



2026 YOUTH BASKETBALL GAME RULES

Elementary League Grades 2/3 and 4/5

ONLY WATER ALLOWED IN THE GYM.

PLEASE DO NOT BRING FOOD OR SOFT DRINKS INTO THE GYM. THIS APPLIES TO PLAYERS AND SPECTATORS.

1 PROGRAM MANAGEMENT

SPORTS COORDINATOR: Eva Daliana | W: 541-754-1706, C: 503-877-2224 | eva.daliana@corvallisoregon.gov

PROGRAM ASSISTANTS: Alejandro Chavez | 541-766-6462 | PRsports@corvallisoregon.gov

- A. The Sports Coordinator has final authority to make decisions pertaining to all basketball league rules, regulations, and schedules; to act in the best interest of the City of Corvallis; and to make decisions in the spirit of competitive balance and fair play.
- B. Upon registering, all participants agree to abide by Parks and Recreation's rules and regulations.
- C. All Youth Basketball Coaches are volunteers and must pass a background check if 18 or older.
- D. Parks and Rec staff or officials may stop, postpone or cancel any game due to weather, unsafe conditions or other circumstances that may jeopardize participant safety in anyway, including games in which player, coach or parent behavior is deemed out of control.
- E. Parks & Recreation is not responsible for valuables. Please store them securely.
 - 1. If you need to check our lost & found outside of game or practice times, contact the Sports Coordinator, not school staff.
- F. All practice and game schedules can be found on Parks & Recreation's TeamSideline page.

Parks & Recreation Sports Management TeamSideline Page:

<https://www.teamsideline.com/sites/Corvallis/home>

All OSAA High School basketball rules will apply with the exceptions stated below.

2 EQUIPMENT AND COURT SPECIFICATIONS

Grades	Size of Ball	Height of Basket	Size of Court	3 point Arc	Distance of Free-Throw Line
2/3	Junior Size 5 (27.5")	8 ft	Half court 50 ft X 42 ft	Not applicable	10 ft
4/5	Junior Size 5 (27.5")	10 ft	Standard court 84 ft X 50 ft	Not applicable	15 ft

- A. Local Corvallis school gyms will be used for practices and games. Court sizes and markings will follow the standards of the specific school and guidelines above.
- B. Rubber basketballs provided by Corvallis Parks and Recreation must be used for practices and games. If other balls (e.g., those belonging to players or schools) are used during practice, the coach is responsible for returning all borrowed balls and ensuring the issued balls are not misplaced.
- C. For the Elementary program, although the 3-point arc may exist on the floor, all baskets made beyond this arc only count as two (2) points. Therefore, the distance of the line is not applicable for this age group.

2.1 UNIFORMS

- A. **Game T-Shirts:** Players must wear a t-shirt in their school's designated color to games. T-shirts with the Parks and Recreation logo on the front and a number on the back preferred. Coaches will receive a coaching shirt during the Coach Orientation and should wear it whenever with their team.
 - 1. More details about P&R t-shirts provided on the Parent Information Sheet.
- B. **Pants/Shorts:** Players can wear their own shorts or long pants.
- C. **Shoes:** Shoes must provide proper support and be appropriate for court use. Street shoes or shoes that leave marks are not allowed.
- D. **Protective Equipment:** Players may wear protective gear as long as it complies with basketball rules. Mouthguards are recommended, and eyeglasses should be secured with a safety strap.
- E. **Jewelry:** All jewelry must be removed before playing. (Exception: Medical or religious medals can be worn if taped to the body under the uniform.) Earrings must be removed, not taped. Hair accessories must be soft; taping over hard ones is prohibited. Fingernails should be kept short.

3 GAME STRUCTURE

Grades	Game Length	Time Between Periods	Half Time Length	Scoring	Timeouts	Start of Game Possession
2/3	Four 8-minute periods, running clock	1 minute	3 minutes	All field goals: 2 points No free throws or 3-point field goals	Two 60-second timeouts permitted each half of play	Home team on the schedule. Team awarded possession starts with throw-in at half court

4/5	Four 8-minute periods, running clock	1 minute	3 minutes	Free throw: 1 point All field goals: 2 points 3-point field goals are permitted	Two 60-second timeouts permitted each half of play	Jump ball
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- A. **Start of Game Possession:** For grades 2/3, the home team on the schedule will determine the team that will start with the ball to mitigate significant differences in height and coordination among children. Alternating possession rules will then ensue throughout the game.
- B. **Timeouts:** Coaches are encouraged to use their timeouts for player breaks and skill reinforcement.
- C. **Free Throws:** For grades 2/3, no free throws will be taken during the game. All fouls will result in a pass in from out of bounds. 2/3 players are still developing their basic basketball skills. Passing the ball in from out of bounds encourages more practice with fundamental skills like passing, positioning, and teamwork.
- D. **Tied Game:** If a game is tied at the end of regulation, it will be counted as a tie.

4 GAME TACTICS

Grades	Playing Time	Set Defense	Pressing Defense	Double Team/Crowding	Stealing from the Dribbler	Offensive 3 Seconds
2/3	Equal playing time. All players must start at least two games.	Only player-to-player defense. (see more below)	Pressing is not allowed	Double-team/crowding is not allowed	Stealing from a dribbler is not allowed	No key on the court, 3 second rule not applicable
4/5	Equal playing time in periods 1-3. All players must start at least two games. Coaches' discretion in the fourth period	Only player-to-player defense	Pressing is not allowed	Double-team/crowding is not allowed	Stealing from a dribbler is permitted	3 seconds rule lightly enforced

- A. **Playing Time:** To ensure that all young children participating in the sport have an opportunity to experience the game, equal and fair playing time is recommended.
- B. **Set Defense:** The player-to-player requirement for grades 2-5 encourages physical activity, movement, and promotes the development of individual skill related to guarding a player both on and off the ball.
 1. **Player-to-Player Defense** = Each player is responsible for guarding and moving with the offensive player with the same color wrist band. This requires the defensive player to move according to the offensive player's movements with or without the ball.
 2. **At grades 2/3**, defensive players must always keep both feet on the ground. No jumping on defense to avoid injury and player collisions.

- C. **Pressing Defense:** Pressing defense is prohibited for grades 2-5 to help children develop principles of movement with and without the ball in a half-court setting.
- D. **Double-Team/Crowding:** Crowding the ball with multiple players (referred to as “double-teaming”) is not allowed for grades 2-5 due to skill and size discrepancies among children at these ages.
- E. **Stealing from the Dribbler:** At grades 2/3, players are not allowed to steal the ball from an active dribbler. This allows ball-handlers to develop dribbling skills and confidence with the basketball.

5 OTHER RULES

5.1 LINE UPS & SUBSTITUTIONS

- A. **Line-up Card** - Each coach must submit their completed line-up card to the scorekeeper at least five minutes prior to game time.
- B. If one team has less than five players, they must borrow players from the opposing team to get to five. If there are less than ten players total between both teams, play 4v4 or 3v3.
- C. **Substitutions:**
 1. **Grades 2/3:** Substitutions may only take place in between periods, not during the period.
 2. **Grades 4/5:** Substitute on dead balls at coaches' discretion.
 3. Exceptions: Injuries or health related issues, or if a team has more than 10 players.
 4. Coaches should keep good records to ensure that all players are receiving equal playtime during the season.

5.2 SPORTSMANSHIP & TECHNICAL FOULS

- A. A coach or player receiving a technical foul for any reason will be suspended for at least one game.
- B. Good sportsmanship is expected of all coaches and players, which includes hive-fives with opponents after each game.
- C. **Coaches and parents should focus solely on their team.** Critiquing the officials distracts from the players. Please keep any comments about officials to yourself until you can speak with P&R Staff.
 1. If you have feedback about an official, please write your comments on the official score sheet used by P&R Staff or call 541-754-1706 to leave a message for the Sports Coordinator with your compliment or concern.