

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

GEORGE W. RIGHTMIRE, *President*

DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION
L. W. ST. JOHN, *Director*

COLUMBUS

February 13, 1939

Mr. W. A. Witte
Director of Athletics
The University of Wyoming
Laramie, Wyoming

Dear "Dutch":

I have your letter of February 1, regarding the possibility of holding a tournament in District #7 before the one which is to be held in San Francisco.

As I have indicated in previous correspondence, I have the feeling that, generally speaking, if we can possibly select representatives from each of the eight N.C.A.A. districts without resorting to play-offs within each district that that is the thing which should be done. I am a little afraid that if we had a play-off, such as you have indicated in District #7, then follow that up, say a week later, with the Western play-offs at San Francisco, that we are apt to come in for criticism on the part of the conferences and individual schools who are opposed to any extended post-season play. If, however, you find that the teams in your district, not only the coaches but faculty representatives as well, feel that there should be some sort of a play-off to decide the representative from that district, then I can see no harm in handling the matter in that way. Any such play-off, however, must necessarily stand on its own feet. That is, there could be no subsidizing of such a play-off on the part of the tournament committee of the N.C.A.A., because, as you will realize, we may have enough on our hands to make sure that all expenses are paid for the teams competing in the Eastern and Western play-offs and in the final game at Chicago.

The two members of the General Committee located West of the Mississippi, are Dr. Forrest C. Allen at Kansas and John Bunn at Stanford University. I would suggest that you check with these two men and, if possible, get through Bunn the reaction of President Owens regarding such a play-off as you propose.

I have this further thought - should you decide that some play-off is necessary and is desired by the teams in your district, that you would do well to limit it to a play-off between two teams, or possibly four teams at the most, so that it could be handled on a straight elimination basis and would be run off easily on a Friday and Saturday.

I would appreciate your keeping me informed with respect to this matter.

Very sincerely yours,

HGO

H. G. Olsen
Chairman, N.C.A.A. Basketball
Tournament Committee

HGO:M

✓ CC-John Bunn
CCC-Forrest C. Allen