

BASKETBALL RULES 2011/12 SEASON

Metro USA Sports 2011/12 Basketball Rules, Definitions, and Qualifications Revision 12.1

1.0

SCHEDULED GAMES

Our organization has grown to the largest of its kind because of dedicated athletes, coaches, parents, and districts. If you are one of these.....we want YOU!

Each team that gains entry to Metro USA Sports must play all games as scheduled. Our objective is meeting 100% of goal for the winter basketball season.

For districts, teams, and coaches that do not take this serious, please do not apply. A team or district not in full compliance with this regulation will be eliminated from the schedule and will not regain entry with Metro USA Sports in subsequent seasons. NO REFUNDS.

2.0

CODE OF CONDUCT

WARNING!!!

The costs associated with hosting basketball games are high. Gym rentals, insurance, and referee costs can be extremely expensive. But, hard working parents and booster groups help to keep these costs down.

A secure playing environment is a must. Therefore, there will be "zero tolerance" when executing the code of conduct rule. Please read on...

Metro USA Sports is the most competitive league of its kind. Winning is important. As a coach and leader, good sportsmanship must be exemplified.

This means controlling all game situations. Not allowing a player or fan to get out of control. Or, more importantly, not allow a score to get out of control.

We want this league to be a positive experience for our younger athletes.

Therefore, Metro USA Sports will insist that all participating athletes shall be treated with respect and courtesy.

And, that all participants shall abide by school rules while playing a Metro USA Sports scheduled game.

Any **PLAYER, COACH, or THIRD PARTY** that violates this code of conduct will be subject to:

Suspension or expulsion of the player, coach, or third party.

If the guilty party is not in full compliance with the Metro USA Sports ruling...the team and/or district will be suspended or expelled.

THE FOLLOWING ACTIONS ARE PROHIBITED:

1. Illegal transport, illegal possession, or illegal use of drugs or other substances banned by law and Metro USA.
3. Physical damage to a facility or theft of items from a room or other person. (Restitution will be a part of any penalty imposed.)
4. Possession of fireworks, ammunition, firearms, other weapons, or any item or material which by commonly accepted practices and principles would be a hazard or harmful to other persons.
5. Any action considered to be an offense under Federal, State, or local laws and ordinances.
6. Violation of the specific policies, regulations, and/or procedures of Metro USA, or the facility used in conjunction with a sanctioned event. (It is the responsibility of the individual to be familiar with applicable specific policies, regulations, and procedures.)
7. Conduct which is inappropriate as determined by comparison to normally accepted behavior.
8. Physical or verbal intimidation of any individual.

METRO USA BASKETBALL DISCIPLINARY POLICY**

First Infraction: Before or during event. Individual disqualified immediately. The individual will be declared ineligible for one year starting from the date of the infraction.

Second Infraction: After event concludes. Individual will be declared ineligible for Metro USA registration for two years starting from the date of the infraction.

Third Infraction: Individual will be immediately declared ineligible for Metro USA registration for the remainder of her/his lifetime.

Note: Major misbehavior (e.g. verbal or physical abuse of a child, sexual harassment, etc.) may subject the violator

to immediate lifetime ineligibility for Metro USA registration.

****All decisions are final and cannot be appealed.**

3.0

WAIVER OF RESPONSIBILITY

All participants understand and hereby acknowledge, prior to participating, that they have health and/or accident insurance to cover any or all injuries that may be sustained at any location where games are scheduled. All participants have further acknowledged that they have released Metro USA Sports and its governing board from any liability resulting from injuries or carelessness which is beyond the control of Metro USA Sports.

4.0

DISTRICT QUALIFICATION

Teams are formed with athletes that reside within their school district. Regulations, procedures, standards of conduct, rules and regulations, age and grade qualification, insurance coverage, etc. shall comply with WPIAL and PIAA standards. Only one (1) organization per district may enter, as long as the organization serves both boys and girls. Metro USA Sports may allow an exception if in the best interest of the athletes. Approval required based on case history.

5.0

AGE RESTRICTIONS

Age restrictions are in accordance with the PIAA as follows:

You may not have reached your 19th birthday by June 30 immediately preceding the senior school year.

Your 16th birthday by June 30 immediately preceding the 9th grade school year.

Your 15th birthday by June 30 immediately preceding the 8th grade school year.

Your 14th birthday by June 30 immediately preceding the 7th grade school year.

Your 13th birthday by June 30 immediately preceding the 6th grade school year.

Your 12th birthday by June 30 immediately preceding the 5th grade school year.

Your 11th birthday by June 30 immediately preceding the 4th grade school year.

6.0

RULES & DEFINITIONS

Rules and definitions shall be in accordance with the current National Federation and accepted PIAA rules & definitions. Exceptions and qualifications as follows:

7.0

QUALIFICATIONS...RULES/DEFINITIONS

BALL SIZE: 29-1/2" circumference for boy's grades 5 and higher. 28-1/2" for all girl teams and boy teams 4th grade and lower.

JERSEY: Reversible or approved T-shirt.

NUMBERS: Any one or two digit number is acceptable. Numbers on front and back is preferred.

TEAM SIZE Games must be started with five. A total of seven (suggested) should be seated and ready to play.

SPONSORS Sponsor names on uniforms are acceptable as long as there is no affiliation with groups that support alcohol, drugs, tobacco, and/or firearms.

COACHES: A "coaching box" is permitted in accordance with National Federation Rule #10-5-3.

3 POINT FG: A 3 point field goal is not permitted for 4th grade & under boys & girls. If the shot is taken & made, it shall be scored as 2 point. This rule was created to teach proper shooting form.

PRESSURE DEFENSE: Pressure defenses will be restricted for 4th grade & under boys and girls as follows:

Pressure defenses may be used the last 2-minutes of each half...as long as the point margin does not exceed 10 points.

Pressure will be limited to full court man-to-man.

FOUL SHOOTING: 4th grade & under girls and boys must begin the shot behind the foul line. If, after the shot,

they land in front of the line...there will be NO violation.

8.0

CALL-UPS

2004/05 CALL-UP RULE CHANGE

Call-ups are permitted from a lower grade level, as long as the player appears on said roster.

Call-ups are NOT permitted from the same grade level...NOT even from a "B" team...without pre-approval from Metro USA Sports.

9.0

REFEREES

The home team shall provide two (2) PIAA certified referees for all grade levels.

Referees must be patched and certified by the PIAA. Each referee must belong to a PIAA approved chapter.

The home team is responsible for obtaining certified referees for each game. The home team must document the name and chapter for each referee.

Districts must report the name, address, phone number, and chapter president to Metro USA Sports at the beginning of each season.

Referees must be dressed in accordance with National Federation standards. Any referee not properly dressed may be dismissed, at the discretion of Metro USA Sports, from participating in further Metro USA Sports games and events.

10.0

Tuesday, September 13

GAME PROCEDURE & TIME MANAGEMENT

The home team must establish and qualify game procedures with the visiting team and referees prior to the game...at the scorers table.

All games are played by high school rules and definitions (with exceptions as noted above).

Gym times do not always allow enough time. Therefore, hosting teams shall manage their games as follows:

QUARTERS:

A stop-clock will be used for all Metro USA Sports games.

Grades 3-8: Four (4) 6-minute

Grade 9: Four (4) 7-minute

Varsity: Four (4) 8-minute

HALF & QUARTERS:

Half Time Range: 2 - 5 minutes

Quarter: 1 minute minimum

TIME-OUT:

Three(3) full and two(2) thirty second per game.

The two 30-second TO's may be eliminated by the home team as long as the referee and visiting coach are advised prior to game start.

OVERTIME:

OT's shall have a 3-minutes stop clock with 1-TO until the game is completed.

There will be a 1-minute time-out between the start of each OT.

Overtime games must be completed the same day as scheduled.

REMEMBER:

It is the responsibility of each team to have a copy of the rules during each game. Once the game is completed, it will be too late to change.

SCOREKEEPER:

The home team shall designate an official scorekeeper and notify the referee and visiting coach. The official record must be signed by the referee.

SCOREKEEPERS & CLOCK OPERATORS:

Must be adults and familiar with basketball rules and definitions.

10.1

Friday, September 13

GAME RESPONSIBILITIES

HOME TEAM

The home team shall provide equal practice time, practice and game balls, etc.

Home teams may charge admission for adults and students, sell refreshments, and sell 50/50 raffle tickets.

The home team must provide two (2) certified PIAA officials, adult clock operator, adult official scorekeeper, and a scorers table at mid court.

If visiting team plays the game with any home team deficiency, it will be considered a regulation game. The visiting team may refuse to play if the home team is deficient. In this case the visiting team will be awarded the win.

Home teams shall have complete responsibility for completing the game.

The HOME Team must report scores and any TECHNICAL FOULS" to Metro USA Sports.

Technical Foul info should include:

- 1) Full names
- 2) Numbers
- 3) Type of infraction
- 4) Referee and chapter

10.2

VISITING TEAM

The visiting team must arrive at least 15 minutes prior to game time.

Teams must bring their own practice balls, unless prohibited by the home team.

The visiting team must yield jersey color to the home team.

The visiting team shall forfeit the game if they arrive more than 10 minutes after game starting time. If the game is considered a forfeit...it will be recorded as a loss to the visiting team.

If the original schedule is modified and approved by the home team...it becomes the responsibility of the home team....NO MATTER WHAT. If the game is not played, it will be recorded as a home team loss.

11.0

Tuesday, September 13

POSTPONED GAMES

Games should never be postponed without good reason. If there is a valid reason...it should be reported to Metro USA Sports along with the make-up date immediately.

When a game is postponed due to home team modifications (excluding weather related), the home team must make-up the game prior to seasons end. If the home team has agreed to a schedule modification, they will be responsible for game completion. If not completed, it shall be recorded as a home team loss.

The home team will maintain complete responsibility for completing the modified game.

TEAM AND/OR COACH SUSPENSION MAY RESULT FROM NOT COMPLETING SCHEDULED GAMES.

11.1

AUTHORIZED RESCHEDULED GAMES

All games must be played as scheduled.

There are certain qualifying reasons as to why a game cannot be played. For instance, inclement weather, or the loss of a gym permit. In these cases, the team and the league must receive reasonable prior notice. It will be the responsibility of the HOME team to notify the visiting team, Metro US Sports and to reschedule the game.

Make-up games must be played prior to the end of the specified season and MIT's.

Games not made-up and/or played do to weather reasons and gym permit losses will be recorded as a 0 - 0 tie.

Intentionally not playing games can change a team/district's eligibility.

The season is based on games completed and, therefore, will position the team in the MIT.

If a make-up game has been agreed upon, and reported to Metro USA Sports, both teams are responsible as if it

was a regular scheduled game.

12.0

REPORTING GAME RESULTS

THIS PROCEDURE MUST BE FOLLOWED FOR REPORTING SCORES.

After the game, and within 24 hours, the WINNING team must report game results to myscore@metrousasports.com .

If the results are not reported, it will be recorded as a TIE until the score is reported by either team.

If the score has not been reported by season deadline, the MIT Directors may consider the game as a tie or determine a winner based on historical performance.

Once the MIT Director places a team record, it cannot be changed. **GAME RESULTS MUST BE REPORTED ELECTRONICALLY AT myscore@metrousasports.com .**

13.0

MAINTAINING TEAM ELIGIBILITY

A district and/or team must play every scheduled game. A district team that willfully misses without justification or approval, shall be responsible for the make up game.

Team coaches and rosters cannot be altered or modified. Districts and teams must submit completed and signed registration forms, and remit the required league fees. Teams must meet governing district and roster requirements.

The district is accountable for the actions of each of its teams.

If a district and/or team becomes ineligible, the team and/or district will be suspended from all further Metro USA Sports events. A district and/or team may be reinstated, at the discretion of Metro USA Sports, if all eligibility requirements are met.

13.1

Tuesday, September 13

MAINTAINING PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

A player continues to be eligible as long as he or she plays for the original rostered Metro USA Sports district team and is in full compliance with WPIAL and PIAA standards.

A player may play up as specified above...see rules and definitions.

If a player is ineligible, the district and/or team may be forced to forfeit all games played. Further, the district and/or team may be forced to pay all costs and fines associated with a specific incident(s). In these cases a player could lose post season eligibility.

14.0

RULES FOR ROSTERING

Player must play for the team where he/she is enrolled in school and/or reside within the school district.

15.0

EQUIPMENT

All equipment required for home and away games shall be the responsibility of each team and/or district.

16.0

INJURIES

Any athlete who is treated by a physician for an injury or illness during the Metro USA Sports season must return with the Doctor's written permission before playing another Metro USA Sports game. The district shall ensure complete responsibility.

17.0

TRANSPORTATION

Transportation shall be the responsibility of the parents and/or district athletic team, and not Metro USA Sports.

18.0

DRUGS, TOBACCO, AND ALCOHOL

The possession use, furnishing of narcotics, stimulant drugs, alcoholic beverages, steroids, other unauthorized substances and the use of tobacco by athletic participants is strictly prohibited at all Metro USA Sports events.