

# Tournament Rules

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## Rules of Play

1. Normal high school rules with stop clock on all dead balls.
2. There will be two 16-minute halves for all divisions.
3. 3 timeouts total per game—2 full timeouts and 1 thirty-second timeout.
4. One-minute halftime.
5. Guaranteed 3-minute warm-up between games.
6. Overtime is 2 minutes—one 30-second timeout only in first overtime with no carryovers. Each extra overtime is 1 minute with no timeout.
7. A player fouls out on his 5th personal foul.
8. A team reaches 1-and-1 bonus on the 10th team foul of each half. There is no 2-shot bonus.
9. Team listed on left and top of bracket is home and wears light color. Bring both colors to game in case a team does not have extra uniforms.
10. Two technicals result in automatic ejection from the game.
11. There is no dunking allowed during pre-game or halftime warm-ups.
12. 9U, 10U, 11U & 12U boys' teams and all girls teams will use 28.5" ball. All others use regular size ball.
13. Seeding from each pool will be determined by win-loss record in pool play. In case of ties, head-to-head competition determines seed. If 3 teams are tied, a point system comes into effect to determine the 1, 2, and 3 seeds of the pool. There is a maximum of +15 for a win in pool and -15 for a loss in pool. All games in pool are included in figuring point system. In case the 3 teams are still tied, the least total points allowed in pool play will determine the higher seed. In case there is still a tie, a coin toss will determine seeding. In case of disputes, the Tournament Director's decision is final.
14. **At the end of pool play, check brackets at your gym, on the website, or at Headquarters for seeding as you might play within a few hours. In case of changes, the brackets at Headquarters are final and official. Please check with the gym you are playing in to verify any bracket times and locations. You are responsible for knowing where and when your team plays. You can always ask the gym supervisor to check for you at the gym where you finish pool play. You can always come to Headquarters after your pool games or look on the website to verify where your bracket games are starting. If you do not arrive at your scheduled bracket game on time, it might be a forfeit.**
15. During the Championship Round only (not during pool play), if a team is ahead by 20 or more points with one minute to go, the clock will not stop during that last minute, even on free throws or even if the point difference goes under 20 points in that last minute.

### Age/Grade/Division Rules

**For all teams – bring proof of age & grade for all of your players with you to the tournament. This is important.**

1. A player can participate in a maximum of two age/grade divisions and a maximum of two teams per tournament, as long as they meet the age/grade requirements for both divisions. They cannot play on two teams in the same age/grade division. If a team loses, a player cannot switch to another team still in competition.
2. For all divisions, all players participating in bracket play must have participated in at least one of the team's pool games.
3. **Age/Grade Qualifications by Division:** Ages are based on the grade players are in during the 2020-2021 school year. Age determining date is 9/1/2021 (September 1, 2021).
  - **9U/3rd Grade:** Players in the 3rd grade can be 9 or 10 years old, but cannot turn 11 before 9/1/2021. Players in the 4th grade who want to play down into the 3rd grade division cannot turn 10 before 9/1/2021.
  - **10U/4th Grade:** Players in the 4th grade can be 10 or 11 years old, but cannot turn 12 before 9/1/2021. Players in the 5th grade who want to play down into the 4th grade divisions cannot turn 11 before 9/1/2021.
  - **11U/5th Grade:** Players in the 5th grade can be 11 or 12 years old, but cannot turn 13 before 9/1/2021. Players in the 6th grade who want to play down into the 5th grade division cannot turn 12 before 9/1/2021.
  - **12U/6th Division:** Players in the 6th grade can be 12 or 13 years old, but cannot turn 14 before 9/1/2021. Players in the 7th grade who want to play down into the 6th grade division cannot turn 13 before 9/1/2021.
  - **13U/7th Grade:** Players in the 7th grade can be 13 or 14 years old, but cannot turn 15 before 9/1/2021. Players in the 8th grade who want to play down into the 7th grade division cannot turn 14 before 9/1/2021.
  - **14U/8th Grade:** Players in the 8th grade can be 14 or 15 years old, but cannot turn 16 before 9/1/2021. Players in the 9th grade who want to play down into the 8th grade division cannot turn 15 before 9/1/2021.
  - **15U/9th Grade:** Players in the 9th grade can be 15 or 16 years old, but cannot turn 17 before 9/1/2021. Players in the 10th grade who want to play down into the 9th grade division cannot turn 16 before 9/1/2021.
  - **16U/10th Grade:** Players in the 10th grade can be 16 or 17 years old, but cannot turn 18 before 9/1/2021. Players in the 11th grade who want to play down into the 10th grade division cannot turn 17 before 9/1/2021.
  - **17U / Varsity:** The boys' 17U & girls' Varsity divisions are actually "open divisions," where unsigned seniors with remaining high school eligibility can play. However, players cannot turn 20 before 9/1/2021. Unsigned seniors can play if they have not committed in writing to play for a college at any level. Unsigned prep school players are also eligible to play in our tournaments. If a player has signed a letter of intent and you think they will not qualify because of grades, they still cannot play. The tournament management has the right to exclude any senior from playing. No player who has attended junior college or college may play in this event.

### Penalties

If a player is found to be in violation of the rules above after an event has started, the situation will be referred to the Tournament Director for an official ruling on the penalty to be assessed - up to and including possible expulsion from the tournament. However:

- If any team or player violates any of the above rules, those games where the rules were violated will be deemed as a 15-0 loss. If a game has already taken place in bracket play and the above rules are broken, that team will be eliminated.
- Any player who is associated with the breaking of the above rules will have to sit for at least one game. If a player is found to be over age, they cannot play in that age group. If they have been found to play illegally on two teams and are the correct age, they must sit at least one game and then play only on one team for the remainder of the tournament.
- If the tournament has progressed and a team forfeits per the breaking of a rule, the tournament director will decide the progression of another team advancing.
- For ejection for fighting there is no alternative to being removed from the tournament.

***The Tournament Director will have the final say regarding any disputes.***

***This tournament is for the kids—let's always keep that in mind.***

## **Code of Conduct**

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- There will be no cursing, unsportsmanlike conduct, foul language, physical violence, or berating of fans, players, or officials. These acts will not be tolerated. The game is for the kids. Maintain a positive atmosphere—win or lose. Anyone breaking this rule faces a technical foul for their team and possible ejection and suspension from the tournament.
- Casual Profanity – Casual profanity pertains to expletives and verbal unsportsmanlike language not necessarily directed at officials or opposing players but is uttered by a player out of frustration. This type of behavior may be penalized by a technical foul against the offending player.
- Foul language will not be tolerated by players, coaches, parents/guardians, and/or spectators. An automatic technical foul will be assessed if a player or coach uses foul language. A second violation in a game will result in ejection and a possible one or more game suspension. Any spectator or parent using foul language will be issued a warning and possible ejection from the game and/or tournament.
- Any coach, player, or spectator ejected for fighting will be suspended from participating in or watching the remainder of the tournament.
- No smoking or alcoholic beverages are permitted at any site.
- No bouncing of balls in the facility hallways is permitted.
- Anyone defacing or damaging the property of the facility whether before, during or after the game will be automatically suspended from the tournament and held liable for all costs.
- If anyone believes the rules are being violated by any player, coach, parent, or spectator they may contact the gym supervisor. The supervisor will investigate all complaints received and will take appropriate action, which could include suspension or expulsion from the tournament.
- Please keep all young children from running through the schools or facilities.
- Please keep all cheering in a positive manner and show good sportsmanship.