

matched against size and awkwardness.

15. Especially unfair at the end of a game when the score is close.

During close games, especially at the very end of the playing period, the rule works a special hardship on the team which is behind a few points and desperately is trying to tie the score. If fouled, all the losing team can at best do is to score one point and then it loses possession of the ball. They cannot again gain possession of the ball until the other team make a mistake or attempts a shot. Even in the latter case the ball may be retired by the winning team. Thus the losing team, if fouled, has little or no chance to tie the score. The rule tends at the end of a close game to put a premium on fouling by the winning team and on fouling by the losing team.

Summary Statement:

In view of the reasons just advanced, the rule is a poor means to an end which cannot be completely justified. More rational results ought to be attained. Better means can be devised.

B. Opinions of Coaches, Players and those interested in the Game.

Numerous players, fans, officials, and coaches, with whom I have discussed the rule, have agreed that it lacks sound reasoning and that what it proposes to accomplish can be better done by a more rational means.

While the West Coast is in favor of eliminating all jumps at center, I have never read nor heard any convincing argument for doing so.

Coaches in the East and Mid-west are in favor of retaining the center jump. They do not want it eliminated and deplore the results of the new out-of-bounds rule.