**Basketball Playing Rules**

**Game Length:**

1. All age groups will play 2 twelve (12) minute half’s. Halftime is 3 minutes.
2. Overtime periods will be 2 minutes in length and there will only be one overtime.
3. Each team will have 2 time-outs per half and they do not carry over.
4. In the event of an overtime, each team will have a total of 1 time-out for the overtime period.

**Backcourt Defense:**

1. In all age groups if there is a **20 point** lead in a game, the team with the lead will not be allow to play defense in the backcourt.
2. 9-10 year old boys and girls: Defense in the back court will only be allowed the last **two minutes** of the game and any overtime periods.
3. 11-12 year old: Defense in the backcourt will only be allowed in **the second half** of the game

 and any overtime periods.

1. U12 Girls: Backcourt defense can be played on any **non-inbounding** play throughout the game and in the last **2 minutes of the game and any overtimes**.
2. 13-17 year old: Defense in the backcourt can be played the entire game.

\*\*\*Penalty for Backcourt Defense Violations: First violation shall result in a warning. A one shot technical foul will be called each subsequent violation. The technical foul will be awarded to the bench and not the player.

**Equipment:**

1. 9-10 year old Boys: A 28.5 inch ball will be used.
2. 11-17 year old Boys: A regulation or 29.5 inch ball will be used.
3. All Girls teams will use a 28.5 inch ball.

**Free Throw Line:**

1. 9-10 year old: Players will shoot from the 12 foot line and the low block will be occupied by the opposing team when lined up.
2. 11-17 year old: Players will shoot from the regulation 15 foot line and the low block will remain vacant when lined up.

**Playing Time:**

1. **9-12 year old**: The game clock will be stopped every 3 minutes for mandatory substitutions for the first 18 minutes of the game. All players on the bench must enter the game during the manditory substitution time. There is only “free” substituions the last 6 minutes of the game.
2. **13-17 year old**: The game clock will be stopped every 3 minutes of the first half for manditory substitutions. Regulation basketball will be played in the second half. It is recommended that coaches still play all players in the second half.
3. During the manditory substitution time, players may be substituted for IF they have 3 fouls in the first half, 4 fouls in the second half, or for injury.
4. All players on the team must sit at least 3 minutes if a team has less than 10 players. It is preferred that the players playing the most minutes are rotated.

**Unsportsmanlike Conduct:**

1. Unsportsmanlike conduct, profane language or tobacco products in the facility shall not be tolerated. Penalty is a technical foul. Youth offender must sit on the bench for 2 minutes. On the second technical foul, the coach/player will be ejected from the game. An ejection will come with at least a one game suspension. In the event of an ejection, coaches must leave the gym and players may stay if they behave. If a player chooses to continue to misbehave, he or she will be asked to leave the gym provided that they have a gardian there to take them home.
2. Parents or players caught exemplifying any unsportsmanlike conduct to the referees, other players, coaches, or other fans will be asked to leave the gym.

Special Rules:

1. Only the coaches can be on the sidelines with the players. (The only exception is if a coach’s kid is there with his/her mom or dad.) Only one coach can stand at a time.
2. No outside basketballs are allowed in the gym during games.
3. Home team sits on the left side of the scorers table, facing the stage.
4. If a team has a 20 point lead, a running clock will be used, only stopping for free throws and time outs and manditory substitutions. The clock will return to a regulation clock once the lead is 15 points or below.