

2020 LCRD BASKETBALL SPECIAL RULES

The goal of this program is to promote health and physical fitness, good sportsmanship, learning the fundamentals of basketball, and to provide a fun activity for participants, coaches, and parents. Teams will be set up with a minimal number of players to ensure that all get significant playing time. All players, coaches, and parents are required to refrain from making derogatory comments of any kind to opposing teams, officials, volunteer coaches, parents or children involved in this program. The special rules for this program are as follows:

1. **RULES OF PLAY:** All games will be played in accordance with the High School National Federation Rule Book, with the exceptions found in these Special Rules.
2. **TEAMS:**
 - a. Teams will be formed by coaches and LCRD staff following the Evaluation with the top rated players being drafted onto teams (see **DRAFT PROCEDURES**).
 - b. Roster limit is eight (8) players.
 - c. Players signing up after teams are formed will be assigned to teams by the Sports Director. Teams that have the least number of players will be the first to get new players. If the team rosters are full, a Waiting List will be formed and players will be assigned to the first team with a roster opening.
 - d. Only LCRD can dismiss a player from a team. If any player should stop attending practices or games, coaches must notify the LCRD Office so that another player may be added from the Waiting List.
 - e. The deadline for adding players to teams is January 17, unless a team's roster should fall below seven (7) active players.
3. **PRACTICES:**
 - a. Teams are allowed to meet no more than three (3) times per calendar week, including games, for a period of time not to exceed two hours.
 - b. Practice schedules will be established to provide teams with an equal amount of gym time, however, it may not be possible to provide a facility three times per week.
 - c. Practices may be scheduled at any of the outdoor courts maintained by LCRD. This will be done on a first-come basis. All outdoor court goals are 10'.
 - d. Mandatory Sunday practices will not be allowed.
4. **GAMES:**
 - a. There will be a five (5) minute grace period from scheduled starting time for all games.
 - b. Teams may start a game with four (4) players and continue with less than four. Games will start when both teams have at least four (4) players present.
 - c. If four (4) players are not present after the grace period, the team without the required number of players will forfeit.
 - d. Coaches must report their starting line-up to the Official Scorer prior to game time.
 - e. Players must wear the LCRD issued team jerseys and shorts at all games. Rubber soled shoes must be worn when participating in games or practices inside the gym.
 - f. All leagues will play six (6) minute quarters. In the event that a game is tied at the end of four quarters, three (3) minute overtime periods will be played until a winner is determined. Halftime is 5 minutes for all leagues.
 - g. **Full Court Press: 7 & 8 Year Olds- NOT ALLOWED; 9 & 10 Year Old Boys- NOT allowed** in the first half, teams must retreat past the half court line when the opposing team gains possession of the ball, full court press may be used in the second

- half unless the team has a 15 point or more lead; **9-10 & 11-12 Year Old Girls-** NOT allowed in first half, team must retreat to their end of the court and remain inside the 3 point line until the ball crosses half court, full court press may be used in the second half unless the team has a 15 point or more lead; **Midget League & Up Boys-** allowed at any time, except that a team ahead by 15 or more points after halftime is not allowed to run a full court press. It is considered a full court press when a team applies pressure in the opposing team's backcourt after scoring a basket or on any in-bounds play. If the LCRD representative on duty determines that this rule is being violated, the game will be stopped, the team will be warned, and a time-out will be charged to that team. Repeated violation of this rule could result in forfeiture of the game.
- h. **Free Throw Line Up-** The first slot will be left open in all leagues **except 7 & 8.**
 - i. **Mercy Rule-** In the fourth quarter if a team is ahead by 20 or more points, the clock will run continuously, except when time-out is called by either team. Should the lead become less than 15 points, the clock operator will revert to normal time keeping.
 - j. Food or drinks are NOT allowed inside the gym before, during, or after games. Squeeze bottles with water only, that can be sealed, may be used on the bench.
 - k. Coaches must help LCRD protect the privilege to use school gyms. Any actions which may damage school equipment should be prevented at all times. Report any problems to LCRD staff ASAP.
 - l. **7-10 YEAR OLDS-** the height of the goal will be 8½'.
 - m. **7 & 8 YEAR OLDS:** no score kept during regular season; 6 minute quarters with a running clock; players may be removed from game for excessive fouling; full court press NOT allowed; team on defense must stay inside 3 point line until the ball crosses half court; slot closest to the goal MAY be used for free throw line-up; the free throw distance is 12'; lane violation is 5 seconds; one coach allowed on court during games.
 - n. **See 8 YEAR OLDS LEAGUE PLAYOFF RULES.**

5. **TECHNICAL FOULS:**

- a. Any player or coach that receives a conduct related technical foul (talking back to an official, arguing with others, fighting, and other type unsportsmanlike conduct), in the first half of a game is suspended for the remainder of the game in progress. If the infraction occurs in the second half, the player or coach is suspended for the remainder of the game and the first half of the next scheduled game.
- b. Any player or coach ejected from a game will be suspended for the remainder of the game in progress and the next scheduled game.
- c. Two offenses of this nature may result in expulsion from the league.

6. **PARTICIPATION:**

- a. Only players on the team roster will be eligible to participate in games or practices.
- b. All players must play one full quarter of each half without being removed from the game, unless they are injured.
- c. Each player must be a starter in at least every other game in which eligible to play.
- d. If a coach intends to not allow a player to play, he must notify the LCRD representative at the game prior to the start of the game. Unexcused absences are an acceptable reason for sitting players out.
- e. Penalty for violation of any of the above may be forfeiture of game.

7. **SPORTSMANSHIP:**

- a. Players, coaches, parents, and spectators are required to exhibit good sportsmanship at all times.

- b. Taunting opposing players, arguing with officials, or yelling at opposing teams will not be allowed.
- c. Teams will **ALWAYS** line up and shake hands immediately after each game.
- d. Coaches, players, parents, or spectators displaying adverse behavior may have their privileges to participate in the program revoked.

8. PROTESTS:

- a. The only protests that will be considered will be those pertaining to players that did not meet the participation requirement or misinterpretation of the rules.
- b. All other disputes will be settled at the game by a LCRD staff member with the coaches and officials involved.
- c. It is the coach's responsibility to call time-out if he/she wants to question a rule interpretation. If the call in question is the correct call, this time-out will be charged to the team. If the call is determined to be incorrect, the time-out will not be charged to the team. Judgment calls may not be questioned.

9. AWARDS:

- a. A single elimination tournament will be conducted at the end of the regular season for all leagues **EXCEPT 7 year olds**. Seeding for the tournament will be determined by regular season standings. The teams with the best regular season records will get the most favorable seeding for the tournament
- b. Individual trophies will be awarded to the first and second place teams in each league, immediately following the championship game of the end of the season tournament.
- c. If two or more teams end up the regular season with the same record, results of head to head play between those teams will determine the higher seed. Should this method fail to break the tie, a coin toss will determine the higher seed.
- d. Certificates of Participation will be issued to all players.

10. ALL-STARS:

- a. All-Star teams will be formed in each league **EXCEPT 7 year olds** to participate in the Georgia Recreation & Parks Association, District tournament at the end of our regular season.
- b. All coaches will be required to attend the mid-season coaches meeting to submit All-Star candidates from their team. Another meeting will be scheduled near the end of the season for coaches to vote on the All-Star team members.
- c. The coach of the team that wins the championship will be the first option to coach the All Star team. If that coach is unable to for any reason, the next choice will be the coach of the team that was the number 1 seed from the regular season, and down the line in order of regular season finish. All Star coaches must be NAYS Certified and must attend the mid-season and final coaches meetings unless excused.
- d. Only those players assigned to a team by January 18 will be eligible for All-Star competition.
- e. Players must participate in at least one-half of their team's games to be eligible.
- f. Any player that played in any games with any other recreation agency during the LCRD basketball program is not eligible.
- g. Out of county residents that do not attend school in Liberty County are not eligible.

11. COACHES CERTIFICATION: All coaches must be certified through the National Alliance for Youth Sports (NAYS) or any certification program accepted by LCRD. Instructions for on-line certification are included. *See NAYS instructions.*

12. Use of any tobacco products or alcohol will not be allowed at any practices or games, nor inside the building at any games. Anyone smelling of alcohol and/or obviously intoxicated, will be asked to leave the premises.

13. TEAM PICTURES- Team pictures will be scheduled by LCRD for all teams. Junior and Senior team pictures will only be scheduled if requested by the team coach. The coach's role is to make sure parents receive picture info and understand the procedure. The schedule will be issued along with game schedules. LCRD has a contract with this photographer and he is the only one that can take team pictures.

14. **UNIFORMS-** Uniforms will be issued December 16-19. The Uniform Issue Schedule will be issued at the Draft for each league. Players will be issued a jersey and a pair of shorts, both of which must be worn at all games. Team and players name may be printed on the shirt, otherwise, the shirts may not be altered in any way (cut-off sleeves, etc.). Players may wear their own shorts as long as they are the same color as the issued shorts and do not have pockets. Players may keep the uniform. Players may not wear earrings, beads, or any item that may be a safety issue.

15. GAME SITES:

- a. 7-10 Year Old Girls & Boys- Shuman Recreation Center
- b. 11 and 12 Year Old Boys- Snelson-Golden Middle School
- c. 11-12 Year Old Girls- TBD
- d. 13-14 Year Old Boys- Lewis Frasier Middle School
- e. 15-17 Year Old Boys may play games at LFMS and Riceboro Youth Center

8 YEAR OLDS PLAYOFF RULES

1. A single elimination tournament will be conducted at the end of the regular season for the 8 Year Olds League. Tournament brackets will be determined by a random drawing and shown on the game schedule.
2. Six (6) minute quarters will be played with normal clock operation.
3. An official game book will be maintained. All substitutions must be made at the scorer's desk and players will foul out of the game with 5 fouls.
4. All other special rules apply.
5. Individual trophies will be awarded to the first and second place teams immediately following the championship game.