

Basketball and How to Play It

By Observer

FORWARDS (Cont'd)

Backboard Shot

There is another type of shot that is very much in vogue among experienced basketballers, though its effectiveness depends to a large extent upon the ability of the team to work the ball under the basket. I refer to the glancing shot off the backboard which is a sure point-getter if the forward has mastered the technique of giving the ball sufficient "English."

The shot is made by giving the ball a slight turn of the wrist as it leaves the hand, thus causing it to rotate against the backboard and rebound into the hoop. The distance between the player and the basket should be decreased wherever possible by a double as this shot is essentially an under-the-basket shot.

It is a shot that permits of many variations. It can be made either with one hand alone or with both hands. I have seen many forwards who shoot baskets with one hand while standing off the guard with the other. It can also be effectively used by bringing the ball over the right shoulder with both hands and playing a direct bank without English.

For Short Shots

Short shots made directly in front of or from the left side of the basket are made by jumping with arms extended, the ball being lifted to the finger tips and just over the rim of the basket. The start of the throw is naturally made with two hands but the left hand is usually withdrawn before the completion of the throw.

When coming in under the basket from the left the player may receive a pass too close to the basket. At such times an additional step, with a sharp half turn to the left, will bring him into a position facing the basket on the other side, thus giving

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him an opening for a backboard shot. The ball is then shot upward from the waist with a sharp wrist and forearm movement. A similar shot is used when coming in from the right.

It is well to remember in this connection that all backboards are not constructed of the same material and that the rebound of the ball will vary with the hardness of the material used. Some are of soft wood, others are hard and still others are of plate glass. A few test shots with the ordinary amount of spin will soon acquaint you with the amount of rebound to be expected from a strange backboard. A slight twist of the ball will not affect its course if it is evenly exerted but a ball sent spinning through the air is very apt to rebound sharply at different angles when striking the backboard.

Long Shots Bad

Long shots have won many games but they should not be resorted to unless a team is unable to penetrate the opposing defense or unless the end of playing time is very near. They are usually forced shots, especially when made by young players who have not the strength to throw a great distance. The bad habits which are likely to develop from long shooting are banging the backboard and an uneven exertion of strength in the arms when throwing the ball. Players should at all times guard against the over-use of the right or left arm, as there must be an even push exerted if the flight of the ball is to be straight and

true. Following up shots is an important offensive act as well as a defensive one. One should so time and direct one's action during the flight of the ball so as to be in an advantageous position to secure the rebound or to guard an opponent who has secured the ball. Short steps and an attitude of alertness will help to make this action possible.

Too quick a start will bring the player under the basket before the ball has descended. The rebound must be jumped for and the ball secured at the height of the jump and then tapped, pushed or shot before the floor is touched. One's position in securing the ball will determine which course must be adopted.

Sport Chat

The announcement that the Basketball season is to open on Friday night is received with much pleasure in sporting circles. Players and fans alike have had little to keep them occupied for the past few weeks and the prospects of a good fast basketball season looks good to them. While the Exhibition hall may have its little faults as far as the staging of winter games is concerned, there will no doubt be good turnouts till the weather turns very cold, at least. The efforts of those who have the management of the games in hand is deserving of every support and fans can best give that support by attending the games

and showing their enthusiasm. The players may be counted upon to do their share.

In the Senior League of the Basketball Association there are already three strong quintettes in the running. They should provide a number of real interesting hoop games during the coming season. Four teams are entered in the Intermediate League. The two last mentioned leagues should produce a high brand of basketball and little can be foretold of the possible outcome of their encounters.

The necessary registration forms have now been forwarded by the Association to the various basketball team captains and the stage is all set for the grand opening on Friday night. Forty-eight hours registration of players prior to the game is all that is required by the rules of the Association this year.

No Senior players will be allowed to play on an Intermediate team according to the rules and regulations of this year's basketball committee. However, players of the same club may be advanced on probation from Intermediate to Senior.

The defeat of the Vancouver Millionaire hockey team on Monday night on their home ice in the opening game of the Pacific Coast Hockey Association series by the Seattle Metropolitan, certainly upset the dope of the hockey fans. According to reports the Puget Sound sextette won the game on their merits and not by a mere fluke as the score was eight goals to two.

The six-man game played in the opening game was something new for the coast fans in the regular series. It makes the game much faster than the old style and was put into force in view of the same style being played in the east. Without a full account of the game at hand it looks as if the Vancouver team sorely missed the service of Hughie Lehman, their crack goalie whom they are pleased to call "Old Eagle-Eye." A substitute man was brought from the prairies

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gives which will be sometime early in December. Evidently the Seattle sharpshooters proved too much for him. However, the series is only started and the results may be vastly different in the end.

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To Jack Smith, late of Port Clements, Graham Island, British Columbia.

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THEREFORE TAKE NOTICE that for the purpose aforesaid you are, within two months from the date of this advertisement to attend in person, or by your solicitor, at the Victoria Registry of our said Court, and there enter an appearance in a book provided for that purpose.

R. W. R. STUBBS, 303 Pemberton Building, Victoria, B.C., Solicitor for the Petitioner.

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