

Loudoun County PRCS Middle School Basketball League Rules and By-Laws

2015-2016 Season

1. All Leagues will encourage their Middle school players to honor the commitment needed to play for a Loudoun County PRCS Middle school Team and will honor their commitment to the Loudoun County PRCS Middle school League.
2. Each participating league will appoint a liaison/point person (e.g., Select Commissioner) that will attend meetings and respond to all issues and concerns regarding PRCS Middle School Basketball. This same individual will be responsible in communicating with Loudoun County PRCS weekly to confirm correct scores and/or other game details, as needed.
3. Team Personnel
 - a) The Loudoun County Middle School Basketball League will be composed of Boys and Girls teams 6th, 7th, and 8th grades. (PRCS may decide to combine age groups to facilitate Division formation).
 - b) The Boys league will follow 3c. The Girls league will be allowed to play up or down into two categories: A or B (minimum age in c.i, and maximum age as follows in c.iii).
 - c) Player age limits:
 - i) Players participating on a 6th grade travel team cannot turn 14 years old before March 31, 2015.
 - ii) Players participating on a 7th grade travel team cannot turn 15 years old before March 31, 2015.
 - iii) Players participating on an 8th grade travel team cannot turn 16 years old before March 31, 2015.
 - d) Loudoun County Public School age and attendance policies are to determine the appropriate travel team for each player. Exception: If necessary to achieve minimum roster size or to even the playing field of players, leagues may move 6th or 7th grade players up as needed. No player can move down a level in grade in the boy's league only.
 - e) In the girls league only a team may elect to play up into a higher level league (B to A). A request must be made before November 1. After November 15 all teams are locked into their league for the entire season. A maximum of two girl's teams may represent each school. No team can play down a level before filling the A league. If over 50% of your roster is 8th grade girls, then you are not permitted to play in the B division.
 - i) Girls A league will play three games (scheduled at random). These three games will count towards the ten game schedule, but will be used to seed teams into two divisions (Gold and Silver). The top half of the teams will be placed in the Gold Division and the bottom half will be placed in the Silver Division (PRCS will determine the division cut off, based on total number of teams that participate). The team's win/loss record will be used to determine seeding (refer to Rule 8.d for tie breaker rules). PRCS will then compose a schedule for the remaining seven games, each team playing opponents within their division. Upon conclusion of regular season, there will be a Gold playoff tournament and a Silver playoff tournament.
 - f) Players must attend the Middle School, in order to participate on one of the Middle School's teams. There will be no combining of players from different middle schools in order to form teams.
 - i) Exception: Private schools may participate in a league, provided the player attends the school and the school conforms to ALL of the rules (presented in this document)
 - g) Players cannot play in both House and Middle School Leagues. Players cannot play on both a High School team and a Middle School team.
4. Middle School Rosters
 - a) Each team must have a minimum of 8 players and a maximum of 12 players.
 - b) Rosters will be submitted by each League or Select Coach to PRCS prior to November 1, 2015. Notify PRCS (sky.dantinne@loudoun.gov and ryan.mehalic@loudoun.gov) when complete. Registration in the scheduling software will be used to allow PRCS to communicate directly with coaches or parents (when required), allow coaches and Commissioners to communicate with each other, allow Commissioners to

enter game scores, and to verify player eligibility for participation (age, grade, school, etc.) Team registration will include the following information for each player or coach on the team:

i) Player Information:

- (1) Full name.
- (2) Date of birth.
- (3) Grade and school
- (4) Jersey number.
- (5) Parent contact email.

ii) Coach Information:

- (1) Full name.
- (2) Address.
- (3) Email.
- (4) Phone.

- c) No roster changes will be made after November 1 unless approved by PRCS during a meeting, which may be conducted in person or via email.

5. Practices

- a) Organized select practices may not begin prior to November 8, 2015. The league will assign up to a maximum of 3 hours practice time per week. For practice time purposes, the week starts on Monday and ends on Sunday. If a blackout occurs during the week then the following week/ or make up week, an additional 3 hours can be added.

6. Playing rules for all regular season and tournament games are in accordance with National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) 2015-16 Basketball Rules Book, except those changed or emphasized within this document, including the following:

- a) Periods: 7 minutes
- b) Timeouts: 3-full and 2-20 second timeouts allowed per game.
- c) The home team must wear a light color jersey, and the visiting team must wear a dark color jersey. The offending team will change their jersey or wear a "pinnie".
- d) Overtime period(s) will be 3 minutes long. Each team will receive one additional 20-second timeout in overtime (this adds to any left over from regulation time).
- e) A coaching "box" will be provided during each game (referees discretion).
- f) Each player in uniform must play, but there is no mandatory minimum playing time. It is up to the coach to decide how much playing time each player receives.
- g) Teams leading by more than 20 points may not press, unless the score differential goes back to 20 points or under.
- h) If a team is up more than 30 points, there is a mandatory running clock until the point difference is back to less than 30.
- i) Each team will supply a volunteer at least 14 years of age to keep score or to operate the clock. All scorebooks at the end of each game should be given back to the facility attendant to place in a secure location.
- j) All Middle School games must be officiated by the same official's organization (currently PVOA) during the 2015/2016 season.

7. Regular Season
 - a) All Divisions will play a 10 game schedule
 - b) The regular season champion within each Division will receive individual awards.
8. Post Season Tournament
 - a) All Divisions will play a single elimination playoff, with teams seeded according to their finish during the regular season.
 - b) The post-season tournament champion and runner-up teams will receive individual trophies.
 - c) During the post-season tournament, the higher seeded team is always the home team (and will wear a light color jersey).
 - d) Tiebreakers: The approaches that will be used to break all ties, including seeding for the post-season tournament, are as follows in descending order: If at any step a team is tied it reverts back to head to head.
 1. Head to head record
 2. Total points allowed all season by team
 3. Total points scored all season by team
 4. Coin Flip
9. Infractions and Penalties: Loudoun County PRCS appointed travel commissioner will make the final decision regarding all alleged rules violations, and conduct after consulting with the appointed Travel representatives from each league. The Rule infraction will be discussed as an open forum with each commissioner making every attempt to include a fair decision. PRCS will then make the final ruling. Standing penalties for infractions are as follows:
 - a) Any coach or player ejected from a game will sit out the next game, no exceptions.
 - b) Any coach or player ejected for fighting will sit out two games, no exceptions. Second offense results in permanent removal from the league
 - c) Coaches or players receiving two technical fouls in a season will automatically be placed in a probationary status. Coaches or players who receive four technical fouls in a season will be removed from the PRCS Middle School League. Furthermore harsh penalties may be enforced by the individual leagues. Penalty for violations of the PRCS rule are automatic forfeit of any games in which the offending coach or player participated after receiving their fourth technical of the season.
10. All players, coaches, league staff, and spectators are required to follow the Loudoun County Code of Conduct, at all times. (Please refer to the Loudoun County Web PRCS Web Site for more details). PRCS representatives (including facilities attendants and referees) have the right to remove unruly fans or participants. Any rules not covered above can be amended per PRCS ruling.