

# NEW METHODS OF SCORING BASKETBALL GAMES

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Basketball, as it is played today, naturally depends upon individual ability, but on the whole, it is not an individual game. It is a team game, and for this fact alone, the work of the five men as a team should be taken into consideration in scoring methods. To accomplish this, my recommended change is as follows: The college playing period, instead of consisting of two twenty minute periods, should consist of three fifteen minute periods with ten minutes between the thirds. Now in addition to the regular scoring methods used at present, I advocate the awarding of a given number of team points at the end of each third to the team that has predominated the play throughout the third which, naturally, will be evident by having scored the most points during that time interval.

My object in adding this scoring feature is that where a team has predominated the play under modern methods, we will say for thirty or thirty-five minutes, only to lose the game the last minute by one or two lucky baskets from the main field will be prevented from being considered the winner unless this flair is of a major portion. To illustrate this, let us look at the following table.

	<u>Individ'l</u> <u>Points</u>	<u>Team</u> <u>Points</u>	<u>Individ'l</u> <u>Points</u>	<u>Team</u> <u>Points</u>	<u>Indiv</u> <u>Points</u>	<u>Team</u> <u>Points</u>	
	1/3		2/3		3/3		
Team A	12	5	11		13	5	36-10=46
Team B	10		14	5	12		36- 5=41
Team A	11	5	13	5	12		36-10=46
Team B	10		11		17	5	38- 5=43
Team A	12	5	14	5	7		33-10=43
Team B	10		11		18	5	39- 5=44

Looking at the first table, we observe that TEAM A predominated the play for two-thirds of the game. However, on the use of the usual system, the score is tied. But by allowing five points for team play for each third, TEAM A, which has played the most consistent game, is credited with winning the game, 46 to 41.

Again looking at table two, TEAM A has predominated the play for two-thirds. However, TEAM B predominates the last third, but not in an outstanding way. According to the individual points, TEAM B is ahead of TEAM A, 38 to 36, but by giving weight to team points and considering the fact that TEAM A predominated the play and played the better game the major portion of the time, it would win and this system gives it a score of 46 to 43.