

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE TO STUDY RELATIONSHIPS
BETWEEN THE NATIONAL BASKETBALL COACHES ASSOCIATION AND
THE NATIONAL BASKETBALL COMMITTEE

At the request of President Norgren a special sub-committee of the Research Committee was appointed to study ways and means of improving relationships between the National Basketball Committee and the National Basketball Coaches Association. Included in this study was the consideration of better means of presenting the recommendations of the National Basketball Coaches Association to the National Basketball Committee.

Many members of our association have felt that the National Basketball Committee has acted arbitrarily in many rulings which definitely influenced the college game and that they had not been considerate of the recommendations of our association.

A study of past relationships between the groups brought out a number of important factors for formulating a plan of action. The National Basketball Coaches Association was conceived as a means of combating hasty action on the part of the National Basketball Committee in adopting the ruling which limited the dribble to one bounce. This brought about resentment which still seems to smoulder. The National Basketball Committee in turn has felt that the efforts of the coaches association to obtain direct representation on the national committee was not warranted.

The following quotations from correspondence with Mr. Floyd Rowe, chairman of the National Basketball Committee, bring out the general trend of feeling between the two groups as well as some of the problems which are in need of correction:

"-----It became quite evident that the policies of your organization (National Basketball Coaches Association) are quite definitely fixed by a small group of men.

"-----certainly no two hundred coaches should expect to have the right to dictate policies governing many thousands."

"There is no issue at all between the high schools and the colleges as to the necessity of having both groups follow the same rules. Certainly no member of the high school group has ever suggested to the college group that certain rules which were felt to be advantageous to the high schools should be adopted and put into force as far as the colleges were concerned."

"It would seem then to me that if you are really desirous of getting changes in the rules going back to the old type of ball and back stop that the thing for you to do is to work on the college members of the present rules committee. ----- I think this gives you a pretty good list of college men upon whom to work. If you can not sell them, then certainly you are not going to have any luck with the high school group, but, at the same time, you will have no trouble with the high school group if you sell them."

"For the past four or five years the action of the Coaches Association has been irritating to the committee. The coaches meet and because of their large meeting and because of the prominence of some of their members, their recommendations in regard to rules changes in the eyes of the press constitute rules rather than recommendations to the National Basketball Committee."

On the part of the National Basketball Coaches Association the following factors have influenced our feeling toward the National Basketball Committee: