

National Basketball Committee Looks Over New-Fangled Baskets

Also Studies Three Types of Backboards; No Major Changes Likely in Rules

By Everett B. Morris

The National Basketball Committee of the United States and Canada began its annual two-day session at the McAlpin yesterday by putting in a long day going over sub-committee reports and studying new-fangled baskets and backboards.

Today the rules makers will clean up their business by electing officers and making whatever changes in the playing code are deemed advisable. The revisions, though, are expected to be minor. The committee, through its far-flung questionnaire system and the recommendations of coaches and officials, has discovered no sentiment for radically changing the game.

The committee's deliberations, presided over by H. H. Salmon jr., chairman, are being carried on by representatives from the eight N. C. A. A. districts, the National Federation of State High School Athletic Associations, the Y. M. C. A., the Canadian Intercollegiate Union and the Canadian Amateur Basketball Association.

Wants Basket Raised

Dr. Forrest C. (Phog) Allen, chairman of the research committee and long an advocate of raising the basket from its present ten-foot height to twelve feet, delivered another exhaustive report on the subject. It contained no less than thirty-two itemized reasons for the ascension, one of which was the bald statement that the twelve-foot basket "would forever guarantee non-interference."

The committee is likely to authorize such conferences as so desire to use the higher goals for experimental and research purposes next season. Similar action a few years ago led to the abandonment of the center tap after goals.

After the executive session behind closed doors at the McAlpin, the committee adjourned to the New York University School of Education gymnasium in Washington Square and watched the Violet varsity players fire away at three new types of backboards. One was convex with the corners curbed in four inches from the center to facilitate corner shots and the two others were designed to eliminate much of the backboard space seldom used in shooting. Another new item of equipment coming under committee scrutiny was a basket with metal links replacing the standard cord mesh which is now official.

Favors Ten-Minute Quarters

Something may be done about dividing college games into quarters instead of the customary twenty-minute halves. This change was recommended by the coaches to afford additional rest for players who find the tempo of the no-center-tap game a severe physical drain. Last year the rules makers made it optional whether games should be played in quarters or halves, but the coaches now want the ten-minute periods to be mandatory.