

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

*Revised 10-23-2024*

**VOLUNTEERS:**

1. The City of Edinburg mandates adherence to volunteer guidelines for all coaches. As per policy, new coaches must undergo the volunteer application process. Cleared applicants are permitted one application per calendar year.
2. Participation as a volunteer coach is contingent upon successful completion of a criminal background and police record checks. Any adverse results will render an individual ineligible to coach.

**SNACKS:**

1. Please note that outside food and beverages are prohibited within the Edinburg Parks & Rec and El Tule Center gyms and concession areas. Team Snacks, if provided, must be distributed outside the facilities post-game.
2. Distribution of team snacks is optional and relies on volunteer efforts.

**NOISE MAKERS:**

1. To maintain a respectful environment, artificial noise makers of any kind, such as air horns, whistles, clappers, rattlers, etc., are not permitted in the gym during games and practices.

**PLAYER ELIGIBILITY:**

1. The league will be organized into five boys' basketball divisions (PreK4, K-1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> Grade) and four girls' divisions (K-1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> Grade), with participation determined by grade level as of September 1<sup>st</sup> of the current school year, and separate competition for boys and girls.
2. To participate in the youth basketball program, registration with The Edinburg Parks & Recreation Dept. is mandatory. Payment of the registration fee and signed parental authorization forms from a parent or legal guardian are also required.
3. Each participant is limited to competing in a single grade division. All participants must compete within their designated grade division.
4. Team assignments will ensure the head coach's and assistant coach's children are together. All participants will be placed on teams based on their school registration. If a school fails to meet roster requirements, participants will be merged with teams from adjacent cooperating schools.
5. Sibling placement in leagues will occur when both brothers and sisters are within the same grade level division. Please note that coed play is not permissible.
6. Competing above or below one's grade level is not permissible. All participants must adhere to their designated grade classifications.

7. Non-school affiliated teams, including travel, A.A.U., All Star, or any assembled team, are eligible to participate in the Open Division. However, if insufficient teams register, participants will be required to join their respective school teams. Refunds will be provided to those who decline to participate with their school team.

### **PROTEST:**

1. To protest eligibility, the team manager or assistant manager must submit a written protest to Edinburg Parks & Recreation within 24 hours of a weekday game or 48 hours of a weekend game, accompanied by a \$50 non-refundable fee.
2. To protest a rule violation, team manager or assistant managers must submit a written protest to Edinburg Parks & Rec. within 24 hours (48 hours for weekend games). The protest fee is \$50 non-refundable, and game officials and scorekeepers must be notified of the protest at the end of the game.

### **COACHES/PLAYERS/SPECTATORS:**

1. Basketball team coaches are accountable for educating participants on the sport's foundational skills, emphasizing collaboration, sportsmanship, and enjoyment, while maintaining safety, discipline, and respect throughout all team activities, games, and practices.
2. Coaches bear the responsibility for assigning practice times. Only coaches may reserve court space. Court reservations require coordination with the City of Edinburg Parks & Recreation staff.
3. Coaches are also permitted to request gymnasium usage within the Edinburg School District, subject to ECISD Athletic Dept. approval.
4. It is the coaches' responsibility to ensure all players receive a minimum of twelve minutes of game time, providing opportunities for growth through direct league participation.
5. Edinburg's Parks and Recreation Staff will implement and enforce 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 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. 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.

10. Coaches are encouraged to promote fair play and good sportsmanship among players and fans at all times.
11. Coaches must adhere to all rules and guidelines.
12. Coaches we will be providing a Volunteer Coaches shirt they can wear for all games.
13. **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.**
14. 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.
15. 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.
16. 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 2-1-2 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.**

## **AWARDS**

To ensure equal game participation, Edinburg Parks & Recreation has opted to forego end-of-season tournaments across all grade levels. Team and individual trophies will be awarded based on final season standings. In the event of a tie, the league manager will first consider head-to-head outcomes. If tied teams did not compete against each other, a coin toss will serve as the tiebreaker.

## **K-1<sup>st</sup> GRADE 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 lenient when calling traveling, and double dribble.**
6. **Officials and Coaches need to encourage players to keep dribbling.**
7. **Once the Defensive team gets control of the basketball, the opposing team must run back on Defense. Defense inside the bubble (3 point).**
8. **NO JEWELRY IS ALLOWED. (No Looped Earrings, bracelets, or chains)**
9. **Boy’s and Girl’s Leagues will use Rookie size basketballs. The basketball goal will be set at a height of 8’.**
10. All substitutes must be reported to the scorekeeper and an official must recognize player(s) before player(s) can enter the game.
11. Coaches are to respect the official's decisions and calls.
12. **Eliminates the one-and-one for common fouls beginning with the seventh team foul in the half and establishes the bonus as two free throws awarded for a common foul beginning with the team's fifth foul in each quarter and resets the fouls at the end of each quarter**
13. Free throws will be shot from the White Volleyball line.]

14. Teams must set in a **2-1-2 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).
15. Coaches are reminded that stalling the game is NOT allowed since the defense can not 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.
16. If the defense crosses the three-point line before the last two minutes of the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> 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.
17. Overtime periods will consist of two (2) minutes and one additional time out will be awarded to each team.
18. Officials are required to start games on schedule. A team can start and finish the game with four players.

### **2<sup>nd</sup> -3<sup>rd</sup> GRADE 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, travels and double dribble. On the 4<sup>th</sup> step it will be a travel
6. After the ball handler has dribbled and stop, dribbled and stop, they must pass or shot.
7. Three second violations will be below the white Volleyball line.
8. Once the Defensive team gets control of the basketball, the opposing team must run back on Defense. Defense inside the bubble (3 point).
9. **NO JEWELRY IS ALLOWED. (No Looped Earrings, bracelets, or chains)**

10. Boys & Girls Leagues will use the Intermediate size basketballs and **the basketball goal will be set at a height of 8'6"**.
11. All substitutes must be reported to the scorekeeper and an official must recognize player (s) before player(s) can enter the game.
12. Coaches are to respect the official's decisions and calls.
13. **Eliminates the one-and-one for common fouls beginning with the seventh team foul in the half and establishes the bonus as two free throws awarded for a common foul beginning with the team's fifth foul in each quarter and resets the fouls at the end of each quarter**
14. **Free throws will be shot from the White Volleyball line.**
15. Teams must set in a **2-1-2 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).**
16. 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.
17. **If the defense crosses the three-point line before the last two minutes of the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> 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.**
18. Overtime periods will consist of two (2) minutes and one additional time out will be awarded to each team.
19. Officials are required to start games on schedule. A team can start the game and finish with four players.

#### **4<sup>th</sup> -5<sup>th</sup> GRADE 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. **NO JEWELRY IS ALLOWED. (No Looped Earrings, bracelets, or chains)**
7. Girl's & Boy's League will use a women's size basketball.
8. All substitutes must be reported to the scorekeeper and an official must recognize player(s) before player(s) can enter the game.
9. Coaches are to respect the official's decisions and calls.
10. **Eliminates the one-and-one for common fouls beginning with the seventh team foul in the half and establishes the bonus as two free throws awarded for a common foul beginning with the team's fifth foul in each quarter and resets the fouls at the end of each quarter**
11. Free throws will be shot from the regular free throw line.
12. Zone or man to man defense may be played. On man to man defense, defensive players may pick up offense at half court, but needs to give the opportunity to cross the half court line. **Full court press will be allowed the final two (2) minutes of Each quarter.**
13. Overtime periods will consist of two (2) minutes and one additional time out be awarded to each team.
14. Officials are required to start games on schedule. A team can start and finish the game with four players.

#### **6<sup>th</sup> GRADE DIVISION (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. **NO JEWELRY IS ALLOWED. (No Looped Earrings, bracelets, or chains)**
7. **Girl's League will use a women's size basketball** and Boy's League will use a men's size basketball.
8. All substitutes must be reported to the scorekeeper and an official must recognize player(s) before player(s) can enter the game.
9. Coaches are to respect the official's decisions and calls.
10. **Eliminates the one-and-one for common fouls beginning with the seventh team foul in the half and establishes the bonus as two free throws awarded for a common foul beginning with the team's fifth foul in each quarter and resets the fouls at the end of each quarter**
11. Free throws will be shot from the regular free throw line.
12. **Zone, man to man defense and full court press will be allowed through out the entire game.**
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 and finish the game with four players.
15. All U.I.L. players can NOT participate in this age division.

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."**