



THE COURTS YOUTH BASKETBALL RULES

*Rule additions and changes are in bold print

1. All league games will be governed by the official basketball rules as adopted by the National Federation of State High School Associations with the exception of the special league rules adopted by The Courts.
2. A team must be fully registered with The Courts.
 - **Waiver/Roster forms must be on file prior to first game being played.** Team waivers may be downloaded on our website or picked up in our office. These must be filled out and turned in to:
 - the manager on duty
 - the waiver file located inside our office door
 - e-mailed to info@thecourtsezone.com
3. Players must play in the grade division they are currently enrolled in school or play in a higher division. During Summer Sessions, the grade division currently enrolled in is considered to be the grade you will be going into the following Fall. No player can play down to a lower grade division. The Courts reserves the right to amend this rule in special circumstances.
4. Teams that register for The Courts "School Division" must have a team that consists of players all from one school district or feeder program. If requested, teams must be able to prove the school attending for these players.
5. Players may play on two teams in the same division.
 - The player must be listed on the official team roster for each team prior to the first games being played. If a player is not listed on the official waiver/roster and participates in a game, the team will forfeit that game.
 - If a player is on multiple rosters, he/she may only play for one team during any scheduled game time. (Example: A player may not start a game for one team, and then during that game, go play for their other team.)
 - Teams that share players may not request to not play each other. It is up to the player to determine which team he/she competes for.
 - Different game times will not be guaranteed for teams that share players. The Courts will attempt to schedule accordingly, but it may be logistically impossible to do so.
 - If same game times occur, it is up to the player to determine which team he/she competes for. It is the responsibility of the teams to have enough players to field their teams if they play at the same time.
6. A player may be added to the roster during the league.
 - The player may not play for any other team competing in that division. Rule 5 will not be adhered to when a player is added during the league.
 - An individual waiver must be filed prior to competition.
7. Coaches are required to provide player's jersey number and last name to scorekeeper prior to each game, either by filling in the scoresheet or giving a hard copy of their roster to the scorekeeper.

- 8. The Courts reserves the right to combine different divisions or grades if needed. If different divisions or grades are combined into one division, the requirements in Rule 5 are still in effect.**
9. Teams must be able to field a team of at least four players. If a team fails to have four players on the court at game time, they will be given ten minutes before a forfeit is called. At any time during a game when a team drops below four players due to injury or disqualifications, the game is forfeited.
10. Teams that field a team with less than four players may fill their squad with other players in order to play the game, but the game will be ruled a forfeit.
11. All players must at least have numbers on the back of their jerseys. The numbers may be between 0 and 99.
12. There must be an adult present on the bench at all times. There will be only two coaches allowed on the bench during the game. Only one coach, designated as the "head coach", will be allowed to stand during the game and address the officials. If coaches argue judgment calls, this may result in a technical foul. Coaches must stay within the regulation 14' coach's box located in front of their bench.
13. Acts of disrespect or intimidation, while not directed specifically toward opposing players, coaches or officials, are still considered unsportsmanlike and could result in a technical foul or an ejection. The Courts encourages its coaches to act professionally at all times.
14. K-1 teams may have one coach on the floor to help instruct. The coach must stand on the opposite side of the floor from the benches, and will not be allowed to go past the "volleyball serving line" and will not be allowed to go past the "volleyball side line". Coaches should follow these parameters; being outside of these areas can cause a distraction to other teams and players.
15. Prior to each league starting, the schedules will be posted on The Courts website at www.thecourtsezone.com under the "Schedules/Scoreboard" link. Notification of these schedules being posted will be e-mailed to the team contacts. It is the responsibility of the teams to locate their schedule and appear for their scheduled games.
16. If a team cancels without approval from The Courts, it will be recorded as a loss and a win for the team that they were scheduled to play. Every attempt will be made to fill the game at that time. If a team forfeits two games without notifying The Courts, they will be dropped from the league.
17. All games will consist of two eighteen-minute halves. The clock will run continuously and stop only during time-outs and the last two minutes of the game on dead balls and whistles.
 - If a twenty-point lead occurs, the clock will run continuously during the last two minutes.
 - The clock will not stop in Kindergarten and 1st grade games.
18. In case of overtime, the first overtime period will consist of two minutes. The second overtime period will be a sudden death format. The first team that scores will be the winner.
 - There will be no overtime in Kindergarten and 1st grade games. Both teams involved will be credited with a win.
19. There will be two minutes between halves and a minimum of four minutes between games. The Courts reserves the right to alter times if games should run late with adequate warm-up time being allowed. The only time a game will start early is if both coaches agree.
20. Teams will be allowed three time-outs per game to be used at any time. These timeouts will be for forty seconds. Teams will be issued one additional time-out for the overtime period. Previous time outs remaining will carry over to overtime periods.

- In the event that a team is leading by 20 or more points, The Courts strongly emphasizes that the team leading not use remaining time outs unless it is for substitution purposes or in cases of emergency.

21. Basketball Sizes:

- **All Kindergarten and 1st Grade games will use a 27.5" (junior) size basketball**
- All grades 3rd thru 6th will use a 28.5" (women's) size basketball.
- Boys leagues, grades 7th and above will use a 29.5" (men's) size basketball.

22. Goal Height:

- **Kindergarten and 1st grade leagues** will shoot on 8' goals.
- 2nd grade will shoot on 9' goals.
- 3rd grade and up will shoot on regulation 10' goals.

23. Free throw distance:

- **Kindergarten, 1st & 2nd grades** will shoot from the "volleyball line" which is a distance of 8'. The shooter may land on the line but not completely past the line.
 - o For lane purposes, the player closest to the basket may line up below the low block.
- 3rd grade will shoot from the 12' line. The shooter may land on the line but not completely past the line.
- 4th grade and up will shoot from the regular free throw line.
 - o 4th grade non-competitive and semi-competitive will be allowed to land on the line but not completely in front of the free throw line.
 - o 4th grade competitive and up will not be allowed to have contact with the free throw line at anytime while shooting.

24. Pressing:

- **Kindergarten and 1st grade** may not go past the top of the key extended. Offensive teams may not attempt to stall or delay to circumvent this rule. It is at the referee's discretion if this is happening, and the ball may be awarded to the defensive team.
- 2nd grade can pick up at ½ court.
- 3rd grade can pick up at ½ court and press full court in the last two minutes of the game only.
- 4th grade and up can pick up full court.

25. Lane Violations:

- 2nd grade and under will have no three-second-lane violation.
- 3rd grade will use a five-second-lane violation.
- 4th grade and up will use the three-second-lane violation.

26. Pressing if a twenty-point lead occurs:

- 2nd and 3rd grade league teams must drop back to the top of the key extended.
- 4th grade and above league teams must drop back to half court.
- For competitive leagues only: in the 5th grade and above, if a twenty point lead should occur teams are not required to drop back to half court.
 - o If the league is a combined league consisting of competitive and semi-competitive or non-competitive teams, the team leading is still required to fall back to drop back to half court.

27. Showing of the score if a twenty-point lead occurs:

- If the difference in the score is greater than 20 points, the scoreboard shall not show more than a twenty point difference

- For competitive leagues only: in the 5th grade and above, if a twenty point lead should occur the score will be shown as normal
 - o If the league is a combined league consisting of competitive and semi-competitive or non-competitive teams, the score shall not show more than a 20 point difference.
28. A technical foul policy and crowd warning policy will be enforced for coaches, players, and spectators. Please view these policies at our website: www.thecourtsezone.com.
 29. If, in the opinion of The Courts officials, unsportsmanlike behavior from the coaches, players, parents, or fans has put the game out of control, the offending team will forfeit the game. This could result in suspension from the league.
 30. All protests must be typed and filed at The Courts within twenty-four hours of the game. There will be a \$100.00 fee for all protests filed. Money will not be refunded if the protest is upheld. The official score sheet will be final.
 31. In case of inclement weather, call 831-3333 ext. 7 to verify if games will be played or canceled. You may also go to our website and view the scrolling announcement board. Final determination of games being canceled will be made by 3:00 pm or earlier on the day of the game.
 32. The Courts reserves the right to modify rules and regulations as it deems appropriate and that all rules and regulations listed as a guide.