

THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA

CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL

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March 21, 1944

Dr. Forest Allen
Athletic Director
University of Kansas
Lawrence, Kansas

My dear Dr. Allen:

I don't know that you remember me, but I met you some years ago through our mutual good friend, the late Ray Parkins.

I have been coaching basketball here at Minneapolis Central for twenty-nine years and, like most basketball coaches of today, feel that we will have to do something about the 6'7" boys; so I am offering this suggestion: We will have an area under the basket marked off with a blue arc (I don't know why it should be blue except that it has a traditional restraining line name from hockey). Then insert the following paragraph in the rules:

"No player of either team shall be inside the blue area at any time during the game except while taking two or more steps in any direction in this area; and, should he receive the ball while in this area, he shall make an honest attempt to score, pass to a teammate, or dribble in any direction out of this area."

This will take the big boys away from the basket both on offense and defense, and they will have to move, dribble, pass, and shoot the same as the smaller boys; in fact, they will have to learn all the fundamentals of basketball if they want to make the team.

There may be many flaws in this, but I am passing along the idea to you, as high school coaches are never taken very seriously with new ideas. Some three or four years ago, I got out a score book. In case you haven't seen it, I am sending you one under separate cover with my compliments.

Yours very truly,



Weston Mitchell

WM:bb