

Willard Parks Recreational Basketball League: *General Rules*

Willard Parks and Recreation will be using the most current NFHS guidelines with the following modifications regarding rules and violations.

This is a recreational league. Officials are instructed to make decisions regarding violations on a per play basis, in order to promote personal growth and development. Many violations that will not be called on less talented or developed players will be called on more talented or more developed players. Calls for all players will become stricter during the course of the season.

Please remember that these games are being played for the benefit of the children playing.

Thank you for being respectful and positive.

SCOREKEEPING

- The scorekeeper will be responsible for keeping score for each game.
- Scoring will be kept on paper and the scoreboard for all points scored, however, after a team has scored more than 20 points on their opponent, the scoreboard will not be used until the difference is less than 20 points.
 - The scorekeeper must make the score adjustments if the point difference is less than 20 points.
- The gym supervisor will be responsible to make sure the score is accurate in cooperation with the scorekeeper.
- The scorekeeper and official are responsible for the time clock management.

WEATHER CANCELLATION

- The WPR office will contact the coach if games are cancelled.
- Coaches are responsible to inform parents if games are cancelled.
- Cancellations will be posted on Facebook. <https://www.facebook.com/WillardParksAndRec?ref=hl>
- The cancellation line will be updated. 742-5398 / Please join our remind text after receiving invite.
- Make-ups will be scheduled by the sports coordinator.

REFEREES

- Referees oversee all on court rulings.
- No protests will be allowed.
- All referee decisions are final.
- Do not approach referees before or after games with complaints. Complaints must be discussed with supervisor on duty. Supervisor has the right to schedule a later meeting if de-escalation is needed.

OFFICIAL BASKETBALLS

- WPR will provide the game ball for all league games. The following will be the official sizes for each grade:
 - PreK – 2nd grade will use a jr. size ball (27.5)
 - 3rd grade and up will use a women's official size basketball (28.5)

GOAL HEIGHT

- Eight (8) feet for PreK – 2nd grade division.
- Nine (9) feet for the 3rd – 4th grade division.
- Ten (10) feet for the 5th and 5th grade division.

FREE-THROW

- All free-throw lines will be marked with different color tape on the gym floor.
- PreK – K division may shoot from 9 ft line.
- 1st – 2nd grade division will shoot from 11 ft line.
- 3rd – 6th grade divisions will shoot from 15ft line.

VOLUNTEER COACHES

All coaches are required to pass background check.

- If a coach is not present at game time, please have a parent or adult with your team coach.
- Coaches are responsible for their team, players, themselves, and their fans behavior.
- Profanity or un-sportsmanlike behavior will NOT be tolerated.
 - If any problems accrue during or after the game where a coach feels necessary to speak with the sports coordinator, they would need to schedule a meeting for the following business day (Monday's usually). This will allow any parties to take some time to cool off.

GAMES

- Each team will play a 7-game season.
- Half time is three minutes long.
- PreK – 2nd grade division will consist of two 14-minute continuous clock halves except for the last 2 minutes of the second half; the clock will stop for all dead ball situations. If a team is ahead by 20 points, the clock will **NOT** stop during the last 2 minutes of the second half.
- 3rd – 6th grade division will play two 16-minute continuous clock halves; with same clock stop rules. If a team is ahead by 20 points, the clock will **NOT** stop during the last 2 minutes of the second half.
- Four players are required to start a game. Less than four players are considered a forfeit for that game.
- Each team will be allowed three (60-second) time-outs per game.
- 1 and 1 penalty shots will be enforced beginning on the teams 7th team foul in each half and beginning with the 10th team foul two penalty shots will be enforced.
- Intentional fouls are two shots plus the ball.
- Team possession at the first of each game will be determined by a jump ball situation.
 - All succeeding jump ball situations, including second half, will be on an alternating basis.
- **THERE IS NO FULL COURT PRESSURE. This includes the last minutes of the half and the game.**
- **UPDATE- 4 thru 7YO League: Defense must not be played until offensive team reaches the three-point line. (no half-court traps or pressure)**
 - **Once the ball is to the three-point line, defense will pick up on the ball up to the volleyball spike lines. If ball is brought back past that line defense must treat that line as an inbound line. (Arms, feet, head or body cannot cross that line as defense pressure.)**
- GAMES CAN END IN A TIE.
- **Over time:** OT will be a 2-minute running clock. Each team will have one time out. If a team has all three timeouts at the end of regulation, the team will still only have one timeout at the start of the overtime session. **There is no double OT!**

VIOLATIONS

WPR will be focusing on the following violations, offenses, and points in the upcoming season. These are items that I have observed in our current session, or items that have been brought to my attention by coaches.

PreK – 2nd Grade

- More attention directed toward hands off defense, including reaching around the body for the ball
- More attention toward travel violations. 2-4 steps permissible, several steps running will be called as a violation
- Boundaries and backcourt violations will have additional focus
- Hands off defense, controlled reaching in an attempt to grab the ball will be allowed, provided contact is minimal
- Slapping at the ball and making contact with hand or arm will be called more tightly
- Try to avoid body contact: push, block, etc.
- Travelling and double dribbling will receive extra attention

3rd – 4th Grade

- Hands off defense, reaching or slapping at ball with contact will result in a foul
- Double dribble and travel will be called more tightly- (shuffling or dragging pivot on per case basis, walking with ball will result in violation)
- More attention to body contact fouls: blocking, pushing, hand check, illegal picks and screens
- Backcourt violations will be called
- Sportsmanship will receive additional attention, and referees will communicate with players regarding this.

5th – 6th Grade

- Hands off defense: riding or pushing will result in blocking foul
- No moving picks and screens (no “posting up” or “boxing out” at top of key to gain advantage)
- Travelling and double dribble violations will be called very tightly.
- Shooting fouls will draw additional attention; more free throws will be awarded. Clock will stop for 5 seconds to line up, then will run during the attempt
- Sportsmanship will receive additional attention, and referees will communicate with players regarding this

As session progresses the officials will be informed to call appropriately to the flow of the game. Knowledge of the game should improve for the players so calls will begin to get stricter as the session unravels.

FOULS AND TECHNICALS

- **Decisions of the referees are final!** There are NO discussions or arguments about rules, interpretations or judgment calls.
- The following is a list of SPECIAL FOULS:
 - **Foul language technical-** Cursing will not be tolerated. The foul counts as a personal foul and team foul. If the player or coach continues, they shall be ejected from the game.
 - **Bench technical-** Foul shall be called to the player and team.
 - **Technical-** Charged to the player and team.
 - **Un-sportsmanlike technical-** Charged to the player and team.
- The gym supervisor and/or official out of their judgment rule the foul to be flagrant and the individual can be ejected from the game.
- ALL TECHNICALS ARE AUTOMATIC TWO SHOT FOULS.

- If a player, coach or spectator is ejected from a game and does not have a ride until the game ends, the individual must go into the hallway.

SUSPENSION OF PLAYERS/COACHES

- WPR reserves the right to suspend players/coaches/parent due to misconduct, damage to property or any reason deemed detrimental to the basketball program.

RULE CHANGES

- The Sports Coordinator reserves the right to change a rule during the season if deemed necessary for the safety and well being of the participants or for league improvement reasons.
- If at any time a rule is changed during the season, the coach/team will receive notice of the rule change.

PRACTICES

- Each team will be scheduled one (1) practice time each week before the season starts. You will keep that time until games begin.
- It will be the team's responsibility to contact the office to notify Parks staff of changes in scheduled practices.
- Practice times will last approximately one hour.
- Gyms will be shared if space is not available.
- If team coach is willing to make arrangements for practice to be at a location outside of the Parks locations, that is the teams decision.
 - Sports Coordinator will need to know before this is finalized and will need verification from the facility.



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