

HOWARD COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND PARKS
7120 Oakland Mills Road
Columbia, Maryland 21046-1677
410-313-4703

2011 BASKETBALL LEAGUE RULES

I. PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

- All players must be 18 years of age.
- A team may not play in more than one division. Players may be on the roster of only one team per night.
- Each team shall be limited to twelve (12) players on its official roster. **The deadline to add players to your roster is Friday January 28.** The team manager must submit to the Department Sports Office before the first game of the season a roster of all of the players on his/her team. Rosters must be delivered to the address above or faxed to 410-313-4646. Failure to turn in a roster before the first game will result in forfeiture of every game until the roster is on file with the League. -Any team using an ineligible player shall automatically forfeit each game in which the player participated. If a team uses **a suspended player** or a player under an assumed name, that team shall automatically be dropped from the League. Each game played with that player and all scheduled games not played shall be forfeited to the opponents. Players should carry photo identification to each game and shall produce identification upon request to the scorekeeper.
- Protests as to the use of an ineligible player must be submitted in writing to the Department within 48 hours of the game and no protest fee is required.
- Any team which forfeits games on two occasions may be dropped from the League.

II. PLAYING RULES – Games are played under NHSF rules. See exceptions below:

- All games will consist of two (2) 20minute running halves with a five (5) minute break between halves. Overtime period(s) shall be three (3) minutes.
- The clock will stop when an official signals:
 - a. Unusual delay in getting a dead ball alive
 - b. Time out for injury
 - c. Any technical foul**
- There will be four (4) one minute time outs that can be used any time during the game. **(Each team will only have one timeout at the start of any overtime).**
- The clock will be stopped for fouls, jump balls, and violations during the final two minutes of each half, and during the final minute of each overtime period.
- Game time is forfeiture time.
- **A TEAM MAY START THE GAME WITH 4 PLAYERS. NO GRACE PERIOD.**
- **Players may enter the lane on the release of the ball when foul shouts are attempted.**
- **On a free throw attempt the two spaces closest to the end line shall remain open. Players will move up one space, the bottom block is now unoccupied.**
- NO DUNKING or grabbing the rim is allowed at any time. If it occurs during a game, the goal will not count, a technical foul will be assessed and the player will be ejected from the game. A technical foul will be assessed and the player will be ejected if it occurs any time before the game or during intermission. If it occurs after the game, that player will be ejected from the next game.
- Before competing, an athlete must cover any open wound on his/her body. If an athlete begins to bleed during competition, play must be stopped, the athlete who is injured removed, and any potentially contaminated surfaces must be cleaned. An athlete who is removed from a contest due to bleeding must have his/her bleeding stopped and any wound covered before he/she is allowed to return to competition. If his/her bleeding resumes, the contest must be stopped again and any potentially contaminated surfaces cleaned. It is up to the discretion of the official in charge of the competition as to how many times the competition should be stopped due to an athlete's bleeding before that athlete is disqualified from further participation in that contest.
- A Manager /Coach or Player will be ejected from the game upon receiving two technical fouls for a combination of playing technical fouls and/or bench/administrative technical fouls.
- Unless modified by this set of rules, all games of the League shall be played in accordance with the current National Federation Rules.

III. DISCIPLINARY ACTION

- **A player, coach or manager or spectator who is ejected from a game by an official must vacate the building within 5 minutes of the ejection. Players or spectators who do not leave in the allotted amount of time may face further suspensions. A delay in leaving the building may also result his or her team's forfeiture of the game. Players and spectators shall be suspended for at least one (1) game beyond the game he/she was ejected from. A second ejection during the same season shall result in an automatic suspension from any Department sponsored activity for a period of at least one year from the date of the second incident.**
- Anyone who strikes, shoves, pushes, bumps, trips, or otherwise molests, harasses or threatens an official or a member of his/her team or any other team shall be suspended for at least one (1) year from the date of the incident.
- Any un-sportsman like conduct may result in barring the player(s) or the team from further participation in the League.
- S The Howard County employee's manual requires the department to take action against anyone who harasses any Department of Recreation and Parks staff.
- S Substance abuse by player personnel during the game shall be subject to ejection by game officials/or disciplinary action taken by the league director.
- S 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.

IV. MISCELLANEOUS

- Awards shall be as follows:
 - League Champion - 1 team trophy
 - League Runner-up - 1 team trophy
 - Playoff Champion - 12 individual awards and one team trophy
 - Playoff Runner-up - 12 individual awards and one team trophy
- The franchise fee shall be the amount to cover all officials' fees, facility rental, scorers, League equipment, printing, postage, and administrative costs.
- **Inclement Weather Policy** - If a snow emergency is declared in Howard County at 7:00am on weekends, all games for that day are canceled. If schools close early or are closed for the day, all games for that evening are canceled. If in doubt whether a snow emergency is in effect, call the Recreation Department recorded message from any touch-tone phone at 410-313-4451.
- Post Season Tournaments - All teams are eligible. Teams will be seeded in the single elimination tournament according to team record.
- Uniforms - Each player must dress in the same color shirt with at least a 5" number on the back. **A two shot technical foul will be issued at the beginning for any uniform violation, and the opposing team will start the game with possession of the ball.**
- No jewelry shall be worn during the game! Religious and Medical alert medals are not considered jewelry. A religious medal must be taped and worn under the uniform. A medical – alert medal must be taped and may be visible.

VI. RULES FOR HOWARD COUNTY SCHOOLS and Howard County recreation and Park facilities

- No street shoes on the basketball court.
- No food or drink is allowed in the gym or surrounding areas.
- No smoking inside the school.
- Children will be permitted in the gym only when accompanied by an adult.
- Disobeying any school regulations will result in expulsions from the League.

VII. Co-Rec Playing Rules

Each team shall field no more than 5 players on the court at one time. No more than 3 men may be on the court at one time. A legal game requires a team to have 1 female (minimum total of 4 players) when playing with three males but teams may always have more women than men on the court. Teams may have as many players on their rosters as they want. All rosters must be finalized by the third week of the regular season. There are no co-ed specific rules regarding play other than gender requirements on the court.