

TWELVE-FOOT BASKET FOR COLLEGE AND INDEPENDENT TEAMS

Of late years there has been a protest on the part of the basketball public against these "mezzanine peeping goons" of the cage sport who actually come to the level of the basket rim when they reach for tip-in shots, or actually dunk the ball into the hoop instead of shooting it upward, as originally intended by Dr. James Naismith, the originator of the game. No other sport puts such an outlandish premium on height as basketball.

The only reason that the height of the basket today is 10 feet from the gym floor is because the indoor running track at Springfield, Mass., College was 10 feet from the floor, and Dr. Naismith attached his basket to this running track.

Twelve-foot baskets would be only for college players who have reached their growth and maturity, and not for high school players. It is just as easy to accommodate the muscles of the eyes, wrists, hands and digits to distance in height as it is to accommodate them to distance on a horizontal plane.

It is proposed that a field goal count 3 points and a free throw from the 20-foot line (now 15 feet) count one point. This would equalize the scoring ratio. It has long been a contention of Dr. Naismith that a field goal should count more than twice as much as a free throw. An argument might be advanced that if the field goal is increased in value there would be a tendency to foul an opponent to keep the field goal from being made. The answer to that is that 4 personal fouls will disqualify a player from the game. And again, there will not be the desire to work the ball in under the goal for lay-ups on a 12-foot basket because the most disadvantageous spot under the new scheme is directly under the basket. It is much easier to bank a shot 8 and 10 feet out from the basket near the 12-foot goal than it is to work it under the goal. Research has shown that nearly 90% of all the fouls are made in close proximity to the basket. This is on account of the desire of the players to work the ball in close to the basket for a lay-up shot.

Many adherents to the elimination of the center jump rule contended that the no jump rule at center would drive the exceptionally tall player from the game. This certainly has not been true, nor should any rule be made that would be discriminatory. The higher basket would require all players to shoot for goals, whereby now only the "second story peeping Toms" can bat the ball away before it reaches the cylinder of the basket, thereby preventing the goal. Never in the history of the game have there been so many exceptionally tall men under very low baskets, comparatively speaking. Men 6'10" tall are getting to be quite commonplace. The presence of so many long fellows has reduced basketball to a freakish demonstration and has put an almost unbearable handicap on the finer athletes of a normal 6-foot height. Certainly no discrimination is asked against an exceptionally tall player. Rather uniformity is asked so that discrimination against the little fellow will be removed.

Practically all the rules that now exist against the single or double post play, against touching the ball while it is on the rim or above the cylinder of the basket, the 3-second rule, the 1-yard defensive rule, the player being awarded two free throws when fouled under or near the basket -- all of these rules will be unnecessary after a higher basket is put into effect.

The higher goal will increase spectator enjoyment, and will decrease injuries under the goal from accidents by players when driving in hard for lay-ins.

We have seen tall players in many team line-ups who were born without any special gift in basketball, but who were on the team solely on the accident of extreme height. Some junior high school coach discovered this altitudinous Brobdingnagian, sky-scraping stepper oozing ethereally down the hall and straightway the coach made for him with a pair of shorts, the stimulus being mainly his altitude and not his ability. Only a severe cardiac insufficiency will permit that basketball monstrosity to escape the coach's tentacles. Therefore, it is beyond reasonable doubt but what we can expect players of this 6'10" altitude to become so numerous that they will be the rule rather than the exception.

An eleven-foot basket would not be out of reach of the exceptionally tall players. A twelve-foot basket would forever guarantee non-interference of the basket rim by players. In addition to this, the twelve-foot basket would contribute markedly in clearing up the congestion under the goal by increasing the arc of disbursement of the rebound of the ball much further out on the court and away from the basket. All modern gymnasiums and auditoria have high ceiling clearances, but in schools that do not have high ceiling clearances ground rules could be permitted which would allow the use of the lower baskets until conditions could be corrected.

In 1934 Kansas State and Kansas played a home-and-home series using the elevated 12-foot basket. Neither team had practiced previously with the 12-foot goal, but the players seemed to have little difficulty in making goals and the spectators enjoyed the game very much. The players' only complaint was that they couldn't drive in and make their lay-up shots. On the other hand, they reacted quite favorably toward the elevated basket.

At the coaching school the following summer conducted by Allen of Kansas and E. J. Hickox of Springfield, Professor Hickox elevated the basket to 12 feet and the boys in the coaching school, without any practice whatsoever, played a match game. We asked Professor Hickox to write his impressions of that game. It seemed to be his opinion and that of the group who watched the game that the players had little difficulty in finding the range of the basket.

It seems to be a fair conclusion that certainly no one should criticize the elevated basket until he has at least tried it out. There are so many benefits and so few drawbacks that this experiment should be indulged in by more coaches than those who have tried it. It also seems reasonable that it might be fair to all concerned that if the 12-foot basket is found to be practical to advance the time of its possible adoption over a two year period so that none of the tall players now in college would be injured, but those oncoming players would have notice of it. This perhaps would remove an objection from coaches who might have tall men now.

The following are a number of reasons set forth in favor of the twelve-foot basket:

1. Arc of disbursement is greater, thus freeing congestion under basket.
2. Guards are forced further away from baskets to get rebound.
3. Forwards are forced further out from baskets to obtain rebound.
4. Will encourage more shooting account greater value of field goals.
5. Will definitely reduce foul shots because of no drive-in necessity.
6. Shots are easier made 8 or 10 feet out from basket instead of directly under.

7. Will eliminate the player's effort to draw two shots by being fouled.
8. The four foul disqualifying rule will still discourage too much fouling.
9. Will require all players to shoot upward for basket as originally intended by Dr. Naismith.
10. Present congestion of tall men under basket works a hardship on short men and makes the game rough.
11. Less handicap to a short man in shooting extra distance than by jumping extra distance.
12. Will discourage using a tall man who is not as active as a shorter man.
13. No other sport puts such an outlandish premium on height as does basketball.
14. A player accommodates muscles of eyes and hands to height the same as to distance.
15. The only reason the height of the present basket is 10 feet is because of the gymnasium running track at Springfield College.
16. A 12-foot basket is a blow to the zone defense account spreading defense.
17. A convex board with 12-foot basket is another impediment to the zone defense.
18. The speedier players could recover the ball before it goes out of bounds in the 4-foot zone, thereby reducing the number of out of bounds plays in a game.
19. Is a decided aid to officials - awarding 2 shots on fouls.
20. Will do away with single and double post plays.
21. Will do away with 3-second rule in the lane.
22. Will do away with rule regarding interference of ball on or above rim.
23. Will increase spectator enjoyment by high arch shots that hit.
24. Will increase visibility for spectators by raising basket 2 feet.
25. Will decrease number of accidents under goals, driving in, not so much hiping, nudging.
26. Will actually give more rebound playing space per player.
27. Four-foot zone behind basket another factor against zone defense.
28. Will make unnecessary all legislation around basket, such as 1-yard rule, etc.
29. Twelve-foot basket is coming, as sure as death and taxes.
30. An eleven-foot basket would still be within reach of 6'9" or 6'10" players.
31. Twelve-foot basket would forever guarantee non-interference.
32. In Olympic participation 12-foot basket would equalize height of two teams (desire of Olympic Committee); limited class 6'2" of under, unlimited class, any height.

POSSIBLE IMPROVEMENTS IN WORDING OR ARRANGEMENT

- 1-1. Make clear which is optimum distance between backboards if four-foot end space is used.
- 1-4. Remove statement referring to courts less than legal length.
- 1-5. Make major statement for court with four-foot end space.
- 4-1. Provide 28 1/2 inch ball for grade school boys and reduce tolerance for bounce.
- 5-3. Why should substitute give more than number of player to be replaced?
Should official line up substitutes?
- 6-1. Why use term "Timekeeper"? Why not "one Timer and one Scorer"?
Reword note.
- 6-7. In second sentence use "must" instead of "may".
- 6-8. Second question. Reword "on the same play".
- 6-9. Is limit "to the ball of time" correct?
- 6-11. May Referee overrule Scorer?
- 6-12. Is home watch official? Also term "misses" in third paragraph is not good.
- 7-1. Does second question belong here?
- 7-2-Fifth Question: Does "control" have a bearing?
- 7-5. Is this definition good?
- 7-7-j. Should technical be included? Also note is not clear when division line is involved.
- 7-11-Note. Should this be enlarged to prevent any contact in attempt to secure possession in the open.
- 7-21. Bring definition up to date.
- 8-3. Is choice revokable?
- 8-8. 7-10, 11-1-(d), 11-5, 14-10, 14-12 and 15-1. Distinguish between "possession" and "control".
- 11-1-Note. Can this be improved?
- 11-3-(b). Can substitution be made on official's time-out?
- 11-5. In last clause of first paragraph insert "or awarded".
- 12-1. Must player pass to nearer official?
- 13-2. This is an unlisted violation.
Also does last sentence apply to player illegally in game.

Page two - Improvements

13-6. Is "missed" correct?

Also could first question be broadened.

14-1. Is this correct for free throw?

Also in second question where is ball awarded?

14-7. Does penalty apply to technical?

14-9. May substitution be made and does 8-9 apply?

14-10-Note. Should this apply to other cases?

14-12. Is time for certain situations cumulative?

14-13-Note. What if this occurs after gun?

15-A-1-(b). Should "player" be "opponent"?

15-C-9-Question. Can this be improved?

Also last question is almost duplicate of provision in 15-C-12.

15-A-2. Is it unsportsmanlike conduct to deliberately throw ball out of bounds in last few seconds?

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NATIONAL BASKETBALL COMMITTEE of the UNITED STATES AND CANADA

1939 ANNUAL QUESTIONNAIRE

This questionnaire is sent annually to representative basketball men in order that their views may be presented at the annual meeting of the National Committee. The Committee will be grateful if you will check these answers and

RETURN THE QUESTIONNAIRE PROMPTLY to Forrest C. Allen, Chairman, 5th District,
University of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas.

The Committee Member or State Athletic Officer whose name appears above will send all replies received up to March 20th to the Secretary of the Committee, 11 South LaSalle Street, Chicago, Illinois.

PART I. Concerning rule changes made last spring:

NOTE: Vote yes or no on general principle involved. Suggestions for slight modifications may be made in Part III or on back of sheet.

1. Is the rule which prohibits a substitution after a goal satisfactory? Yes 32 No 8
2. Are length and number of time-outs and intermissions satisfactory? Yes 39 No 2
3. The removal of the three-second limitation for player in the outer half of the circle without the ball has resulted in: (a) A better game 27
(b) A worse game 1 (c) No noticeable difference 11
4. Have you had direct experience with a court having the end line four feet behind the backboard? Yes 31 No 7
If the answer above is 'Yes', check the following:
(a) Were there fewer out of bounds balls? Yes 31 No 1
(b) Was the space often used for tries for goal? Yes 11 No 20
(c) Was there less crowding after rebounds? Yes 25 No 6
(d) Were visiting teams noticeably handicapped? Yes 7 No 25
(e) Do you recommend encouraging use of the four-foot space? Yes 31 No 3
5. Is the rule which prescribes the "sudden death" method in the first overtime in high school games satisfactory? Yes 13 No 15

PART II. Concerning general trend of game:

6. The present average total score for High School play is 55 points and for College 70 points. This is (a) About right 31 (b) Too low 5
(c) Too high 3
7. (a) The interpretation of "travelling" rule is (1) About right 31 (2) Too loose 6
(3) Too rigid 2
(b) Use of a zone defense is (1) About right 30 (2) Too great 6
(c) Officiating in my locality is (1) About right 23 (2) Too loose 16 (3) Too strict 1
8. The most desirable color: (a) for court lines is black 28 red 4 white 6 broken black and white 4; (b) for fixtures which attach basket ring to backboard is black 30 white 6; (c) for ball is tan 28 white 5
9. Do you favor conference experimentation with:
(a) A smaller fan shaped backboard? Yes 4
No 34
(b) Basket without a backboard? Yes 38
No 38
(c) A basket ring 10 or 12 inches from the backboard? Yes 2 No 36

(d) A heavier basket ring? Yes 1 No 31

(e) A short metal chain basket net? Yes 2
No 35

10. Is "face guarding" causing enough difficulty to warrant further restriction? Yes 1 No 39

PART III. Concerning rules for 1939-40:

11. Do you favor allowing the offended team to keep possession after: (a) a successful free throw following a deliberate personal foul? Yes 14 No 25; or (b) after any throw following a deliberate technical foul? Yes 14
No 23
12. Do you favor a method of timing whereby the clock would be stopped each time the ball is dead (with proper shortening of periods)? Yes 2 No 37
13. Do you favor a ball that bounces near the present: (a) Minimum 48" 8; (b) Maximum 55" 2; or (c) Median 52" 22?
14. Do you favor making it a violation when an unsuccessful free throw misses the ring even though it touches the backboard? Yes 18
No 20
15. (Check this only if you are connected with College or Independent games)
(a) College and Independent games should be played in 10-minute quarters. Yes 18
No 20
(b) College conferences should be urged to experiment with baskets 12 feet above the floor. Yes 5 No 34
16. (Check this only if you are connected with Junior or Senior High School games)
(a) Have you had actual experience with the 29" ball? Yes 1 No 1
(b) Do you favor use of the 29" ball for Junior High School? Yes 2 No 2
(c) Would you favor permitting optional use of a 29" ball for Senior High School play? Yes 2 No 2
17. Assuming that proper safeguards would be made against any sudden compulsory use of equipment whose use would involve considerable expense, do you favor permitting the optional use of:
(a) A backboard with several inches removed from the lower edge? Yes 13 No 22
(b) A transparent backboard with small area behind basket painted white? Yes 8
No 25
18. Deliberate pushing of a player in the act of throwing for goal should result in additional penalty for the unsportsmanlike phase of the foul? Yes 26 No 9
19. Reverse side may be used for comments.

QUESTIONNAIRE COMMITTEE

F. C. Allen - J. H. Crocker - H. D. Edgren
W. E. Meanwell - Oswald Tower - H. V. Porter, Chr.

Signed: _____ (Coach _____) (Official _____) (Administrator _____) (Other _____)

Institution Represented: College _____ High School _____ Y. M. C. A. _____ Other _____

City _____ State _____

Big Six returns

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Comments

Provision should be made for offensive team being able to decline a foul which is followed in the same play by a basket. Sharp practice by defensive team in causing a foul to nullify a well-earned basket is on the increase and should be curbed.

I am loud and positive in advocating the use of a molded ball for the following reasons:

1. It gives greater uniformity of performance.
 2. It is livelier and has greater rebounding qualities thus contributing to relieving congestion around both bank boards.
 3. If standardized to the specifications equivalent to the 5-ply "last bilt" ball it will be the best yet devised for the game.
 4. The best ball on the market will be the white Last Bilt ball as soon as a more permanent white is devised.
-

I believe that it would be much better for the game if a player would be allowed to stay in the outer half of the free throw area as long as he cared to whether he had the ball or not. I think this would result in fewer wild passes out of this area to teammates because of lack of time to hold ball; it would also give players a chance to slow up the torrid pace that has been set and give the fans or spectators a chance to see some really fine ball handling and more clever block plays built around the center area if given more time for pivot man to stay here and it would not give the big pivot men any particular advantage.

Part III No. 13 I believe the Last-built ball as it is at present is too lively-teams that are not accustomed to its use are greatly handicapped.

In back court, travelling should be called loosely unless the defense is crowding or the offense is stalling-in other words if the offense is taking the ball down at a reasonable speed and has no opposition, I do not believe that travelling should be called rigidly. I would like to have fewer and better paid officials. These officials should be required to attend interpretation meetings. This would lead to more uniformity in the game. In Part III No. 18, the suggestion might be worth considering. In Part III No. 11, the deliberate foul may involve discussion.

I feel we have a very good game the way the rules now read. I would like to see the three fifteen minutes periods tried in college ball, for at least one season. Also the calling of the foul on the guard, and not on the dribbler has been a cause for discussion this year.

Teams that were used to playing with the 4 foot line under the goal were handicapped on floors using the 2 foot line.

I still favor some legislation in regard to an opponent who deliberately crashes the player who is scoring or about to score a basket. I have had players hurt time and again and all the officials have done to date is to foul the opponent.

I have the conviction that legislation should be made to aid the goal shooter who successfully makes a goal but because of a violation which in the minds of the official happened before the shooting is given one shot. My suggestion would be that a case of this kind could be handled as a case similar is handled in football where a gain is made and on the play the defense commits a foul. There would be a choice. In this basketball case, I would suggest that the captain have a choice of taking the goal with no foul assessed or not accepting the goal, take the free throw and penalize the defensive player fouling. Needless to say a good defensive man with three fouls might be taken out of the game but in so doing the offensive team would receive only a free throw opportunity if they considered the advantage this way.

Many schools are very much handicapped by the wide difference in the type of basketball equipment permitted under the rules. Any rules which would make for a standardization of balls, backboards, baskets and boundary lines would certainly make for better, more interesting games and certainly meet with our approval in this area. We favor the new seamless ball but would rather go back to the old ball with seams unless there is an absolute standardizing of this item. The same thing holds true with the other equipment mentioned above. We feel a definite handicap has been resulting to many teams under the present lax rules.

I believe the biggest difficulty with our present rules is in the interpretation as few coaches or officials interpret them the same. If the contact clause could be explained so no question could arise as to whom the foul should be called on, it would help the game greatly.

COMMENTS FROM QUESTIONNAIRE

RULE 1 - PLAYING COURT

Size: Increase minimum size of court.

Markings: 3-foot line inside boundary lines where out of bounds area is not at least 4 feet.

Make four-foot end area compulsory wherever space will permit.
Standardize colors used in marking courts.

Division Line: Mark 10-second line in red.

Free Throw Lane: Change free throw lane to arc.

Offensive playing area: 45 or 47-foot front court.

RULE 2- BACKBOARDS: Backboard 3 x 4 feet with ring 6 inches from lower edge.

RULE 3 - BASKETS

Legalize certain types of chain baskets.

20-inch basket.

Standardize length of net.

RULE 4 - BALL

More uniformity in balls.

better floor lighting recommended.

RULE 5 - PLAYERS AND SUBSTITUTES

Report only to scorer.

Include definite statement that substitutions either may or may not be made from bench in interval between scoring of a goal and putting the ball in play from out of bounds.

Team scored on allowed to make substitution in interval following goal and putting ball in play.

Substitution at any time ball is dead.

Section 4. Re-entering game.

Unlimited substitution.

Numbers: Penalty for use of illegal numbers.

RULE 6 - OFFICIALS AND THEIR DUTIES

Standardize practice to be followed by official in putting ball in play on out of bounds plays in front court.

Timer's signal not sounded at end of quarter until ball is dead.

If man fouled in act of shooting, he should be awarded 1 shot and the official designate by holding up fingers whether he is shooting for one or two points.

Official handle ball after field goal.

Standardize officiating

Whenever field goal is cancelled because the shooter travelled, award ball at the side rather than at the end to make it clear that the goal does not count.

RULE 7 - PLAYING TERMS

Held Ball: All jump balls should be in nearest circle.

Travelling: Include illustrations on sliding pivot foot.

Violation for player to dive for ball.

Dribble: Eliminate dribble or restrict to one bounce.

Clarify dribbling rule - make more consistent.

Clarify rule where foul is called on dribbler for charging.

RULE 8 - PLAYING REGULATIONS

Periods: 3 fifteen-minute periods for colleges.

Optional time-out in 2nd and 4th quarters should be dropped.

Make official's time-out in 2nd and 4th quarter compulsory.

Center Jump: Return center jump.

Award ball alternately to teams in center after score.

Begin 2nd and 4th quarters with center jump.

RULE 8 - (continued)

Ball in Front or Back Court: Eliminate 10-second rule.

10-second rule start only after 3 defensive men have advanced to center line.

Require specified number defensive players in opponent's back court.

Do not permit a player to pass into back court under any circumstances.

Permit player on one side of line to bounce ball across line.

Define possession of ball.

Under 8-8 possession occurs twice in each note -- should be "control".

When double division line is used, award ball to B at their own division line.

Give ball to B at center of all courts the same as for maximum court.

Section 9: Ball thrown in under basket after technical.

RULE 9 - SCORING

Allow three points for field goal.

Tie Score and Extra Period: 3-minute period for 1st overtime.

Return to regular 3-minute overtime and play until one team is ahead at end of period.

In sudden death rule, require 3 points instead of 2.

Start overtime as in 2nd and 4th quarters.

RULE 10 - OUT OF BOUNDS

Whenever ball is awarded to player out of bounds directly behind backboard, he should have option of moving it along the end line six feet past the nearer end of backboard.

RULE 11 - TIME-OUT AND TIME-IN

Time-Out: Extra time-outs in overtime game.

In case of injury which prohibits player from continuing play, official should blow whistle suspending play, regardless of which team has ball.

RULE 14 - VIOLATIONS AND PENALTIES

Missing ring should be made a violation even though it hits the backboard.

Make it violation if ball strikes backboard below plane of basket.

Section 12 - 3-SECOND RULE: Remove 3-second rule.

Remove 3-second rule except after player has ball.

Do not enforce 3-second rule when zone defense is being used.

Extend 3-second rule to entire foul circle but not lane.

Remove 3-second rule for players with or without ball in outer half of circle.

Treat dribble in lane same as try.

Use semi-circle with 5-foot radius directly in front of basket and do not permit rebound from this area.

Do not award basket for hitting net unless it is evident that ball was kept from going through

RULE 15 - FOULS AND PENALTIES

Technical Foul: Prohibit profane and abusive language.

Personal Foul: List deliberate pushing of player in act of throwing as flagrant foul. Allow 2 points and 1 free throw.

Remove player for deliberate foul.

If deliberate foul, offended team should keep possession.

Remove player after deliberate foul for remainder of quarter and award 2 free throws.

Underhand lift shot used under a guard's arm should be ignored as foul on defensive man.

After fourth Personal Foul, retire player for short time.

Allow 5 personal fouls.

RULE 15 (continued)

Personal foul (continued)

- When player has four fouls, he should leave game for two minutes. The same penalty is to be inflicted for each succeeding pair of fouls.
2 free throws for any deliberate foul.
After fourth Personal Foul, award offended player two free throws or three if act occurred while shooting but do not remove offended from game.
Only 1 free throw in case of foul such as hacking after ball has left shooter's hands.
For deliberate foul of shooter running in for basket, 3 free throws.
If player is dribbling in for basket without an opponent between him and the basket and the offensive player (dribbler) is fouled to prevent a set-up but the player continues in to basket and scores basket, he should be given opportunity of one free throw and the basket counts. If missed, same as at present, or two free throws.
If offensive player charges after he shoots, no score even if ball has left the player's hands.
If player going in for shot is fouled but makes a basket, allow basket and 1 free throw.
If basket made after deliberate foul, should count and 2 free throws given. If missed, two free throws and two personal fouls charged to offender.
If player fouled but makes goal, allow to decline penalty.
Allow offended team to keep possession after successful foul shot.

COMMENTS ON RULES

Screening (Blocking):

Remove 3-foot clause in screening recommendation.

Personal Contact:

List certain contacts as fouls or non-fouls

CHAIRMAN, H. H. SALMON, JR.
40 Wall St., New York, N. Y.

VICE-CHAIRMAN, JOHN BUNN
Stanford Univ., Palo Alto, Calif.

SECRETARY, H. V. PORTER
11 So. LaSalle St., Chicago, Ill.

TREASURER, FLOYD A. ROWE
Board of Education, Cleveland, O.

EDITOR, OSWALD TOWER
Andover, Mass.

NATIONAL BASKETBALL COMMITTEE of the UNITED STATES AND CANADA

1939 ANNUAL QUESTIONNAIRE

This questionnaire is sent annually to representative basketball men in order that their views may be presented at the annual meeting of the National Committee. The Committee will be grateful if you will check these answers and RETURN THE QUESTIONNAIRE PROMPTLY to.....

The Committee Member or State Athletic Officer whose name appears above will send all replies received up to March 20th to the Secretary of the Committee, 11 South LaSalle Street, Chicago, Illinois.

PART I. Concerning rule changes made last spring:

NOTE: Vote yes or no on general principle involved. Suggestions for slight modifications may be made in Part III or on back of sheet.

1. Is the rule which prohibits a substitution after a goal satisfactory? Yes. **1679** No. **345**.
2. Are length and number of time-outs and intermissions satisfactory? Yes. **1921** No. **81**.
3. The removal of the three-second limitation for player in the outer half of the circle without the ball has resulted in: (a) A better game. **1445**. (b) A worse game. **44**. (c) No noticeable difference. **542**.
4. Have you had direct experience with a court having the end line four feet behind the backboard? Yes. **645**. No. **1409**.

If the answer above is 'Yes', check the following:

- (a) Were there fewer out of bounds balls? Yes. **608** No. **68**.
- (b) Was the space often used for tries for goal? Yes. **281** No. **373**.
- (c) Was there less crowding after rebounds? Yes. **497** No. **163**.
- (d) Were visiting teams noticeably handicapped? Yes. **133** No. **536**.
- (e) Do you recommend encouraging use of the four-foot space? Yes. **581** No. **100**.

5. Is the rule which prescribes the "sudden death" method in the first overtime in high school games satisfactory? Yes. **811** No. **986**.

PART II. Concerning general trend of game:

6. The present average total score for High School play is 55 points and for College 70 points. This is (a) About right. **1258** (b) Too low. **134**. (c) Too high. **592**.
7. (a) The interpretation of "travelling" rule is (1) About right. **1481**. (2) Too loose. **180**. (3) Too rigid. **283**. (b) Use of a zone defense is (1) About right. **1395**. (2) Too great. **439**. (c) Officiating in my locality is (1) About right. **1136** (2) Too loose. **583** (3) Too strict. **127**.
8. The most desirable color: (a) for court lines is black. **1485** red. **73** white. **261** broken black and white. **85**; (b) for fixtures which attach basket ring to backboard is black. **1495** white. **280**; (c) for ball is tan. **1446** white. **184**.
9. Do you favor conference experimentation with: (a) A smaller fan shaped backboard? Yes. **461** No. **1472**. (b) Basket without a backboard? Yes. **135** No. **1757**. (c) A basket ring 10 or 12 inches from the backboard? Yes. **206** No. **1705**.

- (d) A heavier basket ring? Yes. **446** No. **1474**.
- (e) A short metal chain basket net? Yes. **348** No. **1526**.

10. Is "face guarding" causing enough difficulty to warrant further restriction? Yes. **174** No. **1812**.

PART III. Concerning rules for 1939-40:

11. Do you favor allowing the offended team to keep possession after: (a) a successful free throw following a deliberate personal foul? Yes. **835** No. **1131**; or (b) after any throw following a deliberate technical foul? Yes. **732** No. **1173**.
12. Do you favor a method of timing whereby the clock would be stopped each time the ball is dead (with proper shortening of periods)? Yes. **486** No. **1475**.
13. Do you favor a ball that bounces near the present: (a) Minimum 48". **547**; (b) Maximum 55". **101**; or (c) Median 52". **1148**?
14. Do you favor making it a violation when an unsuccessful free throw misses the ring even though it touches the backboard? Yes. **665** No. **1312**.
15. (Check this only if you are connected with College or Independent games) (a) College and Independent games should be played in 10-minute quarters. Yes. **218** No. **253**. (b) College conferences should be urged to experiment with baskets 12 feet above the floor. Yes. **98** No. **370**.
16. (Check this only if you are connected with Junior or Senior High School games) (a) Have you had actual experience with the 29" ball? Yes. **248** No. **895**. (b) Do you favor use of the 29" ball for Junior High School? Yes. **508** No. **422**. (c) Would you favor permitting optional use of a 29" ball for Senior High School play? Yes. **226** No. **863**.
17. Assuming that proper safeguards would be made against any sudden compulsory use of equipment whose use would involve considerable expense, do you favor permitting the optional use of: (a) A backboard with several inches removed from the lower edge? Yes. **652** No. **1097**. (b) A transparent backboard with small area behind basket painted white? Yes. **614** No. **1122**.
18. Deliberate pushing of a player in the act of throwing for goal should result in additional penalty for the unsportsmanlike phase of the foul? Yes. **1291** No. **583**.
19. Reverse side may be used for comments.

Serious Considerations

Tighten on offensive foul

49-54

Careful, Consideration on methods of timing. Reduction activity favorable comment on given this.

Grade School Ball Size 28 1/2?

Consideration

QUESTIONNAIRE COMMITTEE

F. C. Allen - J. H. Crocker - H. D. Edgren
W. E. Meanwell - Oswald Tower - H. V. Porter, Chr.

Signed:.....(Coach.....) (Official.....) (Administrator.....) (Other.....)

Institution Represented: College..... High School..... Y. M. C. A..... Other.....

City..... State.....

SUMMARY 1939 BASKETBALL QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Is the rule which prohibits a substitution after a goal satisfactory?

	YES				NO	
	College	H.S.	Y.M.C.A.	College	H.S.	Y.M.C.A.
New England States and New York	1	98	31	--	14	8
Atlantic States (Delaware, Maryland, Pennsylvania, West Virginia)	2	228	1	0	42	0
Central States (Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Missouri, Ohio, Tennessee)	80	515	15	7	110	4
Northwest States (Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wisconsin)	17	112	2	9	13	0
Southern States (Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Texas)	63	69	--	13	19	--
Western States (Arizona, Cali- fornia, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, Wyoming)	111	166	8	32	49	--
Canada	<u>13</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>31</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>1</u>
Totals:	287	1211	88	66	251	13
GRAND TOTAL:				1586		330
(These are late votes from Dole)				<u>93</u>		<u>15</u>
				1679		345

2. Are length and number of time-outs and intermissions satisfactory?

	YES				NO	
	College	H.S.	Y.M.C.A.	College	H.S.	Y.M.C.A.
New England States	1	105	39	0	4	1
Atlantic States	2	261	1	0	9	0
Central States	85	582	19	1	20	0
Northwest States	22	128	2	5	2	0
Southern States	72	86	--	3	2	--
Western States	141	202	7	2	12	1
Canada	<u>17</u>	<u>27</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>9</u>
Totals:	340	1391	89	12	52	11
GRAND TOTAL:				1820		75
(These are late votes from Dole)				<u>101</u>		<u>6</u>
				1921		81

(From here on the summary from Mr. Dole is included in the college vote)

#2

3. The removal of the three-second limitation for player in the outer half of the circle without the ball has resulted in;

(a) A better game (b) A worse game (c) No noticeable difference

College	346	6	111
High School	1026	36	405
Y.M.C.A.	<u>73</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>26</u>
Totals:	1445	44	542

4. Have you had direct experience with a court having the end line four feet behind the backboard?

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
College	205	348
High School	422	979
Y.M.C.A.	<u>18</u>	<u>82</u>
Total:	645	1409

(a) Were there fewer out of bounds balls?

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
College	187	22
High School	404	45
Y.M.C.A.	<u>17</u>	<u>1</u>
Totals:	608	68

(b) Was the space often used for tries for goal?

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
College	87	118
High School	182	249
Y.M.C.A.	<u>12</u>	<u>6</u>
Total:	281	373

(c) Was there less crowding after rebounds?

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
College	157	50
High School	329	106
Y.M.C.A.	<u>11</u>	<u>7</u>
Total:	497	163

(d) Were visiting teams noticeably handicapped?

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
College	35	180
High School	91	343
Y.M.C.A.	<u>7</u>	<u>13</u>
Total:	133	536

(e) Do you recommend encouraging use of the four-foot space?

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
College	190	25
High School	381	69
Y.M.C.A.	<u>10</u>	<u>6</u>
Total:	581	100

5. Is the rule which prescribes the "sudden death" method in the first overtime in high school games satisfactory?

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
College	158	197
High School	606	756
Y.M.C.A.	<u>47</u>	<u>33</u>
Total:	811	986

6. The present average total score for High School play is 55 points and for College 70 points. This is

	<u>(a) About right</u>	<u>(b) Too low</u>	<u>(c) Too high</u>
College	281	67	107
High School	913	62	457
Y.M.C.A.	<u>64</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>28</u>
Total:	1258	134	592

7. (a) The interpretation of "traveling" rule is

	<u>(1) About right</u>	<u>(2) Too loose</u>	<u>(3) Too rigid</u>
College	344	45	58
High School	1060	124	216
Y.M.C.A.	<u>77</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>9</u>
Total:	1481	180	283

(b) Use of a zone defense is

	<u>(1) About right</u>	<u>(2) Too great</u>
College	329	91
High School	986	339
Y.M.C.A.	<u>80</u>	<u>9</u>
Total:	1395	439

(c) Officiating in my locality is

	<u>(1) About right</u>	<u>(2) Too loose</u>	<u>(3) Too strict</u>
College	256	136	28
High School	827	410	94
Y.M.C.A.	<u>53</u>	<u>37</u>	<u>5</u>
Total:	1136	583	127

8. The most desirable color: (a) for court lines is

	<u>Black</u>	<u>Red</u>	<u>White</u>	<u>Broken Black and White</u>
College	344	7	59	33
High School	1072	65	183	52
Y.M.C.A.	<u>69</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>0</u>
Total:	1485	73	261	85

(b) for fixtures which attach basket ring to backboard is

	<u>Black</u>	<u>White</u>
College	319	58
High School	1095	213
Y.M.C.A.	<u>81</u>	<u>9</u>
Total:	1495	280

(c) for ball is

	<u>Tan</u>	<u>White</u>
College	305	34
High School	1062	145
Y.M.C.A.	<u>79</u>	<u>5</u>
Total:	1446	184

9. Do you favor conference experimentation with:

(a) A smaller fan shaped backboard?

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
College	72	369
High School	368	1029
Y.M.C.A.	<u>21</u>	<u>74</u>
Totals:	461	1472

(b) Basket without a backboard?

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
College	29	410
High School	100	1264
Y.M.C.A.	<u>6</u>	<u>83</u>
Totals:	135	1757

(c) A basket ring 10 or 12 inches from the backboard?

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
College	49	397
High School	140	1230
Y.M.C.A.	<u>17</u>	<u>78</u>
Total:	206	1705

(d) A heavier basket ring?

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
College	94	343
High School	324	1070
Y.M.C.A.	<u>28</u>	<u>61</u>
Total:	446	1474

(e) A short metal chain basket net?

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
College	48	384
High School	271	1084
Y.M.C.A.	<u>29</u>	<u>58</u>
Total:	348	1526

10. Is "face guarding" causing enough difficulty to warrant further restriction?

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
College	34	418
High School	124	1308
Y.M.C.A.	<u>16</u>	<u>86</u>
Totals:	174	1812

11. Do you favor allowing the offended team to keep possession after: (a) a successful free throw following a deliberate personal foul?

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
College	159	298
High School	623	788
Y.M.C.A.	<u>53</u>	<u>45</u>
Total:	835	1131

(b) after any throw following a deliberate technical foul?

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
College	152	281
High School	539	833
Y.M.C.A.	<u>41</u>	<u>59</u>
Total:	732	1173

12. Do you favor a method of timing whereby the clock would be stopped each time the ball is dead (with proper shortening of periods)?

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
College	103	348
High School	354	1058
Y.M.C.A.	<u>29</u>	<u>69</u>
Totals:	486	1475

13. Do you favor a ball that bounces near the present:

	(a) Minimum 48"	(b) Maximum 55"	(c) Median 52"
College	123	28	240
High School	402	61	855
Y.M.C.A.	<u>22</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>53</u>
Total:	547	101	1148

14. Do you favor making it a violation when an unsuccessful free throw misses the ring even though it touches the backboard?

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
College	134	311
High School	493	938
Y.M.C.A.	<u>38</u>	<u>63</u>
Total:	665	1312

15. (Check this only if you are connected with College or Independent games)

(a) College and Independent games should be played in 10-minute quarters.

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
College	163	231
Y.M.C.A.	<u>55</u>	<u>22</u>
Totals:	218	253

(b) College conferences should be urged to experiment with baskets 12 feet above the floor.

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
College	77	326
Y.M.C.A.	<u>21</u>	<u>44</u>
Total:	98	370

16. (Check this only if you are connected with Junior or Senior High School games)

(a) Have you had actual experience with the 29" ball?

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
College	239	878
High School	9	17
Y.M.C.A.	<u>9</u>	<u>17</u>
Total:	248	895

(b) Do you favor use of the 29" ball for Junior High School?

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
College	492	415
High School	16	7
Y.M.C.A.	<u>16</u>	<u>7</u>
Total:	508	422

(c) Would you favor permitting optional use of a 29" ball for Senior High School play?

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
High School	219	846
Y.M.C.A.	<u>7</u>	<u>17</u>
Total:	226	863

17. Assuming that proper safeguards would be made against any sudden compulsory use of equipment whose use would involve considerable expense, do you favor permitting the optional use of:

(a) A backboard with several inches removed from the lower edge?

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
College	116	287
High School	503	757
Y.M.C.A.	<u>33</u>	<u>53</u>
Total:	652	1097

(b) A transparent backboard with small area behind basket painted white?

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
College	136	262
High School	440	808
Y.M.C.A.	<u>38</u>	<u>52</u>
Total:	614	1122

18. Deliberate pushing of a player in the act of throwing for goal should result in additional penalty for the unsportsmanlike phase of the foul?

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
College	261	159
High School	956	400
Y.M.C.A.	<u>74</u>	<u>24</u>
Total:	1291	583

(c) Would you favor permitting optional use of a 29" ball for Senior High School play?

Yes	No
219	848
7	14
<u>226</u>	<u>862</u>
Total:	

High School
Y.M.C.A.

IV. Assuming that proper safeguards would be made against any sudden compulsory use of equipment whose use would involve considerable expense, do you favor permitting the optional use of:

(a) A backboard with several inches removed from the lower edge?

Yes	No
116	287
203	787
33	58
<u>352</u>	<u>1097</u>
Total:	

College
High School
Y.M.C.A.

(b) A transparent backboard with small area behind basket painted white?

Yes	No
138	263
440	808
38	52
<u>616</u>	<u>1123</u>
Total:	

College
High School
Y.M.C.A.

18. Deliberate pushing of a player in the act of throwing for goal should result in additional penalty for the unsportsmanlike phase of the foul?

Yes	No
261	159
366	400
74	24
<u>1291</u>	<u>583</u>
Total:	

College
High School
Y.M.C.A.

State	Average Score	Average No. Fouls	Times Player Disqualified	No. Personal Fouls by Offensive Team	Times Ball Thrown from Out of Bounds	Out of Bounds at End	Jump Ball Situations	No. of Cases of Travelling	No. Violations of 3-Second Rule	Average Free Throws Awarded	% Free Throws Made	No. One-Hand Tries for Field Goal	% One-Hand Tries Successful	No. Two-Hand Tries for Field Goal	% Two-Hand Tries Successful	Total No. Tries for Field Goal	% Tries Successful	Times Ball Hit Backboard	Average No. Fumbles	Type of Ball Used in Tournament	
Alabama	54.5	16.6	.5	1.9	34.0	18.7	21.0	6.6	.25	20.0	40.8	35.5	-----	56.4	-----	91.9	-----	55.8	10.0	(Wintark)	
Colorado	53.0	18.2	.83	1.3	35.5	18.4	11.5	8.3	.3	25.0	45.5	44.5	22.1	49.5	21.8	94.0	43.9	27.6	8.7	(Last Bilt)	
Connecticut	69.0	22.2	.9	2.8	41.5	21.0	19.8	9.5	2.0	27.5	53.0	64.5	27.1	53.5	21.5	123.0	24.3	75.5	16.0	(Last Bilt)	
Idaho	53.0	18.0	1.4	2.0	37.2	18.5	20.0	5.3	.5	21.8	46.9	48.4	-----	22.0	-----	70.4	23.8	40.1	13.2	(Last Bilt)	
Illinois	56.9	20.8	1.3	2.4	38.5	20.0	21.7	7.3	.85	25.2	45.3	52.4	23.7	48.9	19.7	101.3	21.7	60.1	12.1	(Win.11 Last 5)	
Iowa	53.4	18.2	1.2	3.1	37.5	18.7	25.4	11.7	1.36	22.0	42.2	32.7	24.7	54.5	22.3	87.2	23.5	52.7	11.1	(Win.18 Last16)	
Massachusetts	53.8	22.7	.9	2.5	49.4	23.0	24.1	8.1	.2	31.6	44.3	43.8	22.1	54.1	18.8	97.9	20.4	-----	12.0		
Michigan	48.0	20.5	1.41	4.4	45.2	26.8	22.8	9.7	.17	23.8	39.1	47.5	23.0	47.0	20.8	94.5	21.9	56.8	11.3	(Last Bilt)	
Montana	73.3	24.6	1.3	3.3	77.0	33.3	47.0	11.3	1.0	29.0	57.0	72.1	28.0	23.6	26.0	100.7	27.0	73.3	10.0	(Wintark)	
New Mexico	55.8	23.2	1.7	4.7	22.2	13.3	14.6	8.4	.60	28.5	39.8	56.1	21.0	44.5	22.0	100.6	21.5	51.9	12.7	(Last Bilt)	
Ohio	61.6	24.6	1.7	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	29.3	47.5	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	
South Dakota	57.6	18.3	.7	.8	41.0	30.0	14.5	7.2	.5	24.6	49.0	44.0	24.0	53.5	21.0	102.5	22.5	59.2	-----	(Last Bilt)	
Tennessee	63.0	30.5	3.0	3.2	26.3	13.1	13.2	8.6	2.0	37.0	30.5	42.5	23.1	77.4	20.0	109.9	21.5	-----	12.2	(Wintark)	
Utah	62.1	24.2	1.9	.8	31.8	13.4	22.1	7.4	1.7	29.2	48.6	60.5	23.9	33.2	23.7	98.7	23.8	25.3	6.7		
Washington	55.9	20.9	.9	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	33.0	60.0	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	(Old style Wilson)
West Virginia	76.4	19.9	1.8	2.7	23.6	-----	17.2	11.7	.66	22.8	58.8	47.9	27.4	38.4	22.5	136.3	24.9	56.0	7.5	(Last Bilt)	
Wisconsin	46.6	18.9	1.1	5.8	35.0	18.4	23.5	10.0	1.3	23.3	41.7	40.7	24.7	40.8	18.2	91.5	21.4	45.5	10.1	(Win.21 Last15)	
Wyoming	64.0	25.5	1.6	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	15.0	46.5	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	
AVERAGE:	58.7	21.5	1.32	2.7	38.3	20.4	21.2	8.7	8.9	26.0	46.4	48.8	24.2	51.1	21.4	100.0	24.4	52.2	10.9		

DARTMOUTH COLLEGE ATHLETIC COUNCIL

HANOVER · NEW HAMPSHIRE

March 6, 1939

My dear Coach:

The officials committee earnestly wishes to contribute something worth while to basketball.

After talking about basketball officiating with coaches from all over the country, the committee on officials has decided it will be better to concentrate on one problem this year.

Through different parts of the country, but mostly in the eastern section, there are officials trying to put on an exhibition by shouting at the top of their lungs explaining the reason for the whistle, and no one can understand them. Even the players themselves can't understand and are mystified. This has gone far enough, and it is time for the rules committee to instruct officials that they should use signals to signify the infractions and not words.

Some signals are already in use, and if they meet with approval can be made universal.

We believe that the only way to silence these officials and make them realize that the game still belongs to the players is to have the rules committee put instructions to them in the Rule Book.

Will you kindly give careful thought to the committee's suggestion and be ready to discuss it at the meeting?

Very truly yours,

O. B. Cowles,
Officials Committee

April 25, 1939.

Mr. John Strang,
Cicero Station,
Chicago, Illinois.

Dear Mr. Strang:

I am leaving Friday for New York, and expect to stop over in Chicago Friday night, April 28. If you will come to the Morrison Hotel about 10 o'clock that night I will be glad to see you. I am leaving early the next morning to go on to New York.

Sincerely yours,

FCA:AH

Director of Physical Education,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

April 25, 1939.

Mr. Condon, Clerk,
Morrison Hotel,
Chicago, Illinois.

Dear Mr. Condon:

I would like to have a reservation for Friday night,
April 28. A nice \$3.00 room will be quite satisfactory. I
will leave early the next morning to go on to New York.

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

FCA:AH

AGENDA FOR NATIONAL BASKETBALL COMMITTEE
MEETING - MAY 1st and 2nd
at McAlpin Hotel, Broadway at 34th St., New York

NOTE TO MEMBERS NOT FAMILIAR WITH NEW YORK: The McAlpin is one block north from the downtown Pennsylvania station. It may be reached by walking through the pedestrian tunnel from the station. The tunnel exit is diagonally across the street from the hotel. From the New York Central Station the hotel is approximately ten blocks south and west.

MONDAY, MAY 1st

9:00 A.M. Informal Conferences of committees including Questionnaire, Research and Game Administration.

10:00 A.M. Chairman H. H. Salmon, Presiding
Minutes and Report of Secretary.
Seating of New Members.

Report of National Basketball Coaches Association.
Report from other national or sectional organizations.
Reports of Questionnaire, Research and other standing committees.

12:30 P.M. Luncheon at McAlpin

1:30 P.M. H. H. Salmon, Presiding
Consideration of:

Topics from questionnaire and Research Committee reports.
Recommendations made during first session.
Mimeographed suggestions from questionnaires and correspondence of official interpreter and secretary.
Various sections of the rules which may need clarification.

NOTE: Whether there will be a night session will depend on progress made during the day. It is probable that this time will be needed for informal small group meetings and preparation of material to be presented for final action on Tuesday.

TUESDAY, MAY 2nd

9:00 A.M. H. H. Salmon, Presiding
Final action on problems held over from the preceding day.

Business meeting including:

Report of Treasurer.
Report of Nominating Committee and election of officers.
Action on any other business matters which may be brought before the group.

NOTE: It should be possible to finish the meeting by 2:00 P.M. However, this will depend somewhat on developments during the earlier session.