

sible to control.

7. So much stress has been placed on aggressiveness in crashing for the ball at the tip by all teams, regardless of which center is controlling the ball, that unless one center is clearly able to out-jump the other (a condition which does not often happen), so that he can place the ball to the far lanes as easily as to the close ones, neither team is able to execute scoring plays from the tip-off. As a consequence the play about the center becomes nothing more than a wild scramble for the possession of the ball. The thrill from the beautiful execution of spectacular scoring plays from the center jump has been practically lost.

8. It puts the officials more in the background and relieves them of the responsibility of administering a most difficult part of the game.

9. While this reason was not originally advanced by the four conference coaches, subsequent observations and the general feeling among the players themselves has been to the effect that it removes the advantages gained by a player by reason of his inherent height and tends to make the competition much even.

10. It will speed up the tempo of the game considerably and will permit a considerably longer actual playing time.

Accordingly, after conferences and experimentation during spring practice of 1934, these four coaches met in October and drafted a set of rules which modified the center jump regulations and governed the play which replaced the center jump. In brief the regulations involved the following points.

1. The ball shall be tossed up at center at the start of each half and each extra period; after a free throw following one or more technical fouls, where technical fouls only have been called; after the last free throw following a double foul; and after all cases of violations along the free throw lanes in which the rules now specify a center jump.

2. The use of the center jump shall be discontinued following a field goal; successful free throw if it is the last one awarded, except as noted in (1) above.

3. In place of the center jump in the cases under (2) above the ball shall be put in play from out-of-bounds at the end of the court by the team last scored upon. The regular out-of-bounds rules shall govern the play-in from the end line under the above conditions.

If this experiment had been carried out solely by the southern division of the Pacific Coast Conference, it probably would not have developed such a widespread enthusiasm for the change and subsequently such a convincing mass of evidence in favor of such a change. When the rules governing the play in the Southern Division Pacific Coast Conference were finally drawn up, they were printed as a matter of general information, and publicity copies of these rules were generously distributed throughout the country. As a result of this simple announcement of policy and without any attempt whatever to convert other leagues or conferences to try out these rules, there was a most surprising spontaneous and widespread growth of sentiment for the modification of the center jump. As a result the Far Western Conference, the Southern Conference, the Northern California Junior College Conference, the Central Coast Counties Athletic League (a highschool league), all the major club teams on the coast, the Y.M.C.A. teams in all classes, and all the college teams playing independent of a conference adopted these rules without hesitation. In addition several high-school leagues made the rules optional, subject to the agreement of coaches before each game. The Stanford University basketball team