

UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS
LAWRENCE

DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION

February 7, 1945.

Dr. Forrest C. Allen,
Director of Physical Education,
University of Kansas.

Dear Dr. Allen:

The question has recently been raised as to whether returning war veterans should be exempted from "required" physical training. While we only have a trickle of veterans on the campus now, we will be flooded with them as soon as the war is over. Even next fall we may have many more than we have at present. It seems to me that our department should be making plans for our post-war set-up on physical education and that the Physical Education Department should furnish the leadership in selling whatever program at K.U. that we feel to be the most desirable and beneficial in the light of the best current thought and practices in regard to physical education. It is with the thought of suggesting a definite outline of the pattern that our service program should take, following the war, that I am writing you this letter.

Undoubtedly, we will have at least 3,000 men on the campus after the war. Probably at least 1,600 of these men will be freshmen and sophomores. Our facilities and staff are too limited to handle the entire 3,000 men, but we undoubtedly could do an adequate job with the freshmen and sophomore men provided we have an adequate staff. Therefore, I suggest that we establish the following principles:

I. Compulsory physical education for every male student at the University in the freshman and sophomore classes.

II. Juniors and seniors would be allowed to take P. E. courses, with the consent of the instructor, but there would be no requirement. However, junior and senior men would be urged to participate in intramurals, varsity athletics and to play "on their own".

III. The program for freshmen and sophomores would consist of four phases:

A. A basic, general conditioning and orientation course required of all freshmen men for 2 semesters (except those who had received basic physical training in the armed services). These men would be exempt from freshman P. E. regardless of their classification in school. Freshman P. E. to consist of 3 hours per week, 1 hour per day.

B. At the sophomore level, physical education for men required 3 hours per week but with choice of activities. This program would be similar to the one in effect at Kansas before the war, largely recreational in character.