RULE 7—Playing Terms

SECTION 1. A Goal is made when the ball enters the basket from above and remains in or passes through.

Ques.—If the ball enters the basket from below, goes through and drops back into the basket, is a goal scored? Ans.—No.

Ques.—A player is lifted into the air by a teammate, or climbs to the shoulders of a teammate, receives a pass, and drops the ball into the basket. Does the goal count? Ans.—No, and a foul may be called for unsportsmanlike conduct.

SECTION 2. A player is out of bounds when any part of his body touches the boundary line or the floor outside of the boundary line.

Ball Out of Bounds. The ball is out of bounds when any part of it touches the boundary line, the floor outside the boundary line, any object on or outside the boundary line, any balcony, the supports or back of the backboard, or when it is touched by a player who is out of bounds. If the ball strikes the edge of the backboard or rolls along the top of the backboard without touching the supports of the backboard, and then falls into the playing court, it is in play.

The ball is caused to go out of bounds by the last player touched by it before it crosses the line.

Ques.—If a player touches the wall behind the backboard while he has the ball in his possession, is he out of bounds? Ans.—Yes, and therefore the ball is out of bounds.

Ques.—Ball glances off face of backboard and across boundary line, but before it touches the floor or any obstruction out of bounds, it is caught by a player who is "in bounds." Is the ball in bounds or out of bounds? Ans.—In bounds.

Ques.—If the ball hits the apparatus or ceiling over the playing court, what is the decision? Ans.—The ball continues in play unless ground rules to the contrary have been agreed upon before the game.

Ques.—On courts on which the walls are used for backboards, is it legal to "run up the wall" in throwing for goal? Ans.—Teams which play on courts not laid out according to the Rules must make their own ground rules. It is recommended, however, that "running up the wall" be not permitted. It is further recommended that courts be laid out as specified in the Rules whenever this is possible.

Ques.—Player A, standing on or outside the boundary line, catches a ball thrown by Player B, an opponent, before or after the ball crosses the line. To whom should be the ball be awarded? Ans.—To Player A. Even though the ball was caught by A before it crossed the line, B is considered to have caused the ball to go out of bounds. But if the ball is lying on the floor in bounds and A touches it from out of bounds, the Committee has ruled that A should be considered to have caused the ball to go out of bounds.

Ques.—In attempting to throw the ball into play from out of bounds, a player throws it against the back of the backboard and it drops upon the court. Is the ball in play? Ans.—No. The ball should be awarded to an opponent out of bounds at the same point.