

17

C O P Y

March 21  
1934

Mr. Roy Mundorff, President,  
National Ass'n. of Basket Ball Coaches,  
Georgia Tech.,  
Atlanta, Ga.

Dear President Roy:

I am wondering if it would be possible to arrange a pair of goals 12 ft. in height at the Atlanta Athletic Club or wherever you plan to work your test games, for the purpose of trying out the 12 ft. baskets so that the coaches might see a game in action under those conditions.

If it would be possible to have a sliding scale for this game, say an adjustable basket, that we could try a game at 11 ft. and one at 12 ft., it would give the coaches a definite idea as to what the possibilities might hold by incorporating for the future a consideration of a possible change in the height of the basket.

I claim that it will decrease the number of fouls by at least 30%. On all lay-up shots and cuts for the basket, the higher basket will do away with these. It will diminish or practically exterminate the pivot post play. Big, husky, powerful guards will not be able to block opponents out away from the basket under this proposition.

Dr. Naismith has O.K.'d the suggestion of raising the baskets and I believe that the quest for tall players, especially centers, that the elevation of the basket will equalize the height more proportionately between the extra tall man and the medium individual and it will also serve to clear up the congestion under the basket.

I am also just throwing out a suggestion as to a possible increase in the width of the court to a maximum of 56 ft. instead of 50 ft. as a blow against the so-called zone defense or mass defense throwing itself around the basket. This will make fewer out of bound balls.

And, by moving the back-boards 4 to 6 ft. inside the end line with the raised basket, this will further tend to decrease the number of out of bound plays. Under these conditions it might be necessary to increase the field goal to three points, leaving the free throw at one point and the four personal foul rule as it is.