

YOUTH SPORTS BASKETBALL LEAGUE RULES



The league will follow the Southern California Municipal Athletic Federation Rules except for the following:

1. **PLAYERS**

- A. Players are limited to playing on only one team and in only one league sponsored by the Torrance Community Services Department.
- B. All players must pay their league fee prior to participation in any league, practices, and games. Any violation of this rule could result in disciplinary action against the player and the coach.
- C. No players may be added to a team once the program Supervisor deems a team as full.
- D. Teams must have a coach present at each game. (Any responsible adult may substitute for the coach.)
- E. Once a player requests a refund, he or she cannot sign up again for that current sport season.
- F. Coaches may **NOT** drop or add players at will. A player can only be pulled from the program by their parent/guardian or the Program Supervisor. Only the program Supervisor may add players to a team.
- G. Players are expected to attend at least one practice per week.

2. **EQUIPMENT**

- A. Athletic or basketball shoes must be worn. Bare feet, sandals, hard-soled shoes or slippers will not be allowed.
- B. Game balls for all games will be furnished by the Torrance Community Services Department.

C. The divisions will use the following basketball sizes:

Rookie	K, 1 & 2	25.5"
Intermediate	3, 4 & 5	28.5"
Intermediate	Girls 5/6	28.5"
Official	6, 7 & 8	29.5"

D. The referee shall not permit any player to wear equipment that in his/her judgment is dangerous, confusing to other players, or inappropriate. **This may include head decoration, headwear and jewelry.**

E. **Players not wearing their uniform will not be allowed to play.** If a player loses their uniform, they may order one for purchase for \$26. Shirts must be purchased at the Dee Hardison Sports Center on Saturdays or scheduled weeknights.

3. **GENERAL RULES**

A. All players must be listed on the "Official Team Roster" form and have the City of Torrance uniform to be eligible to play.

B. Coaches playing ineligible players will be suspended for an indefinite period of time. The ineligible player will also be suspended and not allowed to play during the current sports season. The coach will be removed from the game as well as the player. The game will be a forfeit.

C. In Divisions K/1, there will be no swatting or grabbing the ball out of the opposing player's hands. One hand may be used to gain possession of the ball.

NOTE: Questions regarding the eligibility of players may be raised verbally at any time by a coach or the Program Supervisor.

4. **TIME OF GAME**

A. Game time will consist of two 20-minute halves, running time.

B. Time-outs

1. There will be a two-minute rest period at halftime.

2. Time-outs are to be one minute in length and limited to two per half.

3. Time-outs may not be carried over.

5. **SCORING**

A. If the score is within 10 points at any time during the last two minutes of the game, the clock will stop when the officials blow their whistle (for a foul, jump ball, an injury or other emergencies).

B. NO score will be kept in Divisions K/1.

C. Three-point baskets will ONLY be counted on courts with marked three-point lines.

D. **If a team is up by 20 points or more the score will not be added to the scoreboard unless the point differential becomes less than 20 points.**

6. **SUBSTITUTIONS**

- A. ALL players **MUST** play in the first half of the game unless the player is sitting out for disciplinary reasons. If a player is out for a disciplinary reason, the scorekeeper and the parent should be notified **BEFORE** the game starts by the coach.
- B. **Every player must play for at least 15 minutes.**
- C. Listed below are the guidelines concerning substitutions:
1. Starting players **MUST** check in at the scorer's table. Failure to do so will result in a delay-of game violation.
 2. The scorekeeper will notify the coach around the four-minute mark. Coaches should, at that point, send over any substitutes to the scorer's table. Then around the five-minute mark, at the nearest dead ball, the official will wave in substitutes sitting at the scorer's table. Substitutions are **ONLY** allowed about every five minutes, except during free substitutions (free substitutions occur only after **ALL** players have played their required 15 minutes).

NOTE: The clock will **NOT** stop during substitutions. **EXCEPTION:** The Kindergarten and First-grade division – During the first two weeks, the clock **will** stop at the five-minute mark to do substitutions, regardless of whether the ball is dead or not.

3. **Substitutions are only allowed every five minutes prior to all players meeting the minimum time requirement.** You can leave your players in for 10-minute blocks, 15-minute blocks, or 20-minute blocks.
4. Every time a player checks in with the scorekeeper, they will receive a check by their name. After each player has played the minimum time, teams can substitute freely.
5. Any player arriving 10 minutes or more after the game has started will only be required to play for 10 minutes.
6. Please be sure players check in with the scorekeeper before going on the court. You will be responsible for ensuring that they receive the required playing time.
7. Exceptions to this rule are:
 - a. In case of injury, a player needs to be pulled out of the game, their check will be circled and excused unless he/she is able to return to action. In this case, they will need to play all of their remaining time.
 - b. Three fouls or more in the first 20 minutes and four fouls in the game constitute as foul trouble. A player may then be substituted for, and their check will be circled. If a player gets their third or fourth foul in their first appearance, he/she must re-enter the game to play their remaining time (unless they foul out). If the player attains their fourth foul in the second playing appearance, they may be excused from the game. The fifth foul is an automatic disqualification.

7. **FULL COURT PRESS**

- A. In Divisions K/1, the ball must cross the 3-point line before the defense may engage.
- B. In Divisions 2 – 5, there will be **NO** backcourt press. A violation will result in the opposing team's ball out-of-bounds or a technical foul may be called.
- C. In Divisions 6 – 8, the full-court press is allowed if the point spread is 10 points or less.

8. POSSESSION RULES

Each game will begin with a jump ball. The scorekeeper will determine which team controlled the tip. From that point, each team will alternate possessions on jump ball situations throughout the game.

The ball will be taken out at the nearest out-of-bounds lines to the point of tie-up. This policy will continue throughout the game, including at the beginning of each half.

9. FREE THROWS

A. In Division K/1, there are NO free throws.

B. In Divisions 2 and 3, the free throw distance will be 12 feet.

C. In Divisions 4 through 8, the free throw distance will be 15 feet.

D. Players at the key, may enter the key on the shooter's release.

10. THREE-SECOND RULE

The three seconds in the key rule will be enforced in ALL divisions, EXCEPT in the Divisions K through 3.

11. BACKCOURT VIOLATIONS

A. There will be NO enforcement of backcourt violation in Divisions K through 3.

B. If the ball has initially been advanced from the backcourt into the front court (across the mid-court line) and then is returned to the backcourt, pressing will be allowed.

12. ADVANCING THE BALL

Players in all divisions will have 10 seconds to advance the ball into the front court.

13. EJECTIONS

Any player, coach, parent or spectator ejected from a game will also be suspended from their next scheduled game or longer. This includes tournaments, and if the game is the last of the season, the suspension will be for the first game in the next sport season that the coach/player/parent participates. A suspended coach/player/parent shall not be allowed inside the gym where the game is being played or have any contact with their team for the entire duration of the game in which he/she is suspended. Depending on the circumstance, the suspension could be for more than one game. **Furthermore, any player, coach, or parent ejected twice during the season will be subject to ejection from the league for an indefinite period of time.**

14. COACHES

A. Only ONE coach may be standing at the sideline. Assistant coaches must stay seated with the team.

B. Coaches must not block the view of the scorekeeper.

C. Division K/1 – One coach is allowed on the court during the first four games.

D. Coaches are responsible for the behavior of the parents, spectators and players.