

Also, the iron gate-like ears that hang down to keep the shooter from shooting the ball through the tripod from underneath, I find, are not supported heavily enough to hold them. One has already broken off and I have it here at the office. It broke off yesterday afternoon just prior to our demonstration game. I am very sure that you will have to lighten the weight of this support perceptibly, because that takes a lot of punishment. This little ten-penny rod that holds it is the thing that was broken.

Too, I find that the cone perhaps comes a lot too much to a point. I believe by flattening it out some way even more than has been done might be conducive to retaining the ball in the hoop. However, I am not sure that this will do the job, but I believe that we should try to improve upon the retention of the ball when it gets in the basket.

Also, the 3 ft. radius circle around the basket, I feel, is almost impossible to keep the players out of. A great deal of study will have to be put on this angle of the rule because instinctively a player is going to drive in to get the ball. I believe that some such provision as putting a rule in that no player is allowed to touch either the pedestal or the basket in any way, will help matters. If such a provision as this were carried out I believe it would work, but I do not believe that you can keep them away from the basket three feet when the ball is coming through the hoops. Then if anybody touched the upright it would be a violation and they would lose the ball. There is too much close play around the basket to use the rule that we discussed because of the fact that when the ball comes off the rim a great many players are taught to jump up and tap the ball back into the goal. When this tapping process is inaugurated it naturally throws all players toward the basket, and this rule would come in for much grief.

I feel that the 25 ft. radius circle was just a little small, so I used a 30 ft. radius circle which was much more desirable because many out of bound balls would have rested on the 25 ft. circle. With the 30 ft. radius circle I think we had only about ten out of bounds balls during the process of the game. I found that we killed the fellows off through the strenuousness of the game because there were so few times out or out of bound plays. I believe that we will have to get a rule in there to say that unless time has been called out or the game stopped for any reason within a two minute period, then the timekeeper shall call a halt for 30 seconds for breathing purposes. This ball just simply doesn't go out of bounds and the players cannot stand the strenuousness of the game. I think for smaller youngsters, say junior high age, the 25 ft. radius circle would be all right, but for adults it should be 30 ft. if possible.