

September 21, 1939.

Mr. R. E. Weinzettel,  
Medart Manufacturing Co.,  
St. Louis, Missouri.

Dear Roy:

Your letter regarding the convex backboard problem has just been received. I have a slant that I think will help you.

The National Collegiate Athletic Association is controlled by a few men like Major Griffith, L. W. St. John of Ohio State University, and others. These men actually control the Rules Body. They make the appointments from year to year, and in that way they control it.

I think that you could make some sort of a deal with Major Griffith so that the National Collegiate Athletic Association and the officers of the Rules Body would have a joint patent and would figure in the earnings. These earnings would be divided between the high school federation, the National Collegiate Association, and members of the Rules Body. I believe I could sell this idea to Major Griffith and St. John.

It seems ridiculous to me that Porter should think if you have a patent on the thing that you would give the patent away for the good of the game of basketball. I wouldn't do that and he wouldn't do that, and any sensible individual would not do it. Frankly, I do not know how you would get a patent on fabricating the board. I do not know how you would go about it, but I believe you could easily sell this idea to Major Griffith and the Rules Body. Major Griffith and St. John are really the moving spirits and politicians of the National Collegiate Association.

Have I given you any help in your quest for a solution? If not, write me and ask me some more questions and I will augment the information that I have given you.

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation,  
Varsity Basketball Coach.

FCA:AH