

4

JOINT BASKETBALL COMMITTEE
Oswald Tower, Editor

Bulletin No 2 on 1933 Basketball Rules

Dec 1, 1932.

Since the first bulletin was issued, numerous questions of sufficient general interest have been raised to warrant a second bulletin. The following interpretations do not change those of Bulletin 1, but merely add to them.

Rule 14, Sec 13. When is a player considered to have his back to the basket? The position of his feet and shoulders determine this. If he is in a half-way position, that is, if his feet point toward the sideline and his shoulders are parallel to the sideline, his back is not considered to be toward the basket; but if his feet or shoulders are in any degree toward his back court from this position, his back is toward the basket.

If a player receives the ball in his free throw lane while his back is not toward the basket, of course the three second count does not effect him; but if he turns so that his back is toward the basket, the three second count begins and continues, and he must get the ball outside the lane in less than three seconds. Dribbling the ball in the lane or passing it to another player in the lane is not getting it outside the lane. If he passes the ball within three seconds and it is intercepted in the lane by an opponent, obviously he would not be penalized even though technically he did not get the ball outside the lane. Moreover, IF HE PASSES THE BALL TO A TEAMMATE WHO IS GOING IN FOR A ~~SHOT~~ SHOT, NO PENALTY SHOULD BE IMPOSED EVEN THOUGH THE TEAMMATE BE IN THE LANE and therefore the ball may be in the lane more than three seconds. In this case, as in others, WHERE THE PLAYERS COMPLY WITH THE SPIRIT OF THE RULES, officials must exercise judgment and common sense, regardless of how definitely the rules may be worded.

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If a player holding the ball with his back to his basket has one foot on or inside the lane, then pivots so that he is entirely outside the lane, and finally pivots back on or into the lane, he is subject to the three second restriction, and if the whole operation takes more than three seconds he loses the ball. If he pivots out of the lane within three seconds and remains out, the three second rule does not apply.

Rule 8, Section 8 -- When Team A has the ball in its back court, the ten second count is continuous unless team A loses control of the ball, and the ball is touched by team B while out of control of A. If A bounces the ball off B and recovers it, a new ten second count DOES NOT START. If a pass by A is touched or even deflected by B, a new count does not start if control of the ball remains with team A. If, however, the ball is fumbled and then touched by B, or if B intercepts it, a new count begins when A regains the ball.

When team A gains possession of the ball in its front court after a try for goal, or from out of bounds, or from a jump ball, or by recovering it from the POSSESSION of the opponents, team A may cause the ball to go back over the center line ONCE. Note that it must be recovered from the POSSESSION of the opponents; it is not sufficient for team B to touch the ball while it is out of A's control. This distinction is intentional. Having advanced the ball to the front court, team A must keep it there unless one of the four definite plays occurs, as listed in the first sentence of this paragraph.