

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-