

Marlboro Recreation League Basketball Rules 2024-2025

TEAMS

- All teams Grades 3-12 will be selected using the Marlboro Basketball Association Draft Process.
- The Recreation Basketball committee of the Marlboro Basketball Board will determine how 2nd grade teams will be created based upon level of participation in the program
- All teams are intended to have 8 or 9 players after the draft is completed. This can be changed by the board in extenuating circumstances.
- After the draft is completed, players may only be added to the rosters from the wait list or as a replacement player.
 - Wait List Players-
Players may only be added from the Wait List when:
 - The team having a player added would have its roster increased from 8 players to 9 players AND
 - There are still 5 or more games remaining in the seasons AND
 - The additional player being provided does not make the team significantly better or worse than the team was prior to adding the new player OR
 - The additional player will make a team that has been uncompetitive in its first several games MORE competitive for the remainder of the season.
 - Replacement Players
Replacement players are provided in circumstances when:
 - There are still at least 5 regular season games remaining.
 - The player that has been lost is out for the remainder of the season and will NOT be returning at all.
 - The replacement player being provided does not make the team significantly better or worse than the team was prior to losing the original player.

For both Wait List and replacement players, the decision on meeting the above criteria will rest solely with the Recreation Basketball Committee of the Marlboro Basketball Association Board.

SPECIAL RULES

Man to Man Defense – In the Boys 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Grade and Girls 2nd/3rd and Girls 4th/5th Grades, Man to Man defense will be required. Please see Addendum A at the end of this document.

Half Time Foul Shots-In Boys 2nd Grade and Girls 2nd/3rd grade divisions all players will shoot a foul shot at half time. Please see Addendum B at the end of this document.

TIME

- All games will consist of two 21 minute halves with running time. Halftime will be **two** minutes.
- Clock stops:
 1. during all time outs
 2. on every whistle during the last two minutes of the game ****Exception** If point differential is 15 or greater during last two minutes the clock will not stop except for timeouts or injuries**
 3. on ALL foul shots...the clock will then be re-started when foul shot is rebounded if missed, or is put back into play if it is made. The 6 players lined up for the foul shot may enter lane to rebound on the shooter's release. All other players must be lined up outside of the 3-point line, above the foul line

extended and may not enter until the ball hits the rim. Shooter may not enter until the ball hits the rim.

4. the clock will stop for 20 seconds during substitutions at the 14 minute and 7 minute marks of each half.
 - a. This is not a time out and the clock re-starts after 20 seconds.
 - b. If a team needs more time they must call a time out.
- Each team will have three full timeouts per game and one additional timeout per overtime period.
- Overtime periods will be two minutes and the clock stops on every whistle. There is no maximum number of overtimes. Overtime is considered a Free Play Session. (Coach's discretion on substitution)
- Three point shots are allowed in every division.

FOULS AND FOUL SHOTS

- Players foul out of a game on their fifth personal foul.
- On the **10th** team foul in each half, or **3rd** team foul in the last 2 minutes of the second half, one and one is in effect. (If first foul shot is made than a second foul shot is granted). There is **NO** double bonus. It will remain one and one regardless of number of fouls.
- Foul shot lines are as follows: Please note that the 6 players on the Hash marks are allowed in the lane on the release of the basketball. The shooter, and players situated outside the 3-point line are not allowed in until the ball hits the rim.
 - Boy 2nd & Girls 2nd/3rd: two hash marks in from regulation line and allowed to cross line on follow-thru.
 - Girls 45: regulation line, allowed to cross line on follow-thru
 - Girls 67 & 89: Regulation line, not allowed to cross line on follow-thru
 - Boys 3 & 4: regulation line, allowed to cross line on follow-thru
 - Boys 5 – 12: Regulation line, not allowed to cross line on follow-thru
- Any player ejected for two technical fouls or coach assessed two technical fouls, will be suspended for the next scheduled game, including playoff games. A coach's technical fouls are cumulative. If you get a tech in 1 game and a tech in another you get suspended 1 game. Coaches are required to report technical fouls to the Coordinators and Scorekeepers will report all technical fouls to the league.

DEFENSE

- Man to man and zone defenses will be permitted in Girls 6th grade and above, and Boys 5th grade and above. Please see ADDENDUM A- MAN TO MAN DEFENSE for defensive rules for Girls 2/3, Girls 4/5, Boys 2, Boys 3, and Boys 4.
- No defense will be allowed in the backcourt until:
 - boys 2nd & 3rd --last minute of the game
 - boys 4th, 5th, 6th -- last two minutes of the game
 - boys 7th – last four minutes of the game
 - boys 8th - last seven minutes of game
 - Boys HS - pressing allowed for the entire game
 - girls 2nd/3rd -- last minute of the game
 - girls 45, 67 & 89 – last two minutes of the game

- If the whistle stops play due to defense in the back court when such defense is not allowed, the whistle will result in a delay of game warning. The second such infraction in the game will result in a technical foul with two foul shots and possession of the ball being awarded to the other team.
- If a team is leading by 15 points or more, no backcourt defense will be allowed by the team that is leading.

PLAYING TIME

There are not meant to be any “loopholes” in the rules below. If you think you have found one, it is not intentional, and should not be exploited. ALL rules are intended to keep playing time minutes as fair as possible for all players present at a game.

All games in **all divisions** are two 21 minute halves with 3 segments of 7 minutes each.. So 6 total segments.,

- All players present for start of game must play a minimum of three full segments
- With 8 or 9 players everyone must sit at least two full segments and everyone must play at least 1 full segment in EACH half
- With 6 or 7 players everyone must sit at least one full segment and play at least 4 full segments.
- All players late for start of game
 - The player cannot play in first half at all
 - In second half they **MUST** play two segments, and cannot play 1 or 3
 - Players who are not at game before start of second half may **NOT** play.
- In General
 - With 9 Players-3 will play 28 minutes and 6 will play 21 minutes
 - With 8 Players- 6 will play 28 minutes and 2 will play 21 minutes
 - With 7 players-2 will play 35 minutes and 5 will play 28 minutes
 - With 6 players-6 players will play 35 minutes each
- Substitutions can be made at any time provided that players have fulfilled **all** of the playing **and** sitting time rules. This really means that the extra 7 minutes that some players are playing can be divided up. As an example, with 9 players, if all have played their 21 minutes, rather than only having 3 players play 7 minutes each, you could have 6 players play 3.5 minutes each. The **EXTRA** time can be divided among as many players as you like.

SPECIAL PLAYING TIME RULES

- When a team with 7 players present is playing against a team with 8 players or 9 players present :
 - Per playing time rules, the team with 7 players will have 2 players that play 35 minutes each. Team with 8 or 9 will have **NO** players play 35 minutes.
 - Players rated 3.5 or higher **MAY NOT** play 35 minutes. The extra time must be given to players with a rating of 3 or less..
 - This rule **DOES NOT** apply for teams with 6 players. With 6 players, all players present will play 35 minutes per the playing time rules, regardless of how many players the opponent has present.

- This rule DOES NOT apply if both teams have 6 or 7 players present. When both teams will have players playing 35 minutes, the coaches are free to play whichever players they choose, including players rated 3.5 or higher
- If a game goes into overtime, it is free play and the coaches may play any players they like, regardless of the situation.

Playoff Rule: If one team only has 5 players, the opposing team can modify playing time rules to the extent that every player must still play a minimum of 3 segments but there will not be a maximum playing time rule in effect and a player is eligible to play the full game.

- In the event of an injury:
 - All playing time/rest rules must still be adhered to; Be aware of who you are subbing into the game so as not to violate the rest time rules. If you sub a player into the game for injury, that segment DOES NOT count as a rest segment.
 - If it is impossible to meet the rest requirements when subbing for an injured player, the OPPOSING coach shall decide which bench player can substitute and not be legal.
 - The injured player can re-enter game as soon as ready with the time missed due to injury considered towards the consecutive minute playing time rule.
- Players must play their required uninterrupted segments regardless of how many personal fouls they receive. There are no substitutions for players in "foul trouble" during their uninterrupted segments. If a player commits their fifth foul during any part of the game, they are disqualified.
- When "Pool Players" are required
 - A Coordinator can assign or approve a "pool player" to a team to avoid forfeits or so a team can field 6 players for safety reasons.
 - A Coordinator can assign/approve a player from another team (with a rating of 3 or lower) to play in a game and the game will count in the standings.
 - Coordinators must be notified and approve any pool players prior to their participation.
 - The opposing coach will be notified by the coach and/or coordinator with as much notice as possible.
 - The "pool player" should have already played in his or her game if that game is on the same day.
 - Pool players must play one of the "lesser" time slots for the given number of kids. For example, if a pool player is your 7th player, the pool player must play 28 minutes, not 35 minutes.
 - **A Pool Player cannot be used in the playoffs.**

Playing time rules must be followed without exception. Coaches are responsible for adhering to this rule which is designed to give all of our players in our recreation league a fair opportunity. Coordinators will be responsible for monitoring playing time rules.

Violations may result in forfeits and/or suspensions

In the event of a perceived playing time rule violation-

In the event that one coach believes the opposing coach has substituted in a way that is not legal, they may call a time out and notify the referee that it is about a rule violation. They will discuss with opposing

coach and if they agree; the violation will be corrected immediately and the “protesting” coach gets back his time out.

If the coaches agree after discussion that there was no violation, the protesting coach is charged the timeout.

If the coaches cannot agree on whether there is a rule violation, the protesting coach is charged his time out, and reserves the right to protest the game with the rec basketball rules committee.

Games should not be protested unless the time out has been called and the violation discussed between the coaches at the game.

MISCELLANEOUS

- We will attempt to make-up games that are cancelled due to weather or our inability to use the school gyms. Coaches should check with their Division Coordinators.
- All teams make the playoffs.
- If a team is winning by 20 points or more, they must keep their defensive players inside the 3 point arc. Coaches are encouraged to not have their teams run up the scores. Some suggestions when a team is winning by a substantial margin:
 - Change up the positions the kids normally play in
 - Challenge your team to make 3 or 4 good passes and cuts before shooting
 - Have your team always walk the ball up the court rather than fast break
 - Work on a more complicated play you have not mastered yet that you may need for a future game.
 - Try a new defense (must be inside the 3 point line)

Other Rules and rule misconceptions

1. Will be a referee point of emphasis: One coach stands and one or two coaches sit. This is a rule that is important, especially at the younger ages because players are often distracted by 1,2 and 3 coaches standing simultaneously and barking orders.

a. Results in one warning to the violating team, followed by a technical foul on the head coach if it happens a second time.

2. Scorebook - If the coach believes an error has been made, the coach must address with referee but only during a stoppage of time in the game. At no point is it permissible for a coach to reprimand or berate the scorekeeper.

3. Screens - The player who sets the screen must have an 'ESTABLISHED' set position or the screen will be considered a foul. Once the player is set, any opposing player running into the screening player must yield to the screen.

4. The 3 second violation - If ANY of the player's feet, or a portion thereof is in

the lane for 3 seconds, it is a violation. The player must remove his feet from the lane within the allotted 3 seconds. We do allow the younger players in the 7,8 and 9 year old divisions to stay in the lane a bit longer, but not much longer. If an offensive player with the ball is making a move to the basket, the 3 second violation does NOT apply.

5. Hand checking and forearm checking - This is strictly prohibited at ALL level of rec ball. The fouls will be called more frequently.

6. Defensive players who have their hands extended straight from their sides in the lane during an attempted shot risk having a foul called against them every time. The rule states that if contact is made with an offensive player while the hands are extended to the sides, the foul is on the defensive player.

7. If an offensive player with the ball has any portion of their body in the backcourt as the count winds down to 10, it is a ten second violation. Even if the ball crosses midcourt. The ball and the entire body must be in the frontcourt prior to the ten second count being exhausted.

8. Players cannot enter a game directly from the bench when a coach tells them to. They must go to the table, and must be summoned in. Violation of this results in a technical foul.

ADDENDUM A- MAN TO MAN DEFENSE

Since the 2022-23 Rec Season the league has adopted a “man-to-man” defense rule that will require teams to only play man-to-man defense.

This rule will be used in the Girls grade 2/3, Girls grade 4/5, Boys grade 2, Boys grade 3, and Boys grade 4 divisions.

The rule requires that teams play man to man defense. Players are required to be within 6 feet of the player they are guarding. Double teaming (2 players on the ball at one time) is only allowed if the ball is inside the lane area or being driven aggressively towards the lane area. This is meant to be a spirit of the game rule. Coaches should not be looking for loop-holes or taking out their measuring tapes. Referees will “know it when they see it” if a zone or double team is being played. It is solely in the referee’s discretion to call the illegal defense.

The referee will attempt to correct the defense verbally during the flow of the game (“Guard your man”). If the game needs to be stopped, referee will call the illegal defense, stop the game, and simply award the ball back to the team on offense.

The intention of this rule is to make the games flow better for the younger players who are not able to handle the ball when being attacked by better or multiple players which occurs during zone defenses. It is understood that the defensive side of the game may be a little worse, but the hope is that the offense will be a little better with more layup and makable shot opportunities for more kids.

The Board will accept feedback on this rule as games are played to try and improve it for the kids and the program. Any thoughts and observations should be emailed to board@marlborobasketball.com. The board reserves the right to make adjustments to this rule during the course of the season to improve the game for everybody involved.

ADDENDUM B- HALF TIME FOUL SHOTS

In the boy's 2nd grade and girls 2nd/3rd grade divisions each player will shoot a "foul shot" at half time.

As soon as half time begins, each coach will take their team out to the basket on their end of the court (the basket they will shoot at in the 2nd half), and line the kids up. The referee will go to half court, and the coach will go into a rebounding position. If one team has more players, the team with more players will go first. If teams have an equal number of players, the team that has the next possession arrow will go first.

Teams will alternate shots with each player taking a shot from the 2nd hash mark in from foul line(closer than an actual foul shot) and they may jump forward. Each made basket will add one point to the team's score. This process should be quick, with the opposite team ready to shoot as soon as the player from the previous team has completed their shot.

When one team has more players than the other, the maximum number of points scored by the team with more players cannot exceed the number of players on the team with less players. For example, if team 1 has 6 players, and team 2 has 8 players, team 1 will take 6 shots to score a maximum of 6 points, and team 2 will have 8 shots to score a maximum of 6 points.

The entire process, including lining up, should not take more than 3 minutes.

After completion of the foul shooting, 1 minute will be put on the clock for half time and then the game will begin.

To accommodate the extra time, the time segments for the 3rd and 6th segments of the game will be shortened to 6 minutes each. The segments are 7-7-6 and 7-7-6. There is no difference between a 7- and 6-minute segment for the purposes of meeting the playing time requirements.

The Board will accept feedback on this rule as games are played to try and improve it for the kids and the program. Any thoughts and observations should be emailed to board@marlborobasketball.com. The board reserves the right to make adjustments to this rule during the course of the season to improve the game for everybody involved.