

Now then, following this reasoning to its logical conclusion, why shouldn't the Rules Committee say that the only difference between the two situations exists in the fact that we permit a team to carry the ball over the division line inside the ten seconds, and do not force them to pass it in as we do from the boundary line?

From a coach's standpoint, would it complicate things very much if the Rules Committee said this to you as a coach: "Boys who have one foot on the division line or who come to an astride position across the division line may not pivot, excepting to pivot in such a manner as to bring both feet into the front court."

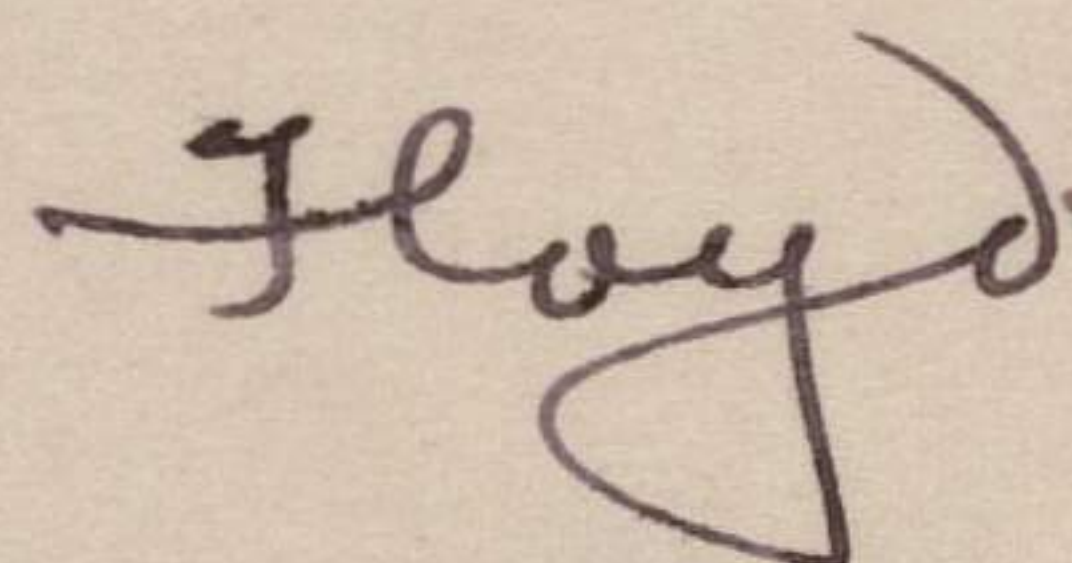
In other words, a fellow comes astride the line and the present interpretation is that he may pivot on his front foot and keep his back foot in the rear court if he cares to do so. There is also an interpretation that if he comes to a stop with one foot on the division line, he may then pivot through 360 degrees, if he cares to do so, so long as he pivots on the foot which is in contact with the division line.

This new interpretation would do away with the players' ability to do these two things. It would also do away with the interpretation which now permits a fellow with one foot on either side of the division line to dribble across the court, keeping one foot on either side of the division line.

There has been so much difference of opinion in regard to the administration of this rule that I would like to find an easy way out of it. However, in doing so, I don't think the Rules Committee has the right to place too big a responsibility on the coach, purely from a coach's standpoint. Your judgment in this matter will mean more to me than that of any one else I can think of. I have talked with Olsen at Ohio State and while I am not trying to prejudice your opinion, he feels very strongly about it, and much the same as I do.

Looking forward to getting my book back, properly autographed, and wishing you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, I am

Sincerely yours



Floyd A. Rowe

FAR:McG