

# YOUTH BASKETBALL PROGRAM RULES

## 1. ORGANIZATION

The Kent Parks and Recreation Department will have sole responsibility of organizing and administering the K – 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade recreation basketball programs. The 4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> Grade basketball program will be organized through Kent Parks & Rec in conjunction with The Portage Trail Conference Youth Basketball program for boys in grades 4th-6th. A program coordinator will be assigned to each program and it will be his/her responsibility to supervise the referees and scorekeepers and will serve as timer. He/she will have complete charge of the facility where the program plays

**ALL COACHES MUST HAVE A FIRST AID KIT AVAILABLE AT ALL PRACTICES AND GAMES!!**

## 2. ROSTERS

- a. Rosters will be determined by the coaches and the coordinator at the team assignment meeting according to their grade, experience, position, size, and age. While it is the intent to produce equitable teams, this cannot be guaranteed. No players are permitted at the team assignment meeting.
- b. Players signing up late will be put on a roster only if there is room on that team's roster.
- c. Rosters will be kept in the scorer's book on scoresheets at all games.

## 3. FORFEITS

Teams must have four eligible players to start a game. SCHEDULED GAME TIME IS FORFEIT TIME. THERE WILL BE NO GRACE PERIOD.

## 4. FACILITY USAGE

- a. **K – 3<sup>rd</sup> Grades:** The practices and games will be held in the Recreation Center located on Franklin Ave. The center has had many updated changes and must be maintained by anyone using the facility. Please be sure that when practice is over, all trash and equipment must be picked up prior to that team leaving. During game day, the above applies as well.
- b. **4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> Grades:** Because this year we will be having practices in the Kent City Elementary Schools, the following must be adhered to:
  1. It is the responsibility of the coach to make sure all trash and equipment is not left behind in the gymnasium. The Gym should look the same way when you leave as when you arrived.
  2. It is essential that the coaches tell the parents that **NO CHILDREN** should be left at practice **ACCEPT** for their child who is on the basketball team.
  3. Coaches must read to all parents building usage form provided by the Kent City Schools.

## 5. COACHES:

- a. There will be only two adult coaches permitted on the benches during game time unless prior approval granted to a team with more than two coaches. There shall be **no others** sitting with or near the benches of the players.
- b. All Kent coaches must wear their coaches t-shirt that is provided by Kent Parks & Rec at ALL GAMES. Other schools should have a shirt that distinguishes them as the coach of that team. Be Positive in your actions towards the children, parents, and referee's.

## 6. LOCAL PLAYING RULES

- a. **K – 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade** games will consist of four 6-minute quarters with a one-minute break between quarters and 5 minutes between halves.  
**The 4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> Grade** games will consist 2-20 minute halves with 3 minutes after the first half. The clock will run non **stop except for the last 2 minutes of each half and will stop** for all things ordinarily stopping the clock, i.e. out of bounds, fouls, etc.
- b. An overtime period will last two minutes **non-stop**, with one timeout per team. Additional overtimes will go into sudden death. Time constraints constitute this rule.
- c. Only two timeouts per team per half. No timeouts will be carried over into the next half or overtime.
- d. Teams will shoot one and one at the seventh team foul each half.
- e. Coaches and players:  
There will be no fighting permitted. If someone is tossed out of a game due to technical fouls, will result in ejection from the game -- no exceptions and a one game suspension for the next scheduled game.  
Anyone physically or verbally abusing referees or staff will be ejected from the program.
- f. Spectators/parents must stay in the stands. Any spectator who verbally abuses the game officials will be banned from further games and immediately ejected from the premises.
- g. There will be no smoking in any of the buildings. Failure to comply with this could result in loss of gym privileges.
- h. **For K – 3<sup>rd</sup> Grades**, at approximately the 3-minute mark of each quarter the clock will stop for a substitution break. At this time **players on the bench must be placed in the game**, unless they are injured, are too tired to continue, or have fouled out of the game. It will be the coach's responsibility to select the starting line-ups for each quarter. The appointed coach shall make every effort to play each player 3 minutes of each quarter.
- i. **DEFENSE:**  
**K – 3<sup>rd</sup> Grades:** Zone defense or deliberate double-teaming defense not permitted. No defense permitted before half court at any time.  
**4<sup>th</sup> Grade:** Man to Man defense only! No Full Court Press.  
**5<sup>th</sup> Grade:** Man to Man defense only! Full Court Press in second half only.  
**6<sup>th</sup> Grade:** Man to Man defense with Zone Defense permitted in 2nd half only. Full Court Press in second half only.  
**Mercy Rule:** Only in second half: If a team is winning by 15 points – no full court defense permitted. (applies to 5<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> grade teams only)
- k. **OFFENSE:**  
**K – 3<sup>rd</sup> Grades:** All players must have a chance to handle the ball. Players must pass the ball at least once before the ball is shot unless it is a breakaway layup. Rotate players so same player does not bring up the ball every time.  
**4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> Grades** Coaches must do their best to have all players have equal playing time.
- l. All other playing rules are High School Rules.

