

BLACK AND WHITE ALTERNATE MARKINGS FOR THE BASKETBALL COURT

Many basketball playing floors with their dark stain are poor surfaces to carry a black marking which should set off the playing court from the out-of-bounds area. Many basketball courts are used for auditoria and assembly hall, and when the floor becomes over-used the light color of the wood is darkened by additional coatings of varnish or shellac.

On a white maple floor the black designated markings are plainly seen, but if the floor gets darker the black lines show less distinctly.

A scheme was tried this past winter at the University of Kansas which showed up wonderfully well. The black sidelines, end lines, free throw lines and jumping circles were broken every six inches by a two-inch square white line. This alternate black and white marking of contrasting colors showed to a decided advantage. The "make and break" of the white line set off the well-defined sidelines and end lines so definitely that it was possible for a coach, player or an official to tell whether a player was on or near the sideline at the other end of the court.

We suggest that other groups try this for a research problem in clarifying and making more distinct the sidelines. We believe that it will lessen the officials' problems, many times when an over-enthusiastic rooster takes issue with an official who calls the ball in or out of bounds.

TEAM-WORK ON THE PART OF OFFICIALS

It is the concensus of the coaches everywhere that officials are not cooperating with each other and with the scorekeeper in designating the proper offender and his number and the offended player who is to toss the foul.

It is suggested that it is the duty of the off official not calling the foul to report to the scorekeeper the foul, the offender, and to designate to the scorer the player who is to toss the foul shot. In other words, Official A calls the penalty. Official B walks over to the scorer while Official A is taking the ball down to the free throw line, gives the scorer the proper information, and immediately walks to the free throw line while the official who called the foul places the ball on the free throw line and then walks back under or near the basket for the throw.

SCOREBOOK

It has been recommended that the official scorebook remain at the scorekeeper's table from the start of the game to the finish, and that it not be removed to the dressing rooms of either team during the time between halves or at the quarter.