

December 21, 2009

Half-Pint League Rules

4-6 years old

****All Youth Basketball Leagues will be governed by the National High School League Rulebook with the addition of the following local league rules.****

1. We will begin the **first and second quarters** with a free throw from each of the five (5) starters on each team. This will be administered by the official and one (1) coach. The official and coach will line up the players at their respective free throw line and allow each player to shoot a free throw. The game will begin, following the free throws, with the visiting team taking the ball out at half court. Alternating possessions will be used from that point.
2. Each quarter will be eight (8) minutes in length, with a running clock. The clock will only stop for time-outs and injuries. There will be a two (2) minute break between quarters and a five (5) minute half-time period.
3. Each team will be allowed four (4) timeouts per game.
4. All players must play at least two (2) full quarters per game. Substitutions will be allowed in the second half once the required playing time has been met for each player. Substitutes may not enter the game until the game official has granted them permission. Coaches are asked to please monitor their players so they will not run on and off the court without permission from the official.
5. One coach will be allowed on the floor to TEACH his/her players. The coach may remain on the court between the “3 point-lines” only. The coach is not allowed to interrupt the flow of the game or the officiating of the game.
6. No full court or half court press is allowed in this league. The coach on the floor must encourage his/her players to get back on defense and remain inside the “3 point line” while on defense.
7. Teams may play “Man” or “Zone” defenses. Double-teaming is NOT ALLOWED.
8. Players are encouraged to dribble the ball four (4) times down the length of the court. Traveling will not be strictly enforced. If a child is running the length of the court without dribbling the ball, the official will call traveling, which results in a turnover.
9. No game scores or league standings will be kept in this league.
10. There will be a maximum of five (5) players on the court at one time. In the event that one team does not have five players, the opposing team will adjust accordingly. If a team has less than three (3) players, that team will forfeit the game.

9. An 8ft. goal will be used in this league.
10. We will use the 27.5 size ball.
11. Participation medals will be given to each player.
12. Players **must** wear Department issued jerseys and shorts during the games. If a player has to wear replacement shorts, the shorts may not have pockets or zippers.
13. Coaches are also required to wear their Department issued shirt during games. If they fail to do so the following penalties will be enforced:
 - A) **First Offense:** A warning will be issued.
 - B) **Second Offense:** Technical foul (two free throws).
 - C) **Third Offense:** The coach will be suspended for that game and his/her assistant coach will coach the team. If there is no assistant coach, a staff member will coach the team.
14. Players will not be allowed to wear any jewelry during games. This includes earrings, bracelets, necklaces, and hair beads.
15. This division will not have a post-season tournament.