

City of Edinburg Parks & Recreation Department
YOUTH BASKETBALL LEAGUE
OFFICIAL RULES & REGULATIONS

VOLUNTEERS:

1. **MANDATORY - ALL COACHES** must follow the City of Edinburg Volunteer guidelines. As per City of Edinburg volunteer policy, **ALL NEW COACHES** will be required to complete a volunteer application.

ALL VOLUNTEER COACHES will be subject to a criminal background check and police record check. If cleared then you can coach. If any red flags appear, you will not be able to coach.

SNACKS:

No outside food or drinks will be allowed into the Edinburg Parks & Recreation. After the game, team snacks need to be distributed outside the facility. Team snacks are not required and are on a volunteer basis.

NOISE MAKERS:

No artificial noise makers of any kind are not allowed in the gym during games and practices. Some examples are air horns, whistles, clappers, rattlers, etc.

PLAYER ELIGIBILITY:

1. The league will consist of four (5) boys' basketball divisions and four (4) girls basketball divisions: Pre-K 4; Kinder-1st; 2nd & 3rd; 4th & 5th; and 6th Grade. Grade will be determined as of September 1 of current school year. Boys and Girls will compete in separate leagues. **Player's ages/grade will be determined by September 1 of current year. The 6th grade league will only be for 11-12 years old that are in sixth grade only. NO seventh graders or 13 years old will be allowed to play in the league.**
2. All participants must be registered under the City of Edinburg Parks & Recreation Department Youth Basketball Program. Registration fees must be paid and parental authorization forms must be signed by parent or legal guardian.
3. All players will be assigned to their perspective grade category by the City of Edinburg Parks & Recreation Department either by last year's team, school or draft. All participants will be placed according to their grade.
4. Only the child (ren) of the head coach, assistant coach and sponsor will be placed together. If the participant(s) played last year with the coach and/or team, then the player(s) will be placed with the same coach and/or team, or school. Only the Pre-k 4 & Kinder – 1st will be allowed to come in as teams. Participants will be placed according to schools and last year's teams.
5. Participants can **ONLY** play in one age division. All participants have to play in their respective age division.

PROTEST:

1. **An Eligibility Protest must be presented to the Edinburg Recreation Department in writing no later than twenty-four (24) hours after the completion of the league game in question or forty-eight (48) hours on weekend games.** Only the team manager and assistant manager are authorized to request and file a eligibility protest and the game officials and score keepers need to be informed of the protest. The Edinburg Recreation Department will investigate and rule on the protest at its discretion. **A \$50. Non-Refundable protest fee must be accompanied with the protest form.**
2. **Rule Protest on a rule violation must be submitted in writing and presented to the Edinburg Recreation Department no later than twenty-four (24) hours after the completion of the game in question or forty-eight (48) hours on weekend games.** Only the team manager and assistant manager are authorized to file a rule protest and the game officials and score keepers must be informed of the protest and the rule in question at the time of the infraction and before the game is over. **A \$50. Non-Refundable protest fee must be accompanied with the protest form.**

COACHES/PLAYERS/SPECTATORS:

1. Coaches assigned to a team are responsible to educate the participants on the basic skills inherent to basketball. Emphasis is not placed on winning, but on participation, team work, sportsmanship, and providing team players with a positive and fun recreational experience; while, providing team safety, team member discipline, and good sportsmanship before, during, and after games and practices.
2. Coaches are responsible for assigning practice sessions. Court space reservations must be made by coaches only and a two (2) day notice is required. Please contact the City of Edinburg Parks & Recreation Staff for court reservations.
3. Coaches are responsible for securing other gym court space for practices as needed.

4. Coaches are responsible for ensuring that every player plays a minimum of twelve (12) minutes per game. Participants are to be afforded the opportunity to learn through actual league participation.
5. The City of Edinburg Parks & Recreation Staff will be enforcing the rules and regulations pertinent to the Youth Basketball League.
6. All official's decisions are final. Coaches are responsible for implementing the official rules and regulations on team members and instilling in them fair play and sportsmanship at all times.
7. Coaches are responsible for notifying the City of Edinburg Parks & Recreation Department if a player drops out of the team. Only ten (10) players per team roster unless school requests an increase and if the City of Edinburg Parks & Recreation Department does the increase.
8. Coaches are urged to arrive 15 to 30 minutes before a scheduled game to offer proper instructions and warm-up time to the participants.
9. Coaches are responsible for any equipment issued to the team. Coaches are also responsible for returning all equipment at the end of the season.
10. All Participants must wear the City of Edinburg Parks & Recreation Basketball League Jersey. All participants must properly tuck in their uniform top before and during each game to promote uniformity. Should a participant fail to tuck in the team uniform, a technical foul may be assessed to the player or players. **If league jersey is altered in any way, shape or form, the player(s) will be asked to not play the game. If a player(s) is not wearing his/her assigned jersey, the player(s) cannot play for that game. Players cannot use another player's jersey. Players can not use any type of jean shorts or pants to play in a league game. Players can only use basketball shoes, tennis shoes or running shoes to play in a league game.**
11. Coaches are encouraged to promote fair play and good sportsmanship among players and fans at all times.
12. Coaches must adhere to all rules and guidelines.
14. If the head coach or assistant coach receives a technical foul, both coaches will have to remain seated for the remainder of the game, excluding only time outs and between quarters.
15. Please be advised volunteer coaches you can NOT issue any type of pill/capsule form of vitamin, aspirin, ibuprofen or pain relief, energy drink, sports or dietary supplement of any kind to any participant while performing your duties as a volunteer coach for the City of Edinburg.
16. Any spectator that is determined to be excessively coaching from the bleachers or from anywhere in the gym will be asked to leave the gym and city property. Failure to adhere to the rule, the Edinburg Police Department will be notified and the game will be determined a forfeit for that team.
17. Failure to adhere by above rules and regulations are grounds for volunteer status suspension or termination.

SPORTSMANSHIP

1. Any player/coach/spectator involved in a fight will be automatically ejected from the game and will be suspended for a minimum of one game. If the incident is serious, the player/coach will be suspended additional games or removed/ejected for the remainder of the season upon discretion of the Recreation Manager, regardless if its regular season games or tournament games.
2. Vulgar language, obscene gestures, threats and physical violence - regardless which player(s)/coach(es), spectator(s) or volunteer(s) started it will result in a minimum suspension of one game to removal from league play or a maximum of life suspension from any City of Edinburg Parks & Recreation Department league, regardless if its regular season games or tournament games.
3. Every coach, player or spectator is responsible for his/her own conduct on and off the basketball court. Coaches are responsible for their team player's parent's conduct on and off the basketball court. Unsportsmanlike conduct by coaches, spectators, or participants will not be tolerated, regardless if its practice, regular season games or tournament games. Individuals may be suspended due to unsportsmanlike conduct at the discretion of the Recreation Manager.

4. Any coach, player or spectator that is ejected from the game or facility has one minute to leave the gym and two minutes to leave school/city grounds and will be suspended for one game, regardless if its regular season games or tournament games. Should a player, coach or spectator be ejected on a second occasion, the offender(s) will automatically be suspended for the remainder of the season. The league supervisors/officials have the authority to eject any player, coach or spectator at any time for unsportsmanlike conduct. Failure to adhere to the rule, the Edinburg Police Department will be notified and the game will be determined a forfeit for that team.
5. Any assault or physical violence directed toward a league official and/or staff will result in a five (5) year to life suspension from further participation of any program sponsored by the City of Edinburg Parks & Recreation Department.
6. If staff or referee witnesses any act of elbowing, cheap shots or any other unsportsmanlike act, the game will be stopped and the player will be given a warning then ejection from the game.
7. Taunting or “trash talking” to opposing player(s) or coaches will not be allowed. Profanity by any player/coach will NOT be tolerated. Referee has the right to determine language which is offensive. The referee will give one warning to each team and if the taunting or “trash talking” continues the player/coach will be ejected from the game.
8. When a warning is given to the head coach or assistant coach, the warning pertains to both coaches.
9. Any player/coach that is ejected from the game will have to sit out one game. If player/coach is ejected a second time, player/coach will be removed from the league. If player is removed from league, player will not receive a refund. If coach is removed from league, coach will not be able to coach any youth league in Edinburg for one year.
10. Referees will determine incidental contact which may result from normal play.
11. If a parent or parents are getting out of line, the game official will call time during the game and warn all the parents that are on the bleachers and sideline that 1.) if parent(s) can not keep their comments to themselves or behave in an appropriate manner, that they will be asked to leave the gym and recreation center. 2.) If the parent(s) does not want to leave the gym and recreation center, then the police department will be called to escort them out. 3.) If the official(s) feels that continuing the game poses a threat to their safety, the game will end at that moment and whichever team is winning at that point will receive the win or the loss. If the teams are tied, it will be considered a tie.
12. Tournament Play: Any player, coach or spectator that is ejected from the game or facility will not be able to play or enter the gym and recreation center for the remainder of the tournament.
13. Every coach is responsible for his/her own conduct on and off the court and their team player parents. Unsportsmanlike conduct by coaches, spectators, or participants will not be tolerated. Individuals may be suspended due to unsportsmanlike conduct at the discretion of the Edinburg Recreation Department.

MERCY RULE - ALL AGE DIVISIONS

If a team has a 20-point lead within the last two minutes of the second & fourth quarters, the game clock will continue to run unless there is an official timeout or a team timeout. During this time, teams can **NOT** full court press, half court press, or play man to man defense. The team that is winning must fall back to a zone defense and stay within the three-point line, except in the open league. Any team violating the mercy rule will result in a technical foul against the player or coach.

PLAYOFFS AND TIE BREAKERS (Four Options)

1. League Tournament, single elimination, will be scheduled at the end of the season. Teams play for seeding purposes during the regular season and the same regular season format is used in the playoffs. **During tie breaker and playoff games, league rules apply with the exception of free substitution, 4th & 5th and 6th Grade division teams play to win the entire game with no mandatory substitution. ONLY the Kinder & 1st and 2nd & 3rd division's teams must follow the league substitution rule for the 1st and 2nd Quarters but the 3rd and 4th Quarters teams play to win no mandatory substitution.**
2. All teams make the playoffs.
3. **First Option:** If two teams are tied, it will be determined by head to head competition.
4. **Second Option:** If teams did not play one another, then it will determine by conference wins and losses.
6. **Third Option:** If there is **NO** time available to do **third option**, then it will go to a coin toss.

PreK4 & K-1st DIVISION

1. League games will consist of four (4) eight (8) minute quarters. The clock will stop the last two (2) minutes of each half with the exception of the 4 yr. old league.
2. Coaches will divide the team into two separate rotations. Coaches are required to substitute each rotation (group 1 & group 2) of players every (4) four minutes of the first three quarters, no substitutions will be allowed during that four-minute period except for player injuries. Each rotation (group 1 & group 2) of players can not play eight consecutive minutes within the first three quarters. **If a player(s) has not played within the first 3 quarters, the player(s) will have to play the first 4 minutes of the fourth quarter. If a coach fails to take out a player(s) within the first 3 quarters, the player(s) will have to sit out the first 4 minutes of the fourth quarter.** If coaches substitute correctly, free substitution will be allowed ONLY in fourth quarter and over time period(s), teams play to win.
3. **In an ideal situation with ten players, each player is required to “sit out” for eight (8) minutes to ensure proper playing time for all team members. Score keepers and basketball officials will be enforcing rule and will notify coaches on player substitutions. **Each player must play a minimum of twelve (12) minutes within the first three quarters.****
4. Each team will be allowed **three (3)** time-outs per game.
5. Officials will be lenient when calling traveling, double dribble, and three second violations.
6. Boy's and Girl's Leagues will use Intermediate size basketballs. **The basketball goal will be set at a height of 8'.**
7. All substitutes must be reported to the scorekeeper and an official must recognize player(s) before player(s) can enter the game.
8. Coaches are to respect the official's decisions and calls.
9. Free throws will be shot from the white volleyball line.
10. Kinder & 1st teams must set in a **zone defense ONLY**. Half court man to man defense and/or pressing will be allowed the final two (2) minutes of each half (2nd & 4th quarter).
Pre-k4 must stay in a zone and inside the three-point line the entire game.
11. Coaches are reminded that stalling the game is NOT allowed since the defense cannot cross the three-point line prior to the last two minutes of the 2nd and 4th quarter. Basketball officials will be issuing warnings or technical fouls to the team in violation.
12. **If the defense crosses the three-point line before the last two minutes of the 2nd and 4th quarter, League Officials will issue a warning to player(s) for the first violation; second violation the coaches will be issued a warning; third violation and each violation afterwards the team will receive a technical foul & the offense will shoot two free throws and receive the basketball.**
13. Overtime periods will consist of two (2) minutes and one additional time out will be awarded to each team.
14. Officials are required to start games on schedule. A team can start the game with four players and end the game with four players.
15. Teams will now not enter the bonus until five team fouls have been committed in a quarter. After the five fouls, teams will now shoot two free throws on all fouls

2nd & 3rd DIVISION

1. League games will consist of four (4) eight (8) minute quarters. The clock will stop the last two (2) minutes of each half.
2. Coaches will divide the team into two separate rotations. Coaches are required to substitute each rotation (group 1 & group 2) of players every (4) four minutes of the first three quarters, no substitutions will be allowed during that four-minute period except for player injuries. Each rotation (group 1 & group 2) of players can not play eight consecutive minutes within the first three quarters. **If a player(s) has not played within the first 3 quarters, the player(s) will have to play the first 4 minutes of the fourth quarter. If a coach fails to take out a player(s) within the first 3 quarters, the player(s) will have to sit out the first 4 minutes of the fourth quarter.** If coaches substitute correctly, free substitution will be allowed ONLY in fourth quarter and over time period(s), teams play to win.
3. **In an ideal situation with ten players, each player is required to “sit out” for eight (8) minutes to ensure proper playing time for all team members. Score keepers and basketball officials will be enforcing rule and will notify coaches on player substitutions. **Each player must play a minimum of twelve (12) minutes within the first three quarters. ****
4. Each team will be allowed **three (3)** time-outs per game.
5. Officials will be somewhat lenient when calling traveling, double dribble, and three second violations.

6. Boys & Girls Leagues will use the Intermediate size basketballs and **the basketball goal will be set at a height of 8'6"**.
7. All substitutes must be reported to the scorekeeper and an official must recognize player (s) before player(s) can enter the game.
8. Coaches are to respect the official's decisions and calls.
9. Free throws will be shot from the white volleyball line.
10. Teams must set in a **zone defense ONLY**. Half court man to man defense and/or pressing will be allowed the final two (2) minutes of each half (2nd & 4th quarter).
11. Coaches are reminded that stalling the game is not allowed since the defense cannot cross the three-point line prior to the last two minutes of the 2nd and 4th quarters. Basketball officials will be issuing warnings or technical fouls to the team in violation.
12. **If the defense crosses the three-point line before the last two minutes of the 2nd and 4th quarter, League Officials will issue a warning to player(s) for the first violation; second violation the coaches will be issued a warning; third violation and each violation afterwards the team will receive a technical foul & the offense will shoot two free throws and receive the basketball.**
13. Overtime periods will consist of two (2) minutes and one additional time out will be awarded to each team.
14. Officials are required to start games on schedule. A team can start the game with four players and end with four players.
15. Teams will now not enter the bonus until five team fouls have been committed in a quarter. After the five fouls, teams will now shoot two free throws on all fouls

4th & 5th DIVISION

1. League games will consist of four (4) eight (8) minute quarters. The clock will stop the last two (2) minutes of each half.
2. Coaches shall divide the team into two separate rotations. Coaches are required to substitute each rotation (group 1 & group 2) of players every (4) four minutes of the first three quarters, no substitutions will be allowed during that four-minute period except for player injuries. Each rotation (group 1 & group 2) of players can not play eight consecutive minutes within the first three quarters. **If a player(s) has not played within the first 3 quarters, the player(s) will have to play the first 4 minutes of the fourth quarter. If a coach fails to take out a player(s) within the first 3 quarters, the player(s) will have to sit out the first 4 minutes of the fourth quarter.** If coaches substitute correctly, free substitution will be allowed ONLY in fourth quarter and over time period(s), teams play to win.
3. **In an ideal situation with ten players, each player is required to "sit out" for eight (8) minutes to ensure proper playing time for all team members. Score keepers and basketball officials will be enforcing rule and will notify coaches on player substitutions. **Each player must play a minimum of twelve (12) minutes within the first three quarters. ****
4. Each team will be allowed **three (3)** time-outs per game.
5. Officials will be calling traveling, double dribble, and three second violations.
6. Girl's & Boy's League will use a women's size basketball.
7. All substitutes must be reported to the scorekeeper and an official must recognize player(s) before player(s) can enter the game.
8. Coaches are to respect the official's decisions and calls.
9. Free throws will be shot from the regular free throw line.
10. Zone or man to man defense may be played. On man to man defense, defensive players may pick up offense at half court. Full court press will be allowed the final two (2) minutes of each quarter.
11. Overtime periods will consist of two (2) minutes and one additional time out be awarded to each team.
12. Officials are required to start games on schedule. A team can start the game with four players and end with four players.

13. Teams will now not enter the bonus until five team fouls have been committed in a quarter. After the five fouls, teams will now shoot two free throws on all fouls

6th GRADE DIVISION (Jr. High/Middle School League)

1. League games will consist of four (4) eight (8) minute quarters. The clock will stop the last two (2) minutes of each half.
2. Coaches will divide the team into two separate rotations. Coaches are required to substitute each rotation (group 1 & group 2) of players every (4) four minutes of the first three quarters, no substitutions will be allowed during that four-minute period except for player injuries. Each rotation (group 1 & group 2) of players can not play eight consecutive minutes within the first three quarters. **If a player(s) has not played within the first 3 quarters, the player(s) will have to play the first 4 minutes of the fourth quarter. If a coach fails to take out a player(s) within the first 3 quarters, the player(s) will have to sit out the first 4 minutes of the fourth quarter.** If coaches substitute correctly, free substitution will be allowed ONLY in fourth quarter and over time period(s), teams play to win.
3. **In an ideal situation with ten players, each player is required to “sit out” for eight (8) minutes to ensure proper playing time for all team members. Score keepers and basketball officials will be enforcing rule and will notify coaches on player substitutions. **Each player must play a minimum of twelve (12) minutes within the first three quarters. ****
4. Each team will be allowed **three (3)** time outs per game.
5. Officials will be calling traveling, double dribble, and three second violations etc., regular game situations.
6. Girl’s League will use a women’s size basketball and Boy’s League will use a men’s size basketball.
7. All substitutes must be reported to the scorekeeper and an official must recognize player(s) before player(s) can enter the game.
8. Coaches are to respect the official's decisions and calls.
9. Free throws will be shot from the regular free throw line.
10. Zone, man to man defense and full court press will be allowed through out the entire game.
11. Overtime periods will consist of two (2) minutes and one additional time out will be awarded to each team.
12. Officials are required to start games on schedule. A team can start the game with four players and end the game with four players.
13. All U.I.L. players can NOT participate in this age division.
14. Teams will now not enter the bonus until five team fouls have been committed in a quarter. After the five fouls, teams will now shoot two free throws on all fouls

As of September 1, 2003, two specific Texas laws went into effect that will impacts the sport participant and the non-sport participant. The two Texas laws are as follows:

481.134. Drug-Free Zones: House Bill 1629: adds “the premises of a public or private youth center” to the list of protected areas included in the existing statute that may result in enhanced punishment.

22.01. Assault: House Bill 716: amends 22.01©) to increase the punishment for an offense under Subsection (a)(2) (Assault by Threat) or (a)(3) (Assault by Contact) from a Class C misdemeanor to a Class B misdemeanor if the offense was committed against a sports participant by a non-sports participant. New Subsection (e)(3) defines “sports participant” as “a person who participates in any official capacity with respect to an interscholastic, intercollegiate, or other organized amateur or professional athletic competition and includes an athlete, referee, umpire, linesman, coach, administrator, or staff member.”