



# Youth Basketball League

## Alliance Division By-Laws & Rules

### 1.0 Sponsorship & Administration

- 1.01 The Howard County Department of Recreation and Parks sponsors the Youth Basketball League (hereinafter referred to as the League). The Howard County Department of Recreation and Parks will operate the League with assistance from the local Basketball Organizations for the benefit of the players registered through their organizations.
- 1.02 If necessary, Howard County Recreation & Parks reserves the rights to modify these rules at any time to assure the best possible experience for the youth.
- 1.03 Each off-season, the League Commissioner as assigned by the department will conduct a pre-league organizational meeting(s) among participating organizations (not teams) to make recommendations regarding playing rules, groupings and other organizational matters to the department for consideration during the following season of play.
- 1.04 Each member organization is responsible for arranging and securing coaching staffs, registering players, permitting and scheduling practice sessions.
- 1.05 Member organizations and their teams are responsible for spectator behavior.
- 1.06 Prior to each season, the department will conduct an organization meeting to share approved rules with membership organization.
- 1.07 Once League play begins, the League Commissioner is empowered to operate the league within the rules of the program and in accordance with the Department's operating practices.

### 2.0 Team & Player Eligibility

- 2.01 Membership is open to any Basketball Organization in Howard County that has approved non-profit status and is in good standing with the Department.
- 2.02 Howard County members have until November 1<sup>st</sup> to indicate their interest in participating in the subsequent season by submitting all league fees made payable to the Director of Finance.
- 2.03 The League has the option to accept team entries outside of county boundaries if space is available upon application providing that the sponsoring organization is similar in scope and organization as the County members.
- 2.04 The age determination date will be calendar year based. The age determination date for boys will be September 1. The age determination date for girls will be December 31.

- 2.05 The League offers boys and girls divisions by grade starting with 6<sup>th</sup> grade and ending with 8<sup>th</sup> grade.
- 2.06 Players selected for each team must be age specific.
- 2.07 Any coach or player removed from the game as the result of technical or flagrant fouls are subject to a minimum one game suspension. League Commissioner will review reports to determine if further sanctions are necessary.
- 2.08 Players cannot change organizations or teams once rosters are submitted.

### 3.0 Rosters

- 3.01 Each team must have a minimum of 6 and a maximum of 15 players.
- 3.02 Teams must complete and submit a Howard County Recreation & Parks youth team roster to the League Commissioner by the scheduled due date.
- 3.03 The League Commissioner must approve all changes to rosters. A medical note must be given in the event of an injury. No roster changes after February 1<sup>st</sup> unless approved by League Commissioner.
- 3.04 Any team that uses an ineligible player will forfeit any game that player has participated in and the Head Coach will be levied a 1 game suspension.
- 3.05 Any player suspected of having a concussion must be reported to the league coordinator. The player will not be eligible to return to play until cleared by the Howard County Recreation & Parks concussion compliance plan.

### 4.0 Coaches

4.01 The Howard County Recreation & Parks Coaches Registry was established to further ensure the safety and security of our youth athletes through coaching education and training as well as to move toward a more simplified approach to coaching accreditation. All coaches and bench personnel must be on our Coaches Registry to coach in any of our youth sports programs.

**All Youth Basketball Coaches** must complete the Coaches & Administrators Registry Requirements, which include:

- Complete the Volunteer Site Application ([www.HoCoVolunteer.org](http://www.HoCoVolunteer.org))
- Attach the following to your Volunteer Profile:
  - Head shot from the shoulders up. This photo is placed on your Coaches Registry badge that is required to be worn while coaching.
  - Certificate from the Coaching Essentials course at [www.ASEP.com](http://www.ASEP.com). Volunteers can request a code to take the course directly from the Volunteer website free of charge.

- Certificate from the "Concussion in Sports" course at [www.NFHSLearn.com](http://www.NFHSLearn.com).
- Work permit if the applicant is under the age of 18.
- All applicants over the age of 18 must undergo a Background Check. To complete the background check, applicants will receive an email directly from SSCI after completing their Volunteer Application and attaching an ASEP certificate to their profile. The background checks are completed online on a secured site.
- Returning volunteers will need to request an update to their registry status, including a background review on an annual basis if they plan to continue coaching with our programs.

Once applicants have completed the requirements for the registry, they are issued a Coaches ID badge. This badge is to be worn and displayed at ALL TIMES while on the court of play. Re-certification for volunteers requires an updated background check which must be done on an annual basis if coaches plan to continue coaching in the Alliance Division.

## 5.0 Season Play

- 5.01 All age Divisions will play a minimum of a 7-game schedule, determined by the League Commissioner (weather permitting).
- 5.02 The Department with input from member organizations during the off-season will determine days of play for each age division.
- 5.02.1 The League Commissioner will develop a round robin game schedule in accordance with gym availability before December 1st. This allows sufficient time to schedule game officials.
- 5.02.2 The inclement weather number that should be called:
- Meadowbrook Athletic Complex (MAC): 410-313-4452 (option 2)
  - North Laurel Community Center (NLCC): 410-313-4452 (option 5)
  - Roger Carter Community Center (RCCC): 410-313-4452 (option 3)
  - Gary J Arthur Community Center (GJACC): 410-313-4452(option 1)
- In snow emergencies games may be stopped.
- 5.02.3 The League Commissioner will reschedule all games based on gym availability.
- 5.03 The home team is responsible for providing a suitable league ball for all games. For all girls' ages and boy's (6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade), a 28.5" ball will be used. For all other age groups an official size (29.5") ball will be used.
- 5.04 The home team is the first team listed on the schedule.
- 5.05 Standings

5.05.1 League Commissioner will record all regular season game scores, team records, and division standings throughout the season.

5.06 Post Season Tournament

5.06.1 All divisions will play a single elimination playoff, with teams seeded according to their record during the regular season.

5.06.2 Ties will be resolved as follows in descending order:

5.06.2.1 Head to head (always goes back to head to head if tied in any scenario)

5.06.2.2 Least points allowed

5.06.2.3 Most wins

5.06.2.4 Point differential head to head (max 15 points)

5.06.2.5 Overall point differential

5.06.2.6 Total points scored

5.06.2.7 Coin toss

5.06.3 During the post-season tournament the higher seeded team is the home team (and will wear a light color jersey).

5.07 Awards will be given to the post-season tournament division champion.

6.0 Playing Rules

6.01 Unless modified by these rules, the League will follow the rules of the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS).

6.02 All players must have their own unique number. This league does not follow the NFHS rules on jersey numbers. For example, jersey number 7 is allowed.

6.03 The Court Supervisor will monitor and enforce any Coaches Registry violations. Coaches Registry ID badge must be worn and visible at ALL TIMES while on the court. 1<sup>st</sup> offense will result in the following; coach will be dismissed from the sideline, a technical foul will be issued on the team in violation. 2<sup>nd</sup> offense will result in the following; coach will be dismissed from the sideline, a technical foul will be issued on the team in violation, automatic one game suspension for coach in violation.

6.04 All divisions will play (2) halves with a 20-minute running clock that stops only on time-outs and whistles in the last 2 minutes of each half.

6.05 Half time will be (2) minutes long.

6.06 Each team will receive (2) time-outs per half. These time-outs do not carry over into the next half or an overtime period.

6.07 There will be (1) overtime period lasting (3) minutes long. The clock will run for the first (1) minute and start/stop during the last (2) minutes. If the game is still tied at the end of this overtime period, the second overtime will be untimed, sudden death/first team to score (Field Goal or Free Throw). There

will be multiple (3) minute long overtime periods during playoffs to determine a winner. Teams receive (1) overtime timeout.

- 6.08 Free Throws: Teams will shoot the one-and-one bonus free throw on the 10th foul. There is no double bonus. There is no bonus at the 7th foul (traditional basketball rule). Players are allowed to rebound after the shooter releases the basketball.
- 6.09 Backcourt Defense: Backcourt defense will be allowed unless a team is ahead by (20) or more points. The second infraction will result in a technical foul charged against the team.
- 6.10 The home team wears white and provides game ball.
- 6.11 A player who is bleeding or who has blood on his/her uniform shall be prohibited from participating further in the game until appropriate treatment can be administered. An athlete shall not continue competition unless the bleeding is controlled and the wound covered. An athlete is required to remove, change or cover any article of clothing that has blood on it.
- 6.12 All playing rules are to be followed during all Regular Season games and all Playoff games.

#### 7.0 Game Officials

- 7.01 The League Commissioner OR Youth Basketball Director will secure a contract for competent game officials utilizing local Board of Officials with preference for IABBO Certified Officials.
- 7.02 Game Official judgment calls are final.
- 7.03 League fees will cover the cost of game officials, awards and administration.

#### 8.0 **Disciplinary Actions**

- 8.01 Any player, coach, spectator, administrator who is ejected from a game by an official shall be suspended from any participation for at least 1 game (not including the game from which he/she was ejected) and subject to further disciplinary action per the League Commissioner OR Youth Basketball Director. Any further ejection during the current season shall be dealt with more severely by the League Commissioner OR Youth Basketball Director.
- 8.02 Anyone who strikes, shoves, pushes, bumps or otherwise physically or verbally threatens an official, a member of his/her team or any other team or spectator shall automatically be suspended from all Department sponsored activities for at least 1 year from the date of the incident.
- 8.03 The use of vulgar or profane language may result in the ejection of that player from the game.
- 8.04 The Head Coach is responsible for the conduct of their team and spectators. Failure to take action to control fan behavior could result in the League taking action.
- 8.05 A team member and/or spectator may be removed from the immediate game area when deemed necessary by the game official or HCRP Gym Supervisor.

Failure to leave the area when requested may result in immediate termination and possible forfeiture of the game.

- 8.06 The Howard County Employee Manual requires the Department to take action against anyone who harasses any Department of Recreation and Parks staff including volunteers.
  - 8.07 Any player, coach or manager suspended from play from another program or jurisdiction shall also be suspended from participation in any program operated by the Howard County Department of Recreation and Parks.
  - 8.08 Any request for disciplinary action review must be made in writing within 48 hours of decision.
- 9.0 Forfeits
- 9.01 Teams who forfeit a game will be required to pay the officials fee for that game, unless 48-hour notice is given. The fee will be based on the per game fee the game officials are paid. After the second forfeit, your team will be removed from the playoff tournament.
  - 9.02 The Score will be posted as 0-15 for forfeits.