

# Women's Educational Basketball in Central Canada Revisited

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This paper examines the development of girls' and women's basketball in educational institutions in Central Canada from a control perspective. The first stage, 1900 to 1940, demonstrates the north-south force, the influence of American women physical educators who set standards, wrote the rules and trained officials; followed by the period from 1940–1957 when the Women's Athletic Committee of the Canadian Association of Health, Physical Education and Recreation was organized and basketball affiliations were initiated as the flagship activity; from 1957 to 1970, the golden years of girls' and women's basketball in Central Canada.

Influences such as the American physical educators, the philosophical issue of control of girls' sport by women, the town/gown phenomena, the east/west chasm, determined Canadian women physical educators, and the impact of rule changes, are examined as the rise and fall of women's and girls' basketball within the educational system is explored from 1900 to 1970.

Girls' rules disappeared from the Canadian scene due to a rule change in 1970 but as was predicted the popularity of the game for players did not decline although the control by coaches and officials has changed as was demonstrated with 1980 statistics.