

Thousands of time I have said when you are missing pass five times to a teammate before you try to shoot again. The weakness of the Kansas team was that the guards were shooting consistently long shots, but they were very inconsistent in their hitting. A long shot by a guard is like a pinch hit in baseball, or a drop or place kick in football. They are used only in emergencies, not as consistencies. Your average hitting is not high. Therefore the ball should be passed in and worked in to the basket where your law of averages on hits mounts much higher. It appeared as if the White team was not willing to work hard enough to work the ball in, but preferred to make long shots, then stand as spectators watching a play, while the Red team used the fast break with a long pass out to the deep man and invariably both guards were caught flat-footed.

Remember that a guard is the bulldog or the watchdog of the basket, and he is defending that basket, not assaulting the other team's basket. Repeatedly I have said that the only time a guard goes into the basket is on Number 4 or 5 play, or on a dribble where the basket is wide open. If the guard's drive goalward is stopped by an opposing player, then the guard pivots, passes out, and immediately as soon as he passes he drives deep back into his own territory so that he is in a good position on defense. Remember this - and do not forget to ever make an exception to it.

Another rule - when a guard shoots either from the side of the court or from his defensive position he crouches and immediately moves back at once to the same defensive position as just described in the preceding play situation. Now, if either guard forgets this very important mandate then he has weakened his team. And a guard shoots only when he has three offensive men in a position to cover the three rebound offensive areas. Both of our guards shoot and stand still rather than to immediately move back into a safe defensive position. Then when any of the rebound men take the ball off the backboard that guard or the other guard has moved back into defensive position and will have plenty of time to move forward strategically