

March 6, 1940.

Mr. H. C. Olsen,
Ohio State University,
Columbus, Ohio.

Dear Ole:

The ridiculous has happened. The winner of the Southwest Conference (Rice), the winner of the Rocky Mountain Conference (Colorado) and the winner of the Missouri Valley Conference (Iowa A. & M.) are all entering the promotional tournament in New York!

There is no justifiable reason for this except that these N.C.A.A. teams are entering for the money, and the worst reflection is that we have got some members of the Basketball Rules Committee on this monetary jaunt to New York. This will cause confusion in the minds of the academicians who will resent our tournament. Ours is an educational project and the other is nothing but a promotional venture which strikes at the heart of our tournament.

It certainly seems logical and thinkable to me that the administrators of the N.C.A.A. should pass a ruling next year that any winner of the various districts or teams who are eligible to play for the district winner, if they accept a private promotional tournament they shall be ineligible to compete in our N.C.A.A. semi-finals or finals. In that case the championship committee of the different districts shall pick another representative.

This is what some of our so-called loyal N.C.A.A. people need. They are taking all the benefit from the N.C.A.A., and then playing both sides.

Very sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

PCA:AH

COPY

WESTERN UNION

Stillwater, Okla.
March 5, 1940.

Dr. F. C. Allen,
Lawrence, Kansas.

The following action was taken by our Athletic Council this morning. "It is moved, in view of the fact that no definite date has been set for the play-off in the Fifth District of the N.C.A.A. Basketball Tournament and, furthermore, since March 18 is an open date for all possible competing teams, as well as the auditorium in Oklahoma City, that we accept the invitation of the Metropolitan Intercollegiate Basketball Committee to participate in the National Basketball Invitation Tournament in Madison Square Garden on March 11-15 and return to compete in the N.C.A.A. tournament." It must be understood from this action that we are most desirous to continue our support of the N.C.A.A. and to play in the N.C.A.A. tournament which this plan of dates makes possible.

Athletic Council, Oklahoma A. & M. College.

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Athletic Council,
Oklahoma A. & M. College,
Stillwater, Oklahoma.

Lawrence, Kansas
March 5, 1940.

The tournament date will be either March 15 or 16. That has been stated a number of times and it is final as far as I am concerned. If you desire to have your team play in New York that is perfectly agreeable with me.

Forrest C. Allen, Chairman, 5th Dist. N.C.A.A.

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Dr. Forrest C. Allen,
Lawrence, Kansas.

Stillwater, Okla.
March 6, 1940.

In meeting this morning the cabinet moved that we accept the invitation of the Metropolitan Intercollegiate Basketball Committee to play in their tournament and return by air from New York to Oklahoma City to play in the N.C.A.A. district tournament on night of March 16.

The Athletic Cabinet, Oklahoma A. & M. College

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Athletic Council,
Oklahoma A. & M. College,
Stillwater.

Lawrence, Kansas,
March 6, 1940.

In case of three-way tie in Big Six those games will be played early week of 11th. If your team can return to play in Oklahoma City on 16th our Big Six winner will meet you then. No games will be played later. If you choose to pass up district play-off then three Big Six teams will play Oklahoma City March 15-16 and the winner will be declared the Fifth District representative.

Forrest C. Allen, Chairman, 5th Dist.

C
February 28, 1940.

Mr. H. G. Olsen,
Ohio State University,
Columbus, Ohio.

Dear "Ole":

I have just talked to Hank Iba, of Oklahoma A. & M. over long distance telephone, and he assures me that without any question of doubt he will stay by the National Collegiate tournament. Hank is all right. He recalled the conversation we had last year in Oklahoma when he said he would stick by us, and he had not forgotten us. You will remember that I mentioned this in my letter.

So there is no question about Hank Iba going through on the tournament play. If we could have half as good cooperation from the eastern districts east of the Mississippi River as we have from our western half, the N.C.A.A. would overwhelm the whole country in basketball popularity.

Hank has had a great number of communications from Everett Morris and from Ned Irish and the rest of the boys putting pressure on him, but he will stay with us. You can bet your life on that.

I am giving you a progress report from time to time so that you may keep well informed on the developments as they arise.

I see where Rice Institute beat Texas last night, so it looks like it is Rice in the Southwest. And U.S.C. will undoubtedly win on the Pacific Coast, and Colorado will be the fair-haired boys in the Rocky Mountain district. We are staging quite a hectic struggle here and it may be the Oklahoma Aggies and either Missouri, Oklahoma or Kansas. But that will be decided soon. Things are coming along fine here.

I have just finished reading the copy of your letter to Phil Badger, and it looks great. If New York will come through with the Garden that set-up will be marvelous. I would like to have a copy of Badger's letter to you so that I can better understand the slant of your letter to him. It looks like Ned Irish is cooperating pretty well to give them the Garden that night. I would also like to have the slant on that.

Very cordially yours,

FCA:AH

Director of Physical Education and Recreation.

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

GEORGE W. RIGHTMIRE, *President*

COLUMBUS

DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION
L. W. ST. JOHN, *Director*

February 26, 1940

Mr. Philip O. Badger
New York University
Washington Square
New York, N. Y.

Dear Phil:

I am hastening to answer your letter of February 23, because I feel that its contents are most important to our National Tournament.

I have been watching with a good deal of interest the fine record which New York University has been making in basketball this season and have been hoping all along that for the sake of the Tournament New York University would continue to stay out in front. And now that you mention the possibility, which you discussed with Irish the other day, of playing the first round of the Tournament in the Garden on March 22 and then taking the final game for the Eastern play-off Championships to some other site on Saturday night, I think we have the ideal answer to a location for the Eastern play-off. In other words, New York University, representing District 2, with the Garden as a place to play the games, even for one night, makes a perfect set-up. I am sure there would be a satisfactory court available for the Saturday night game and if the Garden management is at all reasonable, and I am sure they would be, we would have an assured financial success for the Eastern play-off with this sort of a program.

As I see it, New York University can't miss receiving the selection as the N.C.A.A. team to represent District 2. That fact makes me very happy because I know of your interest and prominence in all N.C.A.A. affairs and I know how you have helped to forward the interest of this National Tournament. And so with New York University selected to represent District 2, I would hope that you would exert your influence to assure the participation of New York University in the Eastern play-off, especially would I feel you could urge this because with the Eastern play-offs being held in New York, as indicated above, that would mean no loss of time from classes, and assuming New York would go through to win the Eastern play-off, the one game at Kansas City would not involve much loss of time, it being a Saturday night game. There is also the possibility that the New York University team could fly to Kansas City for such a game and such a procedure would mean little, if any, loss of time from school.

I am certainly hopeful that you would feel as I do about the worthwhileness of New York's participation in the Eastern play-off. Your letter has made me very enthusiastic for the success of the whole Tournament for this season. I feel certain we have a very satisfactory set-up at Kansas City and that it will carry its part of the program in a fine manner, and now if we could have this Garden set-up, with the New York University as one of the teams, I am sure we can wipe out completely the

P.O.B. #2

February 26, 1940

deficit which the Tournament incurred last season. I hope you will see your way clear to discuss this matter immediately upon receipt of my letter and I will be hoping for a wire or a call from you within a few days, telling me that if New York University is selected from District 2 and the play-off is to be held in New York as indicated, that New York University will come in. Just as soon as I could get such word from you I would be able, I am sure, to get the approval of our General Committee for holding the Eastern play-offs in New York and we would go about settling that date in the Garden immediately. Perhaps since everything is contingent upon New York University's attitude, it might be advisable, if you are agreeable to playing in the Eastern play-off, to contact Irish immediately and sew up that date even before you contact me again. Garden arrangements, looking after N.C.A.A. interests, etc., could very well be handled by you.

Thanks a lot for your letter and everything you have done in helping along with this Tournament, and thanks in advance for what I am sure will be a favorable reply. I don't see how it could be otherwise and I feel definitely that if we can't secure a team like New York University, under conditions such as we have this year, that the whole idea of the National Tournament ought to be thrown right out the window.

Very sincerely yours,

HGO

H. G. Olsen
Chairman, N.C.A.A. Basketball
Tournament Committee

HGO:M

✓ CC-Dr. F. C. Allen

Dear "Phog" —

This will "make" us - if
N.Y.U. will come thru!

HGO

B

March 16, 1939

Dr. F. C. Allen, Chairman
Fifth District, N.C.A.A.
University of Kansas
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear Dr. Allen:

I have read over carefully your letter to "Ole" Olsen with respect to expenses for your district tournament. I would suggest that we go into the matter of expenses to teams rather thoroughly when we meet in Chicago. I am not in favor of subsidizing the teams that attend tournaments to the extent that they are all in search of a crown of gold.

Legitimate expenses are all right but if we make a commercial proposition out of the event then we place it in the same category as track. "Bill" Owens, who is president of the N.C.A.A., has some very definite convictions concerning expenses to teams. I suggest therefore that we proceed in this matter with some caution. Our next meeting will give us an opportunity to deal with the problem face to face.

Very cordially yours,

John Bunn
Representative from the 8th District
National Basketball Committee

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of the UNITED STATES and CANADA

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Oswald Tower
Andover, Massachusetts

Willard A. Witte
Univ. of Wyoming
Laramie, Wyoming

Lawrence, Kansas
March 10, 1939

Mr. H. G. Olsen, Chairman,
N.C.A.A. Basketball Tournament Committee.

Mr. John Bunn, Chairman,
Western Regional Play-off, N.C.A.A.

Gentlemen:

I am somewhat perplexed over the division of the gate receipts on these district play-off tournaments. A little history or background of the situation would not be amiss.

At our conference in Oklahoma City with Henry Iba, Tom Stidham and Bruce Drake, Henry Iba brought this very important point to the floor. Iba stated, and I know it to be a fact, that he was invited to the Sport Writers Tournament in Madison Square Garden March 20-22. I believe that Frosty Cox has accepted, because Utah State has been qualified for the tournament, and it is my understanding that Colorado won the Rocky Mountain Conference championship.

I received letters from both Everett Morris and Ned Irish, as did the University of Texas, the Sixth District winner, and others, inviting them to the tournament. It is my impression that these people that stick by us in the N.C.A.A. play-off and go through with their assignments should receive some consideration. Iba stated that he felt that in these district tournaments the competing teams should receive the largest share of the money. I made the point to him that you had wired asking for confirmation of a policy of the N.C.A.A. that the district winners receive a pro-rata part of their expenses, but for the regional and for the finals that all expenses for fifteen men would be paid.

*Suggest a folder
for discussion of this case
Mr. Olsen has some very
good ideas*

During our Kansas City meeting and after the drawings Drake University constantly showed pique and irritation and threatened to withdraw on account of the drawings, which they had agreed to previous to the meeting. I personally guaranteed full expenses to Drake University from Des Moines to Oklahoma City for fifteen men, as it was so apparent that they wanted to withdraw, and I wanted to leave them no opportunity to do so. We will not only make expenses, but we will make some money, and it is on that account that I desire to bring these matters up for the committee's determination.

It was my feeling that where four teams were involved that possibly the N.C.A.A. committee should receive 20% of the net and each of the four playing teams should receive 20%. Where three teams were involved the N.C.A.A. committee should receive 20% and the 80% should be split among the three competing teams; and where two competing teams were involved the N.C.A.A. committee should receive 20% and the two teams should receive 40% of the net.

Now I realize that I have no authority to make such a decision. But Iba said that the reason that he was sticking with the N.C.A.A. tournament was because of the fact that his team and his district had opportunity not only to build up basketball but to make some money. It was the veiled implication of Mr. Iba that if they were not permitted to make some money they would go where they would get publicity and money.

I am frank to say that this has not been my attitude, that I have strung along from the beginning some ten years ago on the proposition that the N.C.A.A. and the larger schools support it should follow the academic trend and attitude. However, there have been so many changing attitudes in this publicity and income deal that I am loathe to say what is the proper one to take.

There is a vague suspicion on the part of many basketball men that the N.C.A.A. committee, after selling basketball down the river to the A.A.U. when the N.C.A.A. agreed to turn over all sports for domination by the A.A.U. with the exception of track and field, wrestling, swimming and rowing, that is, if the A.A.U. would permit the N.C.A.A. to name the coaches in these four above named sports. Then the basketball men fear that this revival of interest of the N.C.A.A. in basketball is but their long range view of raising money for the Olympics for the four above named sports. If that is true, the basketball men will not go along very far with such a proposition. It is the feeling of the basketball men that any earnings derived from basketball in these tournaments and play-offs should all be earmarked for basketball and for basketball promotion in the Olympics when and if we have them.

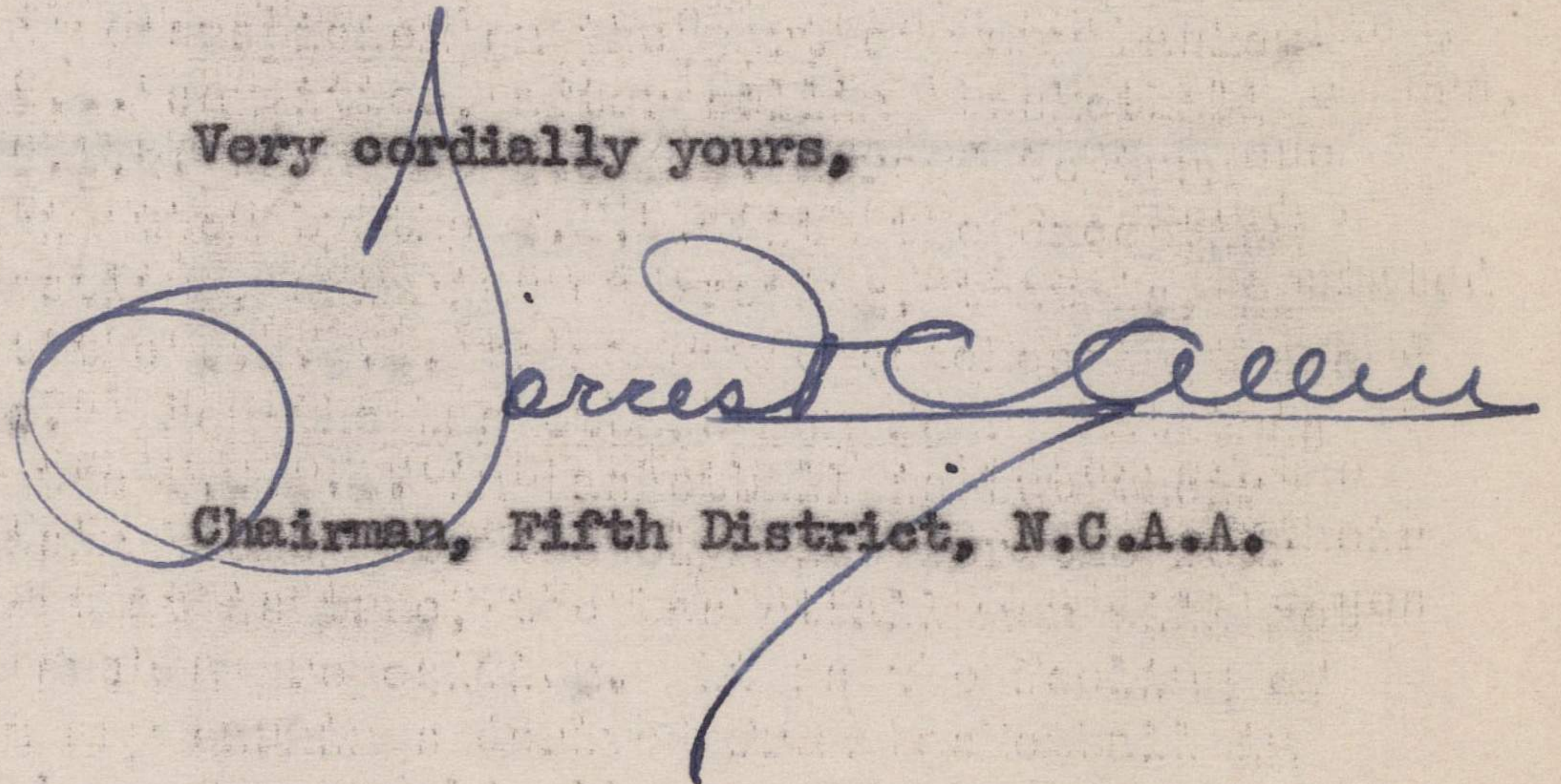
It is the feeling of many prominent basketball men that the National Collegiate could set up a certain program wherein the pick of the colleges of the N.C.A.A. could compete with the A.A.U. and defeat the best A.A.U. team of the country. Major Griffith asked me some few years ago what I thought the chance of a college team would be against the A.A.U. I told him that while the best college team could not beat the best A.A.U. team as college teams are now constituted, it was my definite opinion that the pick of the college teams over the country could be formed into a team that would beat the best A.A.U. team now existing, provided that the colleges made certain enactments that would prohibit college seniors from joining A.A.U. teams the year of the Olympic play-off.

It is my opinion that a definite long range view must be taken by the administrators of the N.C.A.A. of this very important policy that I have stressed, else we will find a crumbling away of our best teams in favor of promotional tournaments.

Would it not be a wise thing to discuss with the leaders of our college coaches this problem, but before discussing the matter with them some broad policy should be outlined by the N.C.A.A. administrators so that the college men could work on some hypothesis that would be understandable to all of the college men interested in a national play-off and members of the N.C.A.A. who abide by the one year residence rule.

I would kindly ask that you determine from the leaders and the administrators of the N.C.A.A. what their attitude is so that we might answer some of the questions that are constantly being presented to me by these legitimately inquisitive souls who want to know what is the best thing for them to do.

Very cordially yours,



Chairman, Fifth District, N.C.A.A.

FCA:AH

copy

August 12, 1939.

Mr. John W. Bunn,
Stanford University,
California.

Dear Johnny:

I feel that the heavy indebtedness that the N.C.A.A. has taken on puts it up to the basketball committee to clear their skirts financially. I am wondering how you feel toward all of our discussions, tentatively agreeing so far as practical, to play on the home court of one of the winning teams.

For instance, if Missouri and Oklahoma should tie for the Big Six championship I would be agreeable to tossing a coin to see whether they should play at Columbia or Norman for the play-off. Or I would let them settle it any way agreeable to them. If they wanted to play two out of three games, or one game to determine it, that would be agreeable, the N.C.A.A. to get a major portion of the cut, of course.

And then if we had a situation like we had last year with Oklahoma A. and M. in the district play-off and tied with Drake, I would be agreeable to having the play-off at Stillwater. Last year Iba said if we would have given him the tournament he would have guaranteed us somewhere around five or six thousand dollars. Of course, I think his figures were high, but if we could go into a deal like this all over the country and then have the semi-finals and finals, we ought to have some money in the bank. I am wondering what you think about it.

You can see by the enclosed letter that I have written Ole that I am much in favor of getting out of debt and being on the right side of the ledger. It would be too big a boom for the Ned Irish tournament for us to fall down again.

With all good wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

FCA:AH

copy

OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY
COLUMBUS

July 5, 1939

Dr. Forrest C. Allen
Basketball Coach
University of Kansas
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear "Phog":

I understand that the N.C.A.A. Executive Committee in session this last week and in New York voted to continue with the N.C.A.A. tournament, although I haven't had an official notification as yet. They were naturally disappointed because the tournament as a whole lost approximately \$2,500. last season. The play-off in your district was the only part of it which produced figures in the black.

I had a letter sometime back from George R. Edwards, in which he makes this statement: "Also, I want you to know that I think your choice of chairman for this district was a splendid one. Dr. Allen expended a lot of effort to put over the tournament. As to his efficiency I have little knowledge, but no one could have been more enthusiastic, nor could any other have had the time to put in on it that he did. The fact that Missouri's faculty withdrew our team put the committee on the spot in the district tournament, but the members have expressed to me a desire to work with the N.C.A.A. in the future providing the tournaments do not necessitate too much time lost from school."

I thought you would be interested in this comment from George. I believe just as soon as the N.C.A.A. gives the "go sign" on this tournament, plans should be as definitely drawn as possible at the earliest moment. I feel confident that with the play-off and the final game in Kansas City, teaming up with the meeting of the basketball coaches and with the Rules Committee meeting, that we have a set-up which will not only take care of the deficit of last year, but perhaps make some money for the N.C.A.A., especially if in the selection of a place for the Eastern play-off we choose a place, taking into account the local interest. I think it is up to us to keep the fact chiefly in mind that we not only have to make up this year's deficit, but also to make money as well if we want to have the whole-hearted support of the N.C.A.A. It will probably cause some criticism if we decide to hold the Eastern play-off on the home floor of one of the teams selected for the play-off, but it seems to me we should set aside such objections as might come from such an action in our desire to put this tournament on a paying basis. After all, the advantage which the home team has in basketball isn't quite as great as it used to be, and in the face of the present situation I feel we must, at least for next year, overlook this home floor advantage.

I hope you can see this point of view and go along with it because I certainly feel somewhat of a personal responsibility of trying in any way we can, legitimately, to wipe out the bad taste which the poor financial results of last year's tournament has left in the mouths of the N.C.A.A. Executive Committee.

I am leaving for Wisconsin today and if you have any ideas about the tournament other than what we have talked about I would certainly be glad to hear from you. My address will be Camp Sarona, Sarona, Wisconsin.

With best personal regards, I am,

Very sincerely yours,

(Signed) OLE

H. G. Olsen
Basketball Coach.

HGO:dmf

copy

August 11, 1939.

Mr. H. H. Olsen,
Camp Sarona,
Sarona, Wisconsin.

Dear Ole:

I have intentionally waited until the close of our Summer Session, which just finished this week, so that I might very properly take care of my correspondence with you. I wanted time to meditate so that I might arrive at a solution that I could go along with you one hundred per cent.

I was happy that the Executive Committee of the N.C.A.A. voted to continue the tournament for another year. I will have to admit that I was somewhat surprised to know that the tournament as a whole lost approximately \$2500.00. Now, I am going to try to make that \$2500.00 back but that is quite an assignment for one year, isn't it, Ole? I have never had charge of any tournament of any kind that we have ever lost money on, and I am not boastfully saying that. But I believe that we will have to dip our colors and perhaps play the district tournament on one of our schools' gym courts if they will pay enough for it. It gives them a decided advantage - say eight to ten points in the score - but we can also realize that if we do not make good this year we will give the Madison Square Garden outfit a decided advantage over our college set up. Failure with our program means finis for all of our collegiate championship hopes. So we cannot afford to fail. If this procedure is followed in all the district tournaments I am sure that we could wipe out the deficit and have some money in the bank.

When you broached this proposition of playing on the champion's home floor to John Bunn and me in our conference I could not see it, and I would not be willing to abide by it if the N.C.A.A. were out of debt, but as I see it now we are in a very critical position, and a school that wins the championship in their respective sector - if they are hot enough to offer a big guarantee for the play-off - then I would be in favor of accepting it.

Now I am going along further with you. I can see the bad taste in the financial mouths of the N.C.A.A. Executive Committee, and I assure you that nothing will be left undone in our schedule toward putting the financial standing of our basketball tournament in black ink. I will guarantee you that I will have a nice show for you in the final and we will try to lead up with a sizeable sum of money in the district and the semi-final.

I appreciate the nice things that George Edwards had to say regarding our desire to make our district play-off a successful one from the financial as well as the general interest standpoint. Missouri dealt us a body blow when they withdrew from the tournament and Drake University did almost as bad after agreeing to play, and then trying to back out at the last minute, and then after not backing out to come to the tournament and stay nearly a week at the expense of the tournament committee. They used the same excuse that Missouri did - the fact that the trip necessitated too much time lost from school. That is always a big laugh to me because Missouri as well as Drake sends her athletes all over the United States at any time as an excuse for publicity and competition.

As for Drake's difficulties, it certainly was not the fault of Bill Williams, the athletic director, but rather I lay most of the difficulty at the door of Ed Lytton, the business manager of Drake University. Neither do I think Missouri's difficulty was due to George Edwards. It was certain members of the athletic board that in my opinion felt they would not want to risk their chances with the Oklahoma team, which most everybody considered a superior team. And although the Missouri group were strong members of the N.C.A.A. and had Chester Brewer there as one of their prominent officers, they left us in the lurch at a very critical moment. However, we pulled out of it and made the most of it. But it crippled our tournament both from a standpoint of spectator interest, but the worst of it was when Missouri pulled out it looked like we were running a sideshow.

The fact that Emil Liston had been running his tournament called the "National Intercollegiate Athletic Association Championship", and that his personnel in that tournament was largely of small colleges, - this move on the part of Missouri made us in this set-up here look like a medicine barker sideshow. They thought it was just something that we individually were trying to promote, and we had difficulty in trying to get that information across. The general public were confused over the "National Collegiate" and the International Collegiate terminology.

I am leaving Sunday for St. Louis to be there on business in connection with my new Goal-Hi basket that I am promoting for playgrounds. From there I go to Atlanta, Georgia, where I will be until August 26th at the coaching school at Georgia Tech. And then I am returning to Lawrence and setting up my publicity, entertainment, and sales promotional activities on September 1. I expect to have everything lined up so that we will have a very intelligent and thorough campaign in putting over this basketball pageant and spectacle.

I will be happy to hear from you should other angles occur to you during your vacation in Sarona.

With all good wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

FCA:AH

Lawrence, Kansas
June 3, 1940

Mr. H. G. Olsen,
Ohio State University,
Columbus, Ohio.

Dear Ole:

It looks as if the political situation may necessitate another change in the management of the auditorium in Kansas City. For that reason I received a tip that it might be well to sign up for some dates next year, so last Saturday, among my other connections, I made a trip to the Municipal Auditorium and signed a contract with Mr. Eugene C. Zachman, the manager and director, for dates of the week of March 16 to 22, and from March 23 to 30, 1941.

The auditorium is to receive \$1.00, payment of which is hereby acknowledged by the lessor, plus twenty per cent of all gate receipts after deduction of federal and state taxes.

Ole, I am wondering if you are in a position to state when the tournament will be and whether the set up will be the same as it was last year with the eastern, western and later the final play-off. You know, there was some discussion of having eight teams meet one week in the final tournament - say Wednesday and Thursday of one week, resting Friday, and playing Saturday night for the finals. This would not entail any more time away from school than by playing the eastern and western, and then having the finals the next week for the championship.

The contract that I have with the hall will protect us if you should make such a determination. There is a paragraph in the contract at the bottom, which states: "The lessee agrees to set the permanent dates for the tournament (which are to be a part of this contract) as speedily as possible and in any event before October 1, 1940. The lessee further agrees that in the event an opportunity to rent the Arena for any of the dates reserved arises before that time, he will set permanent dates on 10 days' written notice from the lessor."

I had this put off as late as October, 1940, so that we would then be in a definite position to know exactly what we wanted to do.

There is another item, Ole, that I think I should mention that is very important. I have talked to a good many coaches that were in the tournament, or who did not get in, and most of them state that there has never been a definite statement of policy from the N.C.A.A. Tournament Committee concerning what the teams are to get, if anything. Of course, the district chairman had been advised of certain things, and so have the members of the committee, but much of the advice that they received was erroneous; namely, that this fund would be earmarked for basketball. We found this to be incorrect. Further, there was only a guarantee of expenses for the eastern, western, and final play-off, and nothing for the districts. Yet if the district tournament made any money the N.C.A.A. was to receive it. And then you know in our first year we guaranteed expenses for fifteen men, then cut it to twelve, and then raised it again to fifteen.

I appreciate these difficulties that we get into, but there is a danger that unless we set these things out and have them in printed form and send them to each member, marked personal, of the National Basketball Coaches Association so they could be fully informed, then there would be no excuse for fellows like Rupp, of Kentucky, pleading ignorance as to the real set-up. I only mention Rupp, but I can also mention Frosty Cox, Sam Barry, and many of the other boys saying, "We never received any information of what we are to get or anything of the kind." Henry Iba was the most outspoken of all. For two years he has been stating that he will stick by the N.C.A.A. tournaments if the N.C.A.A. Tournament Committee will come out with a definite statement as to their policy and intentions, together with their possible distribution of the earnings.

I do not believe that we can afford to ignore these things longer, and after our meeting, if we do have one in Minneapolis, I believe we should have a definite statement to present to the coaches early next fall so that when our tournaments come up they will have been advised, and it will not be possible for them to state they knew nothing of the set-up. If we leave all this detail to the chairmen of the districts or other members of the Tournament Committee then there is still a possibility that the various coaches who are members of the N.C.A.A. will not be fully appraised of all the situations.

Would it not be well to have these points ready to submit to the N.C.A.A. governing board and get their o.k. or their rejection upon these moot points so that we in turn could be protected to the extent of saying that this is what they approved and this is what they rejected. If you want to get into the tournament play-off under these conditions, well and good. If not, you have been so advised.

I trust that I have brought before you these important points and that you will augment these with any others that come to you. Won't you please write me your convictions, and also in what manner you expect to handle the play-offs next year?

I have not been advised whether I am to be on the Tournament Committee next year. But I have gone ahead with these details to protect the committee.

Very cordially yours,

Chairman, 5th District N.C.A.A.

Second Annual

1940

National Collegiate A. A. Basketball Championships of America

Municipal Auditorium

Kansas City, Mo.

Columbus, Ohio

June 11, 1940

Western District
SEMI-FINALS

March 22 - 23
8:00 p.m.

N. C. A. A.
FINALS

March 30
8:30 p.m.

ADMISSION

Boxes, Loges \$1.68
Balcony 1.12
Upper Balcony .40

★ ★

GENERAL TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE

H. G. Olsen, *Chairman*
Columbus, Ohio
Dr. F. C. Allen, *Manager*
Lawrence, Kansas
H. H. Salmon, Jr.
New York City
J. W. St. Clair
Dallas, Texas
B. T. Grover
Athens, Ohio

★ ★

Also in Session ---
Hotel Continental

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
BASKETBALL COACHES

March 28, 29, 30

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
BASKETBALL COLLEGE OFFICIALS

March 29, 30

NATIONAL BASKETBALL COMMITTEE
OF UNITED STATES & CANADA

March 30, 31, April 1

Dr. Forrest C. Allen
University of Kansas
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear "Phog":

I forget whether I have written to you to acknowledge the report of the Western play-off and the final game. In spite of the fact that the bills have ruled in rather heavy, it is still a fine showing and one which you can feel very proud. I am in hopes, however, that you can make some progress very shortly in the matter of cleaning up the program account. I should like, if possible, to get the final report from you, together with the money which you have on deposit, so that I could have my final report ready in case we should get the call to talk to the Executive Committee sometime within the next week or ten days.

I am in hopes we can have such a get-together because I think it is important that we arrive very soon at some definite program for next year's tournament. The matter of whether we are going to continue the Eastern and Western play-off, or whether we are going to throw all the teams into a tournament is a matter which might very well be discussed at such a meeting and, of course, it is very important that we have an understanding with the N.C.A.A. as to what the procedure is going to be with respect to the participation of competing teams in the net profits, etc.

I am enclosing a request from Jim St. Clair regarding the movie of the final game. Inasmuch as I haven't any copy of the movie in my possession, I thought you could answer his letter.

Answering your letter of June 3, it seems to me you are very foresighted and absolutely right in making the arrangements which you have made with

The World Series of Basketball

F.C.A. #2

June 11, 1940

the Municipal Auditorium in Kansas City.

Regarding a further comment in your letter of June 3, as to the confusion on the part of the coaches regarding tournament arrangements - as I have indicated above, that whole matter should be threshed out very soon and that information should be embodied in any first publicity releases regarding next year's tournament. And, by the way, as soon as we are able to get our final report, it is my definite conviction we should send a summary of last year's tournament results to each member of the Coaches Association.

I am trying to arrange a get-together in Minneapolis at the time of the N.C.A.A. track meet. If we can have a chance to talk to the Executive Committee as a whole, or in part, at that time, it seems to me we should do so. I trust if such an arrangement can be effected that you would find it possible to be there.

Very sincerely yours,

HGO
H. G. Olsen
Chairman, N.C.A.A. Basketball
Tournament Committee

HGO:M
Enc.

Air Mail

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

GEORGE W. RIGHTMIRE, *President*

COLUMBUS

DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION
L. W. ST. JOHN, *Director*

Columbus, Ohio
June 11, 1940

Mr. James W. St. Clair
Southern Methodist University
Dallas, Texas

Dear Jim:

I am forwarding your letter concerning the Indiana-Kansas basketball pictures to "Phog" Allen. He has the pictures at Kansas and I am sure he will arrange this matter for you, if he possibly can.

Very sincerely yours,

H. G. Olsen
Chairman, N.C.A.A. Basketball
Tournament Committee

HGO:M

CC-Dr. F. C. Allen

Air Mail

SOUTHWEST ATHLETIC CONFERENCE

J. W. ST. CLAIR
Executive Secretary

OFFICE
S. M. U.
DALLAS, TEXAS

June 6, 1940.

Mr. H. G. Olsen,
Ohio State University,
Columbus, Ohio.

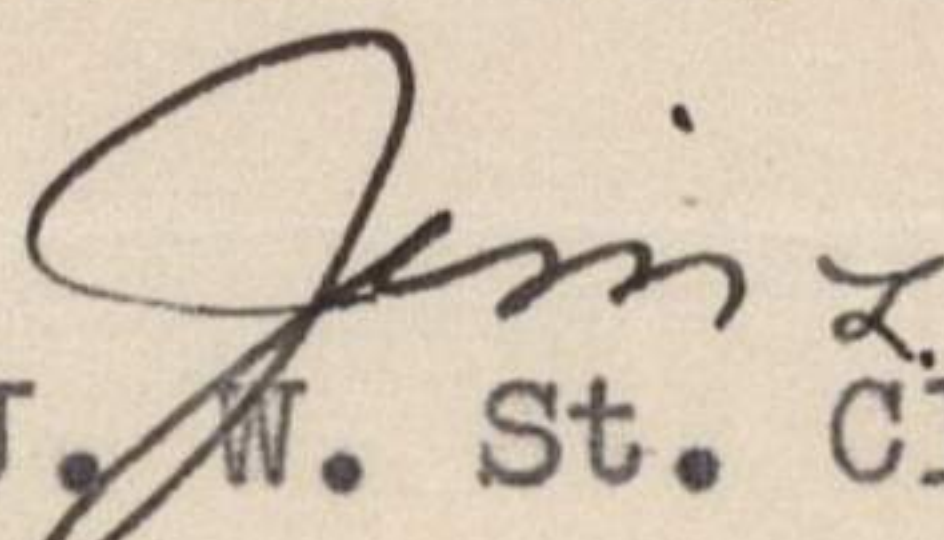
Dear Ole:

I am very anxious to know if I may have the picture of the Indiana-Kansas National Championship game for the week of June 24-28. I probably will need it only one day and will return same immediately.

I have written Mr. Allen concerning this but have not had a reply from him.

With kindest regards, I am

Yours very truly,


J. W. St. Clair.

The National League of Professional Base Ball Clubs

R C A Building - 30 Rockefeller Plaza

New York

Kansas City Mo.
March 30th '40.

To Mr. Branch McCracken;
To Mr. Forrest Allen;

The officials, Bill McDonald; Ted O'Sullivan;
Dick Barton and E.C. Quigley have agreed that
the following procedures, as per the rules and
officiating technique will be followed in the
N.C.A.A. Championship game played tonight in
Municipal Auditorium in Kansas City, namely;

- (A) One out of bounds, or any play in which the ball is awarded, as out of bounds, IN A TEAM'S OFFENSIVE HALF OF THE COURT, the ball SHALL be handed to a player by the official;
- (B) The options, as per taking the ball as out of bounds, instead of the free throw, as provided in the rules, shall operate during every minute of both halves; such option, if any shall be the privilege of the offended team's captain up to and until the ball is given to the fouled player either on the free throw line; back of the free throw line; in the rear half of the free throw circle or if the free thrower remains behind the free throw circle and accepts the ball.
- (C) On violations whereby the ball is given to the opposite team as "out of bounds" the official shall secure the ball and put it in play as per the "code" covering such violations.
- (D) No action on the part of the players lining up on the free throw lane that in any way disconcerts the free thrower shall be permitted.
- (E) A ball hitting the top of the backboard and going back and down shall be considered as out of bounds.
- (F) An act by the guard whereby he uses his hand or hands to break the vision of the player he is guarding shall be penalized as a personal foul. (Waving his hand, or hands, in front of an opponent's face.)
- (G) The officials wish to call the attention of both Mr. McCracken and Dr. Allen that (C); Personal Foul
Section 9;
Rule 15; Shall be ruled according to
the letter of the code.
- (H) ALSO; In the matter of legal or illegal screens the "Supplemental statement" on "Blocking" on Page 29 shall be yard stick that will be used as the measurement.

In all other matters the code shall be followed.

Insert; "From the rear".

COPY

November 16, 1939.

Mr. H. G. Olsen,
Basketball Coach,
Ohio State University,
Columbus, Ohio.

Dear Ole:

Your good letter of the 14th instant has just been received, and I find myself in hearty accord with all that you and President Owens desire.

Floyd Rowe has asked me to be in Cleveland on the 27th and 28th of November at a rules interpretation meeting for his district. I am wondering if you could communicate with Floyd and find when we would be free and see if there is any chance for you and for me to get together at this time when I am in such close proximity to you. A personal conversation is worth loads of correspondence.

I want you to know that I am intensely interested in making this N.C.A.A. tournament a great success and anything that I can do to make this emphatically a stand-out N.C.A.A. project will receive my tireless support.

Answering the next to the last paragraph in your letter, I have talked to Major Griffith and Saint a great number of times and I, too, believe that the "director" or "faculty" type of individual is the man to have on such committee. At least that type should dominate the committee, and we might have a few of the active coaches so that there would be no great criticism from the coach's angle.

Yes, I do feel that we can successfully operate this season without using newspaper men on our active committee. I had a rather delicate situation confronting me. Liston, who is operating this National Intercollegiate Committee, had the active support of McBride, and he still has it, but I think we are breaking the ice very successfully.

If you could get over to Cleveland at any time that you and Floyd Rowe could agree on so that we might have a conference, I am sure we could iron out a lot of these situations.

It might be wise to continue this one more year, treat it rather in an expectant fashion until we could get over the hump. I think we are going to have a great tournament this year and I am very enthusiastic about putting both of these play-offs here in Kansas City over in a big way.

Awaiting your reply at your earliest convenience with a view to seeing you in Cleveland, I am, with kindest regards,

Sincerely yours,

FCA:AH

Director of Physical Education and Recreation,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

COPY

OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY
Columbus

November 14, 1939

Dr. Forrest C. Allen
Basketball Coach
University of Kansas
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear "Phog":

I am in receipt of a letter from President Owens of the N.C.A.A. in which he has enclosed a letter from a Mr. Gilmore, Secretary of the Rocky Mountain Faculty Athletic Conference.

Gilmore has suggested in this letter to Major Griffith that District 7 has its own elected executive committee which would be empowered to cooperate in making the district selection. Gilmore said in his letter, "We feel that this committee might be the logical group either to make the selection or to designate the persons who should. The basketball rules member for district 7 is coach of the team which is likely to be an important contender."

President Owens, in his letter, says this - "If it is possible to cooperate with this group in some way with selections in this district, I feel that it would be well to do so as we need all the support we can get in the various districts in the building up of this tournament. I do not think it would be necessary to designate this committee as the final selecting authority but if, without serious interference with your plans, they could be asked to cooperate it might prove helpful."

I am writing to you to get your reaction to Owens' suggestion and also to ask if you won't take a major part in the making up of all our committees. You know as well as anybody else what we were trying to do last year - maybe we were following the correct procedure, in your judgment, and maybe not. At any rate, the time is here when we should be setting up definitely the selection committees in all our districts, and what I am trying to tell you is that I am going to lean on you rather heavily in this connection. In the first place, you have both the Western play-off and the final game on your hands. Secondly, I know there is nobody in the whole business more interested in seeing this tournament blossom out in a real way this season.

I have written "June" Salmon several times in connection with tournament business but so far I have not been able to get a reply from him.

There was one thought expressed in the N.C.A.A. Executive Committee meeting in New York early this summer and that was, generally speaking, committees which operate tournaments such as ours might well have in its make-up more men of the "director" or "faculty" type rather than active coaches. The thought was

expressed that so often coaches are so occupied in their own work of coaching that they don't make, in a good many instances, the best type of committee member. Perhaps you have heard this thought expressed before. I am not sure I subscribe to that entirely and yet I suppose it is something we might well keep in mind when we are thinking of the make-up of our tournament committee.

There was some question raised also in this Executive Committee meeting as to the use of men on our committees who were not connected in any way with the N.C.A.A. Do you feel we can successfully operate this season without using newspaper men, let us say, on our active committees? Possibly the answer would be to make use of these men in an advisory capacity. What do you think of this idea?

At any rate please give this matter of the whole committee set-up your best thought and let me hear from you as soon as possible.

Very sincerely yours,

(Signed) "Ole"

HGO:M

H. G. Olsen