

contests and in the international competitions, proved that there is still much work to be done in erining out difficulties and mistakes of administration before the next Olympic games at Tokyo, in 1940.

The Olympic courts at Berlin were a combination of salt and sawdust which made a very firm surface in dry weather, but in wet weather they were a quagmire. It rained during the finals and made skillful play in the mud with a wet ball impossible.

The games were played under the rules of F.I.B.B. (International Federation of Basketball), which were, in reality, our national rules of 1934, without the 10-second rule or the 3-second rule. The F.I.B.B. rules permitted no player once removed to return to the game.

These first Olympic basketball games emphasized the differences in the physical make-up of the competitors from the various nations. The tallest man on the Philippine team was 5 ft. 11 in., and the tallest man on the American team was 6 ft. 9 in. This wide range of height among contestants brought out the fact that tall men were monopolizing the game and that the shorter races were greatly handicapped, not only in the center jump but in every department of the game.

So apperent was this difficulty that it was suggested by nations of shorter stature, Japan originating the suggestion, that there be two classes of competition in future Olympic basketball, the limited and the unlimited classes. The original intention of Japan in making this suggestion was to have the limited-division class include players under and not over 180 m. tall (approximately 5ft. 10 in.). Japan's hope in making this suggestion was to strive for skillful and technical development in play without being completely handicapped by lack of great stature. Japan felt that the emphasis that was being placed on great height was discouraging skill and technique and that by having two classes of competition no nations would be discriminated against.