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SUMMARY OF MAJOR CHANGES AUTHORIZED BY THE NATIONAL BASKETBALL  
COMMITTEE OF THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA FOR 1940-1.

NOTE TO MEMBERS: This is a preliminary statement of the major actions of the Committee at their annual meeting at Kansas City, Missouri, on March 30th and 31st. This is issued for your convenience and for the purpose of giving the press some needed information. The detailed actions of the Committee will be included in the complete minutes which will be sent to each member as soon as they can be made ready.

H. V. PORTER, Secretary

Court Diagram. No change is to be made in the diagram of the court. It will be made clear that during a free throw the player who occupies the space marked H or V is entitled to the entire space from the first alley mark to the end line.

Rule 2. The smaller streamlined backboard which was outlined for experimental purposes by the Committee last year will be legal at the option of the home team. The new style board will be as outlined on page 47 of the Interscholastic Edition of the 1939-40 basketball guide. It will have an over-all width of 54 inches, the top will be an arc having a radius of 32 inches. The lower edge of the board directly behind the ring will be on a level with the ring. Directly under the extreme left and right edges of the ring, the board will extend downward three inches below the ring and from that point the lower edge will slope upward to the corners of the board which will be on a level with the ring. The edges of the board at each side will be perpendicular to the floor and will extend upward until they meet the arc which forms the top border. The board will contain no sharp corners or edges.

This board will be considered legal wherever the management may choose to use it. It should be understood that no organization will be compelled to make the change. It is felt that no team will be handicapped by practicing on one type board and playing on the other. The new board will have a plane surface, the same as the old. The part which has been eliminated has been waste space for many years and, because of more recent changes in the game, has become a detriment to free use of all the playing space. It is suggested that when an organization chooses to keep its present backboards and finds that they will play some of their games on courts having the new board, the unused space on the traditional board be blocked out with a dark paint to give the target the same appearance as that of the new type board.

Rule 4. The rule relative to the size, color and reaction of a legal <sup>ball</sup> will remain exactly as it was last year. The questionnaire which was nationally circulated indicates an overwhelming satisfaction with the present ball situation. Any difference in opinion relative to which of the various types of official balls is most satisfactory is a healthy condition which will result in continued improvement of equipment and ultimate use of the best.

Rule 5-3. Several minor changes were made in connection with the proper time and method for making substitutions. A substitution will be permitted any time the watch is not running except during the interval between the time the ball is placed at the disposal of a free thrower and the time the free throw is successful or unsuccessful. It will also be permitted any time the ball is dead with the watch running except after a field goal.

Rule 5-6. It is strongly recommended that players be numbered consecutively beginning with the number 3 and that ranking players wear the lower numbers. It will also be prescribed that wherever possible, the home team wear suits of a light color and the visitors suits of a dark color.