

BASKETBALL RULES CHANGES

Enacted at Chicago, Illinois, April 5-6, 1938

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Member, Rules Committee

This is only a preliminary synopsis of the most significant revisions and changes in the basketball rules for 1938-1939.

No attempt has been made to properly word any of the revisions or changes. For the Official context consult your rule book when issued.

1. The Rules Committee voted to legalize a court marking which will place the end lines four feet behind the plane of the backboard for those who have the space and inclination to use such markings. The four-foot space is not to be procured by moving the backboards in, unless the floor is now larger than minimum dimension.
2. The tolerance between the minimum and maximum size of the ball has been reduced from $\frac{3}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ of an inch. It was voted to make the size specifications for basketballs as follows: Minimum circumference 29 inches for participants below senior high school age and 29 1/2 inches for others; maximum circumference 30 inches.
3. No substitution will be permitted during the interval which follows a score unless there is a charged time out or a time out for an injury. This is intended to correct an annoying practice of last season.
4. It was voted that in case the ball is in the air on a try for goal when the gun sounds to end a period, subsequent touching of the ball by a teammate of the thrower will constitute the end of the play. However, such touching or deflecting by a defensive player will not nullify a goal which may be scored following the touching.
5. By mutual agreement between college teams or by conference or league ruling any college game may be played in quarters. In such cases the administration will be the same as that which is now prescribed for high school games.
6. In games between contestants below college age a referee's time-out of two minutes may be provided in the second and fourth quarter. This time-out will be taken the first time the ball is dead after four minutes of the quarter have expired and provided there has been no charged time-out to either team during the first four minutes of the quarter.
7. It was ruled that the intermissions between quarters and prior to any overtime period shall be two minutes. High School teams will retain the five minute rest period before an overtime period.
8. It was voted to authorize the editorial committee to redraft Rule 8, Section 8, dealing with the center line, and, if possible, to base it on the assumption that the division line is always in a team's own back court. The new interpretation will be more in harmony with the interpretation during the 1936-1937 season.
9. It was decided to use the "sudden death" method of ending tie games for those below college age in the first overtime period, this overtime to be three minutes in case neither team scores two points during that time. If either team is one point in the lead at the end of the three minute period, that ~~such~~ team shall be declared the winner. In case of a tie at the end of the first overtime the same rules will apply to subsequent overtime periods.