

HOW ONE CONFERENCE INTERPRETS RULES

Committee Report of the Tri-State Association

As a substitute for a general interpretation meeting, Mr. Frank Wolf, President of the Tri-State Association of College Basketball Coaches, appointed a committee composed of Dr. H. C. Carlson, Pittsburgh; Charles R. Davies, Duquesne, and Max E. Hannum, Carnegie Tech, with authority to outline playing regulations, and circulate them among our officials. We have gone into each point thoroughly, and have come to an amicable agreement, despite the fact that each member of the committee has certain ideas that are at variance with the others.

It was agreed in the committee meeting that there is still too much officiating--too much domination of the game by the officials--in short, "too much whistle". We want to make the game more attractive for the spectators, by not halting the continuity of play too frequently for minor fouls or violations. The colleges are losing certain classes of spectators, whose sole excuse for not attending the games is that "we get tired of hearing the whistle, when we can't see why they are whistling."

INSTRUCTIONS TO OFFICIALS WORKING TRI-STATE GAMES

(1) **HELD BALL:** We notice that officials are still attempting to protect themselves by calling held balls that are not held balls. A HELD BALL IS A BALL THAT IS KEPT FIRMLY OUT OF PLAY BY TWO MEN HAVING EQUAL POSSESSION, OR BY TWO MEN WHO ARE EQUALLY RESPONSIBLE FOR WITHHOLDING THE BALL FROM PLAY. EACH MAN IS PERMITTED 'ONE TUG' BEFORE THERE IS A HELD BALL. That was our interpretation last year, but several officials have been ignoring it.

(2) **LOOSEN UP IN THE BACK COURT:** Don't be too quick to call fouls and violations in the back court. Unless there is a flagrant violation of the rule against travelling, that is unless a man obtains a definite advantage by travelling, or the travelling is so noticeable that it can't be missed, let it go in the back court. If a defensive man commits a minor foul on an offensive man in the back court, such as running past him, and making slight contact, but not enough to break the offensive man's stride, or hinder its offensive efforts, let it go. Nobody has been hurt. (Of course, do not permit deliberate stepping to avoid a held ball). Use your judgment, remembering at all times that we wish the whistle blowing to be cut down drastically.

(3) **DON'T GUESS ON ANY FOULS:** If you are not in a position to see fouls plainly, and if there is any doubt in your mind whether or not they are fouls, DON'T CALL THEM. It is entirely possible, in fact, several cases have been noted this year, for fouls to have been committed by just the opposite men who eventually made the free throws. WE WANT OUR OFFICIALS TO REALLY GO TO WORK IN THE FORE COURTS. There is where the 10 men are gathered on defense and offense, and there is where there is a premium on the