

The proponents of the new rule state that the new rule has increased the playing time 7 minutes. This is an impossibility because they have not increased the playing time one iota. The ball is dead when the ball goes through the hoop. And had the rule-makers last year declared the ball dead after a field goal was made and tossed the ball up at center the game would be identically the same length this year as it would have been last year had that rule been adopted.

As for speeding up the game, it may or may not speed up the game. It is merely owing to how the opponents play the ball. If the side scored upon desires to take the five seconds out of bounds before he throws the ball in he may also take 10 seconds in addition to the 5 before he crosses the division line. In other words, it is possible to withhold the ball from the offensive court from 13 to 14 seconds after the goal is made.

Another argument. There has never been any effort made to try to equalize the jump. By the rotation jump it is possible to have the jumpers rotate the same as you would have the batting order in baseball. There is no difficulty experienced in the players getting lined up in their batting order in baseball. If you had a rotation of jumpers for the tap you would have just as little difficulty here as you would have in the batting order in baseball.

In the Big Six here on every held ball on the court during play the ball is tossed up in one of the three 6-foot-radius circles. It is always tossed up in the circle that is nearest to the held ball when the official declares it.

Many coaches argue about the tall fellow that bats the ball in the air. You and I both know that it is the tall player under a low basket that is the real difficulty. The tall fellow still beats us under a low basket, because the basketball rules do not permit the defensive side to pull the arms down of a tall player to push him out of position. The rule-makers have not yet gotten to the seat of the trouble, because it is the rebounds under the basket by a tall man that defeats the shorter man.

I still argue for a 12-foot basket which makes the beanpole player impossible of scoring under the basket. The referee awards the player driving in under the basket two free throws. And the big, tall, husky fellows nudge with their hips the smaller men around the basket. By raising the basket to 12 feet for college players and leaving it at 10 feet for the high school players, most of the difficulty would be eliminated.

I would count a field goal for the 12 foot basket 3 points and a free throw 1 point. There would not be the urge or the tendency to foul for a player driving in under a 12 foot basket, because with the 12 foot basket a goal is more advantageously scored out away from the basket at an angle, than it is close up and under. The arc of dispersement of rebound from the 12 foot basket carries the ball further out on the court, and this fact would cause the guards to pull further away from the basket. A looping shot that would miss the 12 foot basket and fall under the basket would give the small man an added advantage of driving in and recovering the ball before it went out of bounds.

Now, back to hockeyized basketball. This rapid fire shinny game that is now being played also gives the small man a chance because the big man cannot stand up under driving for a full game under the conditions that the game is being played. This game makes for more substitutions and for a larger squad. The coach who does not have a large squad this year is out of luck. He may have a championship team under the old game without reserves, but this year he must have a flock of reserves to carry on.