

June 21st, 1941

Mr. Burton C. Lemmon
Route 8, Box 605
Tacoma, Washington

Dear Mr. Burton:

Your letter became mislaid in a mass of correspondence and I'm just now answering some of these letters.

In reply to the questions you asked:

1. I might state that the best way to get the complete rules revision immediately after the meeting would be for you to corresponde with your Eighth Collegiate District Representative Chairman of the N.C.A.A. Basketball Rules; that is, Heck Edmondson of the University of Washington at Seattle.

2. It is adviseable to stop playing basketball, I would say, two years after a man has graduated from college. Of course many men continue far beyond that age. But, generally when a man gets out of college he is forced to work regularly and he does not have the time to keep his body in condition. Basketball is one of the most strenuous games played and it is a great strain on the kidneys and heart of a man that takes on the form of so much violent exercise.

3. Of course I like the stratified transitional man for man defense with the zone principle. "Better Basketball" explains that better than I can in a short letter. And too, even the zone defense is better than the man for man defense for the boy because it is an economy saver of energy. It is much easier to play the ball under the type of defense I advise rather than the strict man for man defense. When you play the man for man defense, you're more apt to foul and naturally it's more fatiguing.

4. Yes, I do think that those who love to play basketball can go stale. Any team that scrimmages too much is apt to go stale. We work on fundamentals much more than we do on scrimmage work, and we scrimmage very little. After the first month and one-half we do not average ten minutes of scrimmaging a day.

5. I'm not opposed to State Tournaments because any boy desires to see how good he really is, either individually or collectively, and the only way these boys on the team can find out is to play in a tournament and although they may not be satisfied with the result, at least they have had a try. And too, when they are beaten, they have respect for their opponents and if they never play in a tournament they don't have the same high respect for their opponent or winner.