket has one foot on or inside the lane, then pivots so that he is entirely outside the lane, and finally pivots back on or into the lane, he is subject to the three second restriction, and if the whole operation takes more than three seconds he loses the ball. If he pivots out of the lane within three seconds and remains out, the three second rule does not apply.

RULE 8, SECTION 8. When team A has the ball in its back court, the ten second count is continuous unless team A loses control of the ball, and the ball is touched by team B while out of control of A. If A bounces the ball off B and recovers it, a new ten second count does not start. If a pass by A is touched or even deflected by B, a new count does not start if control of the ball remains with team A. If, however, the ball is fumbled and then touched by B, or if B intercepts it, a new count begins when A regains the ball.

When team A gains possession of the ball in its front court after a try for goal, or from out of bounds, or from a jump ball, or by recovering it from the *possession* of the opponents, team A may cause the ball to go back over the center line once. Note that it must be recovered from the *possession* of the opponents; it is not sufficient for team B to touch the ball while it is out of A's control. This distinction is intentional. Having advanced the ball to the front court, team A must keep it there unless one of the four definite plays occurs, as listed in the first sentence of this paragraph.

If team A passes the ball from its back court to its front court and the ball is batted back or deflected back by team B, a new count starts for team A. The reason for this is that team A has done its duty by passing the ball to the front court and the ball has returned to the back court through no fault of team A. A similar ruling would apply when team A has the ball in its front court and the ball is batted or deflected into A's back court by team B. Team A should not be penalized, because in this case A does not cause the ball to go over the center line. Team A, however, should not be permitted to beat the rule in any of these situations by deliberately bouncing the ball off their opponents.

December 1, 1932.

Chairman, L. W. ST. JOHN
Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio

Vice-Chairman, WM. MCK. BARBER
24 Broad Street, New York City

Secretary, GEORGE T. HEPBRON
105 Nassau Street, New York City

Treasurer, A. E. METZDORF
97 Elmdorf Ave., Rochester, N. Y.

JOINT BASKETBALL COMMITTEE

OSWALD TOWER, *Editor*

ANDOVER, MASSACHUSETTS

March 13, 1933.

Dr. Forrest C. Allen,
University of Kansas,
Lawrence.

Dear Phog:

I have your letter of March 11 concerning the changes in the rules which went into effect during the past season. Personally I am very much pleased with the results, and when I say "personally" I mean the results as I have viewed them with my own eyes, and the testimony that has come to me from many and varied sources. So far, the opinion is almost unanimously in favor of the ten-second rule, and only slightly less favorable toward the three-second rule. The questionnaires have only just begun to come in and therefore I cannot give you the verdict from that source, but I anticipate that the questionnaires will verify the opinions that have been expressed to me in conversations and through direct correspondence.

Before the season opened I received a number of strong protests against the changes, but once the season was underway these objections subsided almost entirely. I am still marvelling over the fact that changes which affected so drastically the complexion of the game as played in many regions could function so smoothly the first season. The game has been faster, scores higher, and the bucket play has practically disappeared.

You will recall my statement last April to the effect that I hoped my fears about these unseasoned changes would prove to be groundless, that I intended to support the changes whole-heartedly, and that I hoped to be able to state a year hence that they had accomplished all that their sponsors claimed. My confession is now ready and I congratulate you and others who pushed the ten-second rule.

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First quote

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I am counting on you for all material for the Guide from your section. This includes review and photos for the Big Six Conference, as well as articles and photos of other groups in your district which ought to have a place in the Guide. If you prefer to appoint someone to handle the lesser groups, of course you have a free hand in that respect.

I note with pleasure that you are now a member of the N. C. A. A. delegation and am anticipating a reunion with you in April.

With kindest regards, I am,

Faithfully yours,

Ronald Tower.

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

George W. Rightmire, President

COLUMBUS

Department of Physical Education
L.W.St.John, Director

March 13, 1933

To: The President and Executive Committee
of the N. C. A. A.

Gentlemen:

The report made to the Executive Committee on February 9, 1933 relative to reorganization of the Joint Basketball Rules Committee was accepted as one of progress and I was authorized to proceed further with reorganization plans.

Both the Y. M. C. A. and the A. A. U. have reported that they are not able to accept any readjustment in membership except such as may give them an equality in numbers with the N. C. A. A. It is our belief that the college interest in the game is such that any material reduction in the N. C. A. A. representation is likely to prove quite unsatisfactory from the college standpoint. It is our belief, also, that the secondary school interest should have increased representatives. I consider that we have made all reasonable efforts to bring about a readjustment in membership. I, therefore, am definitely proposing:

- a. That the N. C. A. A. Basketball Committee withdraw from the present Joint Committee arrangement;
- b. That the N. C. A. A. committee invite into cooperation with itself a committee of four from the National High School Federation to prepare and publish basketball rules for the use of schools and colleges; (I have assurance from the High School Federation that they are in full accord with our position in this matter and they they will cooperate with us fully and cordially in this way.)
- c. That we invite one member of the Canadian Basketball Association to join with us in this new organization;
- d. That we invite two members from the Y. M. C. A. and two from the A. A. U. to join with us in this arrangement; and
- e. That the royalties from the sale of Guides be used on a pro ratio basis to defray the expenses of the new organization for purposes of meetings and publication of the rules.

The above proposal is hereby placed before the Executive Committee of the N. C. A. A. with the request that an immediate vote be registered with

The President and Executive Committee
of the N. C. A. A.

#2

March 13, 1933

Secretary Nicholson, preferably by wire, with the understanding that--
the vote being favorable--we may proceed at once with the organization
of a new committee.

As noted above, I have definite assurance from the High School
Association that they will join us in this movement. I have no means of
knowing what the actions of the other organizations may be.

The National Basketball Coaches Association has made arrange-
ments to meet this year on April 6 and 7. The Rules Committee plans to
meet this year on April 8 and 9. Both meetings are to be held in New
York. This explains the need for immediate action.

Respectfully submitted,

(signed) L. W. ST. JOHN,
Chairman, N. C. A. A.
Basketball Rules Committee

March 17, 1933.

Mr. George T. Hepbron,
105 Nassau St.,
New York, N. Y.

My Dear George:

Reading the attached communication, which has had the approval of the Executive Committee of the National Collegiate, in my judgment will not be much of a surprise to you. Waiting for definite approval on this action has caused my delay in answering your letter of March 9 relative to notices to be sent out.

So far as we are concerned and the High School Federation also, the old Joint Committee arrangement is out. Whatever you may do or say from the standpoint of the organization you happen to represent, you know perfectly well that my contention is based on absolutely sound reasoning. The reasons for the A. A. U. and the Y. M. C. A. insisting on an equal voice in all basketball matters are sentimental and political. These necessary moves are really just as painful to me as they could possibly be to you, but I see no sound basis for any other procedure.

It is my honest and frank belief that wise leadership will find you accepting the new proposal in the right and proper spirit. There is no reason why a new Joint Committee cannot proceed to function in the same old satisfactory way. If the A. A. U. and the Y. M. C. A. do not care to go along with us, there will be no hard feelings whatever, and the college group, with the high school group, will proceed in their own and in a regular way with basketball rules for schools and colleges.

I expect to come down to New York within the next few days and will be very glad indeed to talk over any and all of these matters with you. In the meantime, I am taking up these matters with the National Collegiate membership and also with the High School Federation.

I am just as cordial and sincerely anxious to have you go on functioning in this organization as I have ever been. I have no personal or political quarrel with the A. A. U. in any way. Unwillingness on the part of both the A. A. U. and the Y. M. C. A. to appreciate and consider things as they really are have just inevitably brought about this condition.

Yours sincerely,

Encl
LWS:MF

L. W. St. John,
Chairman N. C. A. A.
Basketball Rules Committee.

Day Letter

March 20, 1933

Mr. A. Paul Menton
The Evening Sun
Baltimore, Md.

Mr. A. E. Metzdorf
97 Elmdorf Ave.
Rochester, N. Y.

Mr. Oswald Tower
Phillips Academy
Andover, Mass.

Mr. J. H. Crocker,
Univ. of Western Ont.
London, Ont., Canada

Mr. E. M. Kelleher
49 Franklin St.
Boston, Mass.

St. John advises National Collegiate Athletic Association officially withdraws from Joint Basketball Committee. Stop. It is organizing a new committee. Stop. Wire whether you can attend Executive Committee meeting New York, McAlpin Hotel this Saturday morning nine o'clock. Committee will pay expenses. If you cannot attend are you willing Executive Committee elect new chairman and vice-chairman and proceed with plans for the next annual meetings and new basis of representation on Joint Committee.

George T. Hepbron, Secretary

Chairman, L. W. St. JOHN
Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio

Vice-Chairman, Wm. McK. BARBER
24 Broad St., New York City, N.Y.

Secretary, GEORGE T. HEPBRON
105 Nassau St., New York City, N.Y.

Treasurer, A. E. METZDORF
97 Elmdorf Ave., Rochester, N. Y.

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Andover, Mass.

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Chartered Boards of Officials

E. M. Kelleher
Thos. Wachenfeld, Jr.

March 21, 1933.

To Members of the Joint Basketball Committee
with the exception of N.C.A.A. members

Gentlemen:

I received a letter yesterday from L.W.St.John, announcing "that the N.C.A.A. Basketball Committee withdraws from the present Joint Committee arrangement."

A meeting of the Executive Committee of the Joint Basketball Committee is being called for Saturday, March 25th, to which all members of the Executive Committee except those representing the N.C.A.A. have been invited to consider the situation which has arisen.

I am enclosing copies of letter from Mr. St.John, dated March 17th, addressed to the secretary; letter from Mr. St.John, dated March 13th, addressed to the President and Executive Committee of the N.C.A.A., and copy of a telegram, dated March 20th, calling the meeting of the Executive Committee.

Immediately following the Executive Committee meeting, I will write you again giving full report of all actions of the Committee. In the meantime we are going ahead with the assumption that the annual meetings will be held as voted at the last annual meeting, i.e.,

April 8...Conference of Representatives of
Chartered Basketball Boards
April 9...Rules Revision Committee meeting
April 10...Joint Basketball Committee meeting

We also assume that the Joint Basketball Committee will continue although there will be changes in the constituent organizations and in the basis of representation.

I know we will have your hearty support in whatever may be agreed upon by those who are interested in continuing the splendid relationships which have characterized the Joint Basketball Committee through all the past years.

Sincerely yours,

Geo. T. Hepbron
George T. Hepbron,
Secretary.

March 23rd
1 9 3 3

Mr. Oswald Tower,
Andover, Mass.

Dear Oswald:

Thank you very much for your dandy letter of the 13th inst.

I am glad that the rules have turned out so well and I know how happy you are, because as Editor of the Guide it is no small source of worry when the people all over the country are pounding you on the back with their criticisms. As a matter of fact, you are the one that is forced to keep the balance, while these Rules Committee members cause you all the trouble.

One nice thing about it was that none of the fundamentals of the game were changed but the complexion of it was changed very drastically.

I have a notion regarding the bucket play that in my opinion should be cleared up, Oswald. Why permit a man with his back to the basket and in the back area to be given a semi-free field throw at the basket, just because his stance is in that queer position. Why couldn't we say that this fellow could be guarded the same as any other man on the floor, regardless of the position he takes, or if you want to go further than that by saying that if he takes that position, he is not permitted to shoot but can pass or dribble as he sees fit and still put the three second limitation on him. That, it seems is entirely fair.

This fellow nudges his hips back into the guard and the guard is supposed to observe the one yard or a space limitation and it really gives this general tall and husky fellow a decided advantage that he should not have. I want to talk to you about this when I get to New York. I think something should be done to clear this up even more than has been done.

Thank you for your letter regarding contribution to the Guide. We will be happy to handle this situation and to delegate individuals to handle these lesser groups. I will also talk with you when I am in New York concerning them.

Very cordially yours,

FCA:IH

Director.

Chairman, L. W. ST. JOHN
Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio

Vice-Chairman, Wm. McK. BARBER
c/o Maynard, Oklay & Lawrence
24 Broad St., New York City, N. Y.

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105 Nassau St., New York City, N. Y.

Treasurer, A. E. METZDORF
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November 18, 1931.

National Collegiate Athletic Association

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C. L. Brewer
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J. F. Bohler
Oswald Tower

Mr. Forrest C. Allen
University of Kansas
Lawrence, Kans.

Dear Mr. Allen:

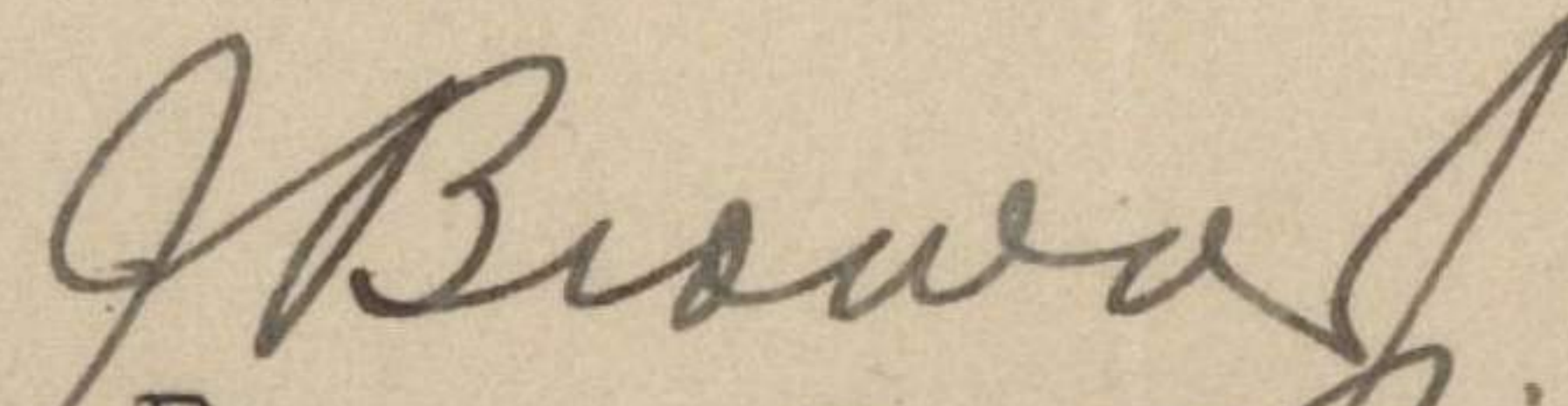
The basketball examination, #1, has already gone out to the Boards, and we are now beginning to think about the re-examination. Several of the Boards have already written in concerning same.

Will you, therefore, as a member of the Joint Basketball Committee, prepare a set of five original questions - based on the current edition of the guide. They should be concise, clearly stated, not too wordy and so asked that the answer can definitely be given as "yes" or no."

Will you also please indicate opposite each question what you believe to be the correct answer. Send the set to me at the earliest date possible.

Assuring you of my appreciation of your cooperation,

Sincerely,


John Brown, Jr., M.D. Chairman
Basketball Officials Committee

347 Madison Ave.

JBjrf

Young Men's

Christian Association

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W. H. Ball
John Brown, Jr.
C. E. Beckett
H. D. Edgren
W. M. Forbes
F. W. Helm
I. C. Matheny
G. A. Richardson
E. J. Hickox

National Federation of State High School Athletic Associations

Floyd A. Rowe
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Canadian Amateur Basketball Association

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December 10, 1931.

National Collegiate Athletic Association

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Gustav K. Tebell
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C. L. Brewer
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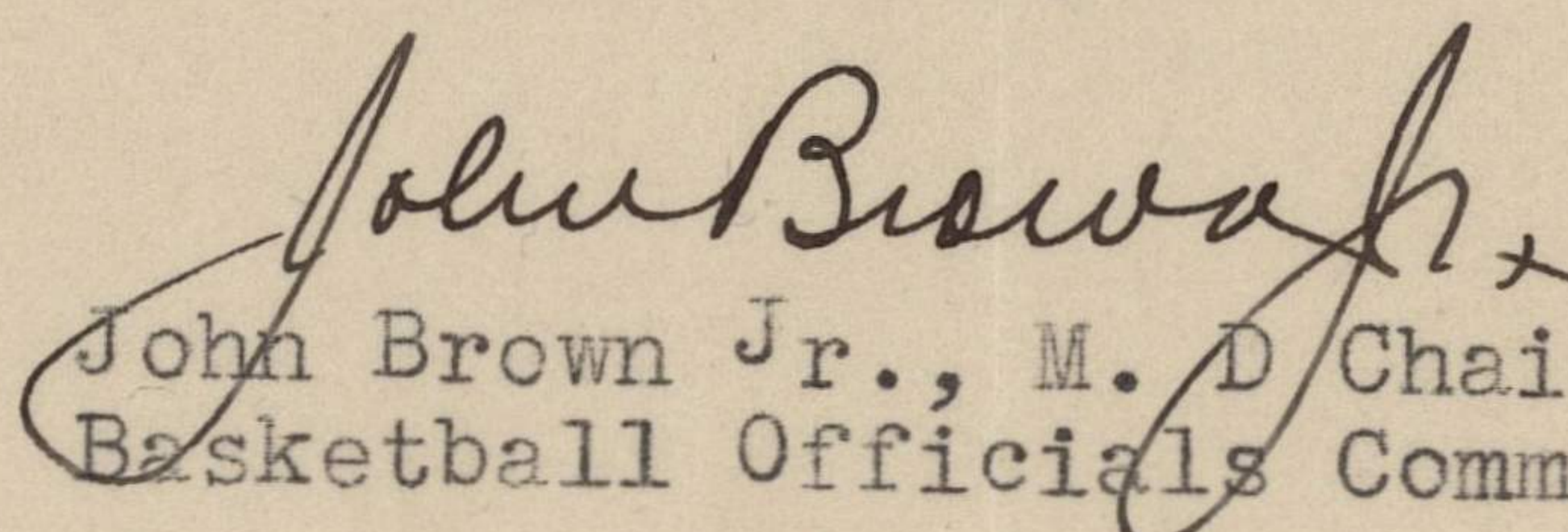
Mr. Forrest C. Allen
The University of Kansas,
Lawrence, Kansas.

Dear Mr. Allen:

In reply to your note of the
7th, if we can have the set of questions by
the 15th of this month, it will still be time
to have same included in the set which will
eventually be sent out to our chartered boards.

Thank you for your interest in
this matter, and with kindest regards,

Sincerely,


John Brown Jr., M. D. Chairman
Basketball Officials Committee

Young Men's

Christian Association

A. E. Metzdorf, Chairman
W. H. Ball
John Brown, Jr.
C. E. Beckett
H. D. Edgren
W. M. Forbes
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Canadian Amateur Basketball Association

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Return to desk

December 7
1 9 3 1

Dr. John Brown, Chairman,
Basketball Officials Committee,
347 Madison Ave.,
New York City, N.Y.

Dear Dr. Brown:

Our Homecoming game with Missouri on November 21st and our charity game with a local college here have absorbed my time so that I have not been able to get down to any comprehensive yes or no original questions. I will try to get this to you in the next week.

I am leaving early in the morning for Kansas City, for our athletic directors' two day session to consider reduced expenditures for the athletic departments. As soon as I return I will strive to get this to you at once. I hope it will not be too late to be of some benefit.

Very cordially yours,

Director.

FCA:IH

Chairman, L. W. ST. JOHN
Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio

Vice-Chairman, RALPH MORGAN
1106 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

Secretary, GEORGE T. HEPBRON
105 Nassau Street, New York City

Treasurer, A. E. METZDORF
97 Elmdorf Ave., Rochester, N. Y.

JOINT BASKETBALL COMMITTEE

OSWALD TOWER, *Editor*

ANDOVER, MASSACHUSETTS

March 30, 1931.

Dr. F. C. Allen,
Hotel Astor,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Dr. Allen:

Perhaps during the next week or ten days you have planned to try to forget basketball, but if you are disposed to give the rules a little thought in your spare time, if any, may I suggest that you be thinking along the lines of our discussions of last week with particular reference to "legal blocking" and interruptions in the game. I hope you are planning to be present at the meeting of the rules revision committee at 10 a. m. , April 10, at the University of Pennsylvania Club and to give us the benefit of your ideas. At this meeting we shall probably draw up a statement setting forth what is legal and what illegal with respect to screening, posting, positioning, checking, or what have you, meaning "legal blocking". If you feel disposed to prepare a statement brief enough for use in the Guide, yet covering the essential "may" and "may not's", I am sure it will expedite our discussions.

It is evident that we must do one of two things in the near future relative to blocking: either throw it wide open and say that only such interference as results in contact shall be construed as blocking, or devise a way to cut down materially the present forms of "legal Blocking". By the way, as to terminology, I am leaning more and more toward the use of screening. The dictionary defines "to screen": to separate or cut off from inconvenience, injury or danger; shelter; shield; protect; conceal. The noun "screen" is defined as "anything in the nature of a protective curtain, partition, or shield". This comes close to covering what we mean by "legal blocking" and has the added merit of not implying violence.

The subject of whistle-blowing and interruptions has always been a favorite one with critics of basketball and we have always admitted that it is a vulnerable spot, yet not as serious as the critics contend. If it were, basketball would not be the great game that it is. But there is room for improvement in this respect. When you and I played the game,

Chairman, L. W. ST. JOHN
Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio

Vice-Chairman, RALPH MORGAN
1106 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

Secretary, GEORGE T. HEPBRON
105 Nassau Street, New York City

Treasurer, A. E. METZDORF
97 Elmdorf Ave., Rochester, N. Y.

JOINT BASKETBALL COMMITTEE

OSWALD TOWER, *Editor*

ANDOVER, MASSACHUSETTS

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time out was a rare occurrence. We usually played the entire game without interruption for rest, psychology, or injury, and substitutions were infrequent. I played four years of college basketball, every minute of every game during the last three years, and asked for time out for myself only once in all those games. And there was no delayed offence or zone defence; it was man for man all over the court. Is the present game so strenuous that each team must use three or more time-outs, making six two-minute interruptions in the majority of our games?

I am not one of those who think that hockey is going to supersede basketball, but we can learn something in this respect from hockey. Saturday night on my way home I saw a professional hockey game in Boston. There was not a time out for rest in the entire game; if a player was injured he left the game at once, returning when he had recuperated. Sixty minutes of actual play, and two intermissions of ten minutes each spanned less than an hour and forty minutes from start to finish.

My suggestion about personal fouls is prompted in part by this same trouble as well as a desire to make our penalties fit the crime. Probably my present solution is not the best one, but it is something to shoot at.

Pardon me for intruding on your vacation. Whether you can give these matters any thought or not before the meetings next week, we shall be glad to have your views at that time. Don't bother to write an answer to this letter.

With kindest regards to Mrs. Allen and yourself, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Oswald Tower.

Regulations for alternating the play at the tip-off

Supplemental ***

Rule

1. The ball shall be put in play at the center by a tip-off in accordance with the official rules, as follows:
 - a. At the beginning of each half
 - b. After all double fouls
 - c. After all technical fouls
2. In all other cases, where, according to the official rules, the ball is put in play by a tip-off at the center, the ball shall be put in play as hereinafter provided:
 - a. During the first half
 1. When a goal is made, the team scored upon shall put the ball in play from out of bounds at their opponents end line and at any point not closer than nine feet to the center of the end line, except as in Rule 1B and 1C above.
 2. Ball must be put in play within 5 seconds after referee (calls "play")
 - b. During the second half
 1. Two 2-inch restraining lines shall be drawn across the court parallel to the end line and ten feet from the center of the court.
restraining
 2. A two-foot/circle shall be drawn on each ~~EA~~ restraining line, and with its center on the restraining line and equidistant between the side lines.
 3. When a goal is made each team shall immediately get in the area between the restraining line and their opponent's end line until the ball is again declared in play.
 4. One player of each team shall get in the circle at his restraining line
 5. The referee shall then hand or throw the ball to the player in the restraining circle of the team which has been scored upon and shall then call "play."
 6. The ball may be put in play by a pass, a dribble, or a try for goal.

REPORT OF THE BASKETBALL INTERPRETATION
MEETING OF THE MISSOURI VALLEY INTERCOLLEGIATE
ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION AT THE KANSAS CITY ATHLETIC
CLUB DECEMBER 6, 1929

In executive session the coaches discussed details of their playing schedules and conduct of the games as well as covering the rules.

Regarding the playing code as written in the 1929 guide, the opinion prevailed that the coaches should make no changes; that the code is satisfactory and has been clearly and exhaustively stated for almost all conditions. Some interpretation and amplification of vague points was considered necessary in a few cases. These interpretations together with suggestions to officials and coaches follow.

RULES INTERPRETATIONS

Rule 4 Section 1 --- Any official ball may be used. Air pressure shall be twelve pounds. The home team is to submit to the officials two new balls for each game. In home games each of the following schools will use the balls designated:

Iowa State	--	Wilson (laced) or Goldsmith (laceless)
Kansas	-----	"Phog" Allen
Kansas State	--	Spalding (laced) or Goldsmith (laced)
Missouri	⊖----	Goldsmith (lace or laceless)
Nebraska	-----	Spalding (lace) or Wilson (lace)
Oklahoma	-----	Wilson or Spalding (lace) or Goldsmith (laceless)

Rule 6 Section NOTE -- Conference officials are to wear shirts or coats of alternate white and black stripes (vertical). Trousers are to be navy blue or gray.

The double officiating system is to be used. The officials are to move up and down opposite side lines and around the end lines, one ahead of the ball and one behind. The official ahead of the ball should advance around the end line to a position near the goal as play approaches the basket. The official behind the ball should move in as close as possible and yet avoid interference with the players.

Rule 7 Section 11 Note -- When two players jump for an overhead ball, the one who is behind should be fouled if he makes contact from the rear on his upward jump. The player in front shall be fouled if he backs under a jumping man except in an obvious attempt to play the ball.

Rule 11 Section 1 NOTE -- The referee shall signal "time out" by lifting the clenched fist. "Time in" shall be motioned by opening the hand

REPORT OF THE BASKETBALL INTERPRETATION
MEETING FOR THE EIGHTH DISTRICT

Kansas City Athletic Club December 7, 1929

The meeting convened at 1:00 p.m. with C. L. Brewer, representative from this district to the National Rules Committee, as chairman. About seventy-five coaches, officials, school executives, and followers of the sport were in attendance.

The chairman explained that the meeting was limited to discussion and interpretation of the code. The rules could not be changed, but doubtful points could be cleared or more definite interpretations could be requested from the Rules Committee.

A. A. Schabinger, Director of Athletics at Creighton University, urged all coaches to affiliate with the National Association of Basketball Coaches in order that that organization might become more valuable in fostering the best interests of the game.

Mr. Brewer led an interpretation of the code by taking each rule in order and requesting discussion of any vague section.

RULE 1 Section 3 -- The line drawn through the center circle parallel to the end line should be ONE INCH wide. The exact width is not specified in the rules, but the above measurement has been adopted by the Missouri Valley and the Big Six conferences.

RULE 4 -- The ball should be inflated to an air pressure of thirteen pounds. This is recommended by manufacturers although the Big Six specifies twelve pounds in its games.

Mr. Quigley called attention to the provision which requires the game ball shall not be used for practice before the game nor during any time out period.

RULE 5 -- Attention was called to the fact that the CAPTAIN is a team's representative.

RULE 6 -- Position and duties of the referee and umpire were discussed. The "double officiating" system is now recognized by the Committee. It was described by Coach Don White of Washington University, St. Louis.

The scheme calls for equal authority on the part of the two officials in regard to fouls, held balls, out-of-bounds plays, etc.

The officials move up and down opposite side-lines one ahead and one behind the ball. The official ahead of the ball advances around the end line to a position near the goal as the play approaches the basket. The official behind the ball moves in as close as possible and yet avoid interference with the players.

RULE 6 Sections 12, 13 -- Suggested that those parts dealing with the duties of the timers and scorekeepers be typed and pasted in the back of each team's scorebook for ready reference.

RULE 7 Section 9, Note -- It was believed generally that the new rule in regard to steps is clearly stated. However, there was some confusion which resulted from the failure to read that the note applies only in conditions in which A PLAYER RECEIVES THE BALL ON A PASS WHILE HE IS IN RAPID MOTION and does not apply in many dribble situations.

RULE 11 Section 2 (last clause top of page 17) Doubt was expressed as to the interpretation of "if the Referee considers these additional time-out periods necessary". General opinion expressed that time-out should be given whenever a captain requests it.

RULE 12 -- Attention was called to variation among officials as to when a ball is "held". The two extremes of "tagging" and "wrestling" were discussed. The section on page 24 dealing with HELD BALL was recommended as covering the situation.

RULE 13 Section 6. -- Rule does not state when time shall start after the freethrows when a player fouled in the act of throwing for goal makes his field goal. Mr. Tower, secretary to the Rules Committee has ruled that time starts when the Referee hands the player the ball for his second freethrow.

RULE 14 Section 7 (Special condition covered by Q & A No.58) Mr. Lewis expressed the opinion that the penalty never was inflicted on the player who jumped into the freethrow lane and caught a short freethrow before it touched the floor.

RULE 14 Section 11 -- Ruling was requested in case where one of two jumpers taps the ball against the basket or backstop, and plays it again.

It was agreed that the spirit of the rule included the basket and backstop, as well as the floor and other eight players, and that no violation should be called.

JOINT BASKETBALL COMMITTEE

OSWALD TOWER, *Editor*

ANDOVER, MASSACHUSETTS

MAY 10, 1929.

CHANGES IN THE BASKETBALL RULES FOR 1929-1930.

The following changes in the basketball rules will go into effect next season. No attempt is made here to give the final wording of these changes as they will appear in the next Guide, this being merely a summary for the benefit of those who need this information prior to the publication of the Guide.

1. Rule 15, Section 1 d. The technical fouls on the jump ball, such as tapping it on the way up, or leaving the circle, have been changed to violations.

2. Rule 8, Section 5. On a jump ball at center or elsewhere, the jumpers will be forbidden to touch the ball after it has been tapped until it has touched the floor or another player, except that the jumpers may tap the ball a second time if the first tap does not carry the ball to one of the other eight players or to the floor outside the circle. The penalty for infraction of this rule is a violation—ball goes to opponents out of bounds.

3. Rule 15, Penalty for Personal Foul. When a player has been fouled in the act of shooting, the ball is to go to center after the second free throw, *if the field goal is made*. If the field goal is missed, the old rule holds, viz., the ball is in play if the last free throw is missed.

4. Rule 9, Section 1. A goal *from the field* shall count for the team into whose basket the ball is thrown. A question and answer will be inserted covering free throws into the wrong basket. It is intended to place the responsibility on the referee in the latter instance. If a free throw is made at the wrong basket, and if the mistake is discovered before play has been resumed, the throw is to be disregarded and the player given a throw at the proper basket.

5. Rule 6. Duties of Officials. The umpire is to have authority to call held balls, out-of-bounds, all fouls and violations, and to toss the ball when held ball occurs near him. This amounts to sanction of the "double referee system" with an official always ahead of the ball, each covering one side and one end of the court. The designations "referee" and "umpire" are to be retained, however.

6. No change was made in the method of putting the ball into play, but the Committee felt that there is sufficient demand for such a change to warrant experiments with the various proposed methods. Hence an article will appear in the Guide suggesting that the proposed plans be tried in practice games, and describing briefly one or two of the best proposals. One of these will be that of putting the ball in play at the ends of the court from out-of-bounds after goals and at the beginning of halves. Another plan suggests two circles either side of the present center circle. The player who is to put the ball in play stands in the circle which is farther from his basket with his team behind him, the other team being behind the other circle. Some of the plans provide for abolishing the jump ball entirely, even after held ball.

7. Rule 7, Section 9, last sentence: "Due allowance is to be made for a player who catches the ball while running——." The following statement is to be inserted to explain what is considered to be due allowance:

In general, a player who is in rapid motion when he receives the ball should be permitted a two count rhythm in coming to a stop or in getting rid of the ball, the first count occurring as one foot strikes the floor after he receives the ball, and the other count as the other foot strikes the floor, or as both feet strike the floor simultaneously. If after so doing, one foot is in advance of the other, the rear foot shall be considered the pivot foot; but if neither foot is in advance of the other, he may lift either foot, but must get rid of the ball before that foot touches the floor again, or he may jump with both feet, but must get rid of the ball before either foot touches the floor again.

The foregoing is not an attempt to rule more strictly, but is in line with the interpretation of the best officials and is intended to aid toward uniformity in decisions on running with the ball. It is probable that many officials interpret the rule more strictly than outlined in the foregoing statement, and in many cases too strictly for the good of the game. It is felt that in general the allowance outlined should be granted, but no more than this.

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

September 19
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Mr. H. G. Olsen,
Director of Basketball,
Ohio State University,
Columbus, Ohio.

Dear

Thank you very much for your good letter of the 3 inst. I have been over the state on a good will tour; hence my tardiness in replying.

I appreciate very much your sending me the changes in basketball rules for 1929-30. I was interested in Mr. St. John's statement concerning the mind of the committee. I have just received the minutes of the annual meeting of the joint basketball committee which I imagine will add to our store of basketball knowledge.

I just had a visit with McLean's of Columbus, Ohio so I feel that I know all things Ohio State.

Dean H. W. Arant of your School of Law was on our athletic board while he was Dean here of our School of Law.

Every good wish to you,
Big Fellow.

Very cordially yours,

FCA:RC

Director

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

GEORGE W. RIGHTMIRE, PRESIDENT

DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION
L. W. ST. JOHN, DIRECTOR

COLUMBUS September 3, 1929.

Dr. Forrest C. Allen,
Director of Athletics,
The University of Kansas,
Lawrence, Kansas.

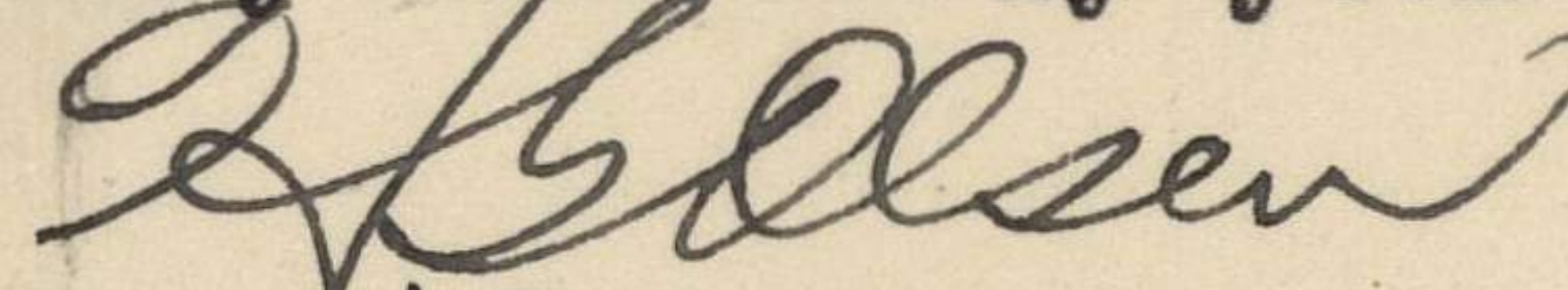
Dear ^{"Phog"}Forrest:-

I am enclosing another copy of the changes in the basketball rules for 1929 and 30.

In regard to the question concerning the interpretation of the pivot which is covered in rule seven, section nine at the bottom of this sheet, Mr. St. John is of the opinion that the statement as found there, is in accordance with the concensus of opinion as expressed in the Rules Committee Meeting and Dr. Meanwell is giving an interpretation which is not correct. Mr. St. John feels that while this is the true statement of the mind of the Committee, nevertheless there is brought in some difficulty of administration. For example, the official under this new interpretation must decide whether or not one foot is behind the other. That in itself is a difficult thing when the official is viewing the player from an angle. There is the other difficulty of deciding such a question as this; the player comes to a stride stand with one foot, let us say four or five inches behind the other. A situation such as this is going to make basketball officiating more technical and that is something Mr. St. John is anxious to get away from but in spite of this, his judgment is that the statement as given out in the rule changes sent out by Tower is a correct statement and unless there is some change, that is the ruling which we will have to follow unless, of course, some of our various conferences decide on a different interpretation for their own body.

I trust you had a pleasant summer and will look forward to seeing you in Chicago again.

Very sincerely yours,


H. G. Olsen,
Director of Basketball.

HGO*RM

THE CHANGES IN THE BASKET BALL RULES for 1929-30

The Joint Committee sanctions the double referee system. In this case the umpire is to have authority to call held ball, out of bounds, all fouls and violations and to toss the ball when a held ball occurs near him.

Note: The Big Six has been using this system for the past two years.)

The Committee has called special attention to the rule defining running with the ball. As it is now, the rules do not state how many steps may be taken by a player who receives the ball while in motion. This has been left largely to the judgment of the official. A statement has been added to this section to cover the clause, "due allowance shall be made for a player who receives the ball while in motion".

Ruling on the pivot rule and dribble must be drastic if interpretations are followed.

According to a general agreement the Rules Committee has put its approval upon the following pivot or running with the ball rule.

First: If a player is in the air at the time of the catch, after his stop, he has the privilege of lifting either foot in the act of passing but must get rid of the ball before that foot touches the floor.

Second: A player, who has one foot on the floor at the time the ball is caught, may complete his step by allowing the other foot to strike the floor and may pivot, but on the rear foot only, - that is the foot that ~~is~~ has been in contact with the floor all the time. Note: This nullifies the so called pivot and block rule that has caused so much discussion by the pivoter blocking the guard out with his hips and then passing the ball before that rear foot touches the floor again. In other words the pivoter steps toward the guard and as the guard rushes in, the player with the ball or the pivoter pivots on the front foot and throws his hip into the guard but releases the ball before that rear foot strikes the floor. The chief argument against this rule is that it is designated as a blocker, a contact blocker. It has often been called by the familiar misnomer, legal block.

The Committee emphasized last year that when a player is dribbling the ball, he should go clearly around his guard. This is predicated on the theory that in basket ball, you play the ball and not the man. By allowing a player to pivot off the front foot and to throw his hips and shoulder down into his guard, this is clearly violating the principle of basket ball. The sole function of the pivot theoretically, is that you should be able to introduce yourself to the other half of the court when your progress has been stopped or your passing blocked. The emphasis upon the game of basket ball since its origination by Dr. Naismith has always been that you shall play the ball and not the man. When you play the man, you have con-

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tact needlessly and it degenerates into a wrestling match. The limited floor area is justification for this rule.

On a jump ball at center, or elsewhere, the jumpers are forbidden to touch the ball after it has been tapped until it has touched the floor or one of the other eight players, except that the jumpers may tap the ball more than once in attempting to make it drop outside the jumping circle. The penalty is loss of the ball as in other violations.

A goal from the field counts for the team into whose basket it is thrown. Again an answer has been inserted to cover free throws into the wrong basket, placing the responsibility on the referee in the latter instance.

Formerly fouls on the jump ball such as tapping it on the way up or leaving the center circle have been changed to violations.

Note: The ball goes to the opponent out of bounds.)

Another change of importance has been the so called five point rule, namely, - when a player has been fouled in the act of shooting the ball is to go to center after the second free throw if the field goal is made. If the field goal is missed, the old rule holds; viz, the ball is in play if the last free throw is missed. This change makes it impossible for a player to score five points when fouled in the act of shooting. That is he cannot get a follow-up shot if he misses his second free throw, provided he makes his field goal.

Note: If a player is fouled in the act of shooting and the goal should be allowed, should the player miss his first ~~field~~ free throw, the ball must go up at center, following the second attempt whether it is made or missed. In this case, it is only possible for the player to make three points. Coaches contend that this would be sufficient by allowing the goal, and one free throw would be ample. Other coaches held that the player should have two tries but certainly the possibility of five points for a single try was too much.

The Committee discussed stalling but it is becoming less of a problem, due to the fact that the cash customers or spectators, are strong in their denunciation of the team that does not provide action. The public is getting a better understanding of the game and they realize that the team not in possession of the ball, the defensive team, is responsible for stalling. Possession is nine points in basket ball, as in law, and it is up to the defensive team to play the ball or try to obtain it.

All of these things were discussed at the National Basket Ball Coaches Association, which met in Chicago last April prior to the meeting of the Joint Committee in New York. Certain recommendations were made to the Joint Committee by the Board of Directors of the National Basket Ball Coaches Association.

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There was much discussion regarding the elimination of the tip off play at center and the coaches association recommended that various teams actually try out the no tip off rule at center, playing regulation matched games and report back to the coaches association at their meeting this next year. They will then make their recommendation to the Joint Committee.

It is thoroughly understood that the National Basket Ball Coaches Association has not legislative power. It is purely an advisory and cooperative one in its relationship with the Joint Basket Ball Rules Committee.

FORREST C. ALLEN