



GCCYS Boys/Girls BASKETBALL RULES

Set forth below are the General League Rules for the Greater Cincinnati Catholic Youth Sports League (GCCYS). The GCCYS adheres to the rules of basketball as set forth from the OHSAA and NFHS. Rules specific to the GCCYS are laid out in this document. Parishes and Schools, by entering teams, agree to follow the rules, accept penalties for noncompliance, and enforce them within their own Parishes and Schools. The goal of the league is to provide and opportunity for the players to develop the character skills learned from sports, displayed in Catholic Faith, through participating in a safe, fun and conflict free game environment. The games are for the children who play and participate.

1. You must be a member of a participating parish or attend the school to play on a GCCYS team/league. Players may be added to the roster before the sixth game. Players may only play on one GCCYS team.
2. Each member's Sports Coordinator/Athletic Director must insure that all rosters are submitted and GCCYS liability waivers completed before the first game. Players who are caught playing without a liability waiver will be removed from the team and not allowed to participate for the remainder of the season, including the Post Season Tournament.
3. Team Rosters must be completed and submitted with all required information to the League by the deadline posted on the league website. If the GCCYS finds incorrect information, the team will have one day to correct it. If noncompliant teams fail to correct, they will be removed from the schedule. A completed roster is defined as all required information on the website including jersey numbers.
4. Please pay the officials before the game begins. All officials will be paid \$35 per game in cash only. The coach of each team should pay both referees \$17.50. This is to allow the GCCYS to track referee payments for each parish as mandated by the Archdiocese of Cincinnati. Officials have been instructed not to take abuse from coaches. They will ask you to leave or forfeit.
5. If you do not show up for a game it will be considered a forfeit and your school/parish will be subject to a \$70 fee. If a team only has 4 players or obtains a substitute player that is not within the substitute player rules, the game may be played, but will be considered a forfeit. The referees will be paid, their normal fee, at the start of the game and there will not be any forfeit fees to the school/parish. Forfeit fees should be sent to the GCCYS and we will take care of

- paying the officials. If these fees are not paid, you are ineligible for the post-season tournament.
6. All games are to be played as scheduled. The GCCYS is the only one able to change games and games will only be changed for parish/school-sponsored events that are mandatory. The GCCYS office must have 10 days' notice of any game changes unless a catastrophic reason.
 7. Each Parish/School is responsible for opening gyms for their home games a minimum of 30 minutes before the start of the first game.
 8. Each Parish/School will provide a clean and safe environment for its home games. Each Parish/School will provide a Gym Monitor, and that person must be independent from the game. Coaches cannot serve as gym monitors. The role of the Gym Monitor is to oversee the operation of the event and be available, if needed, to manage the gym, protect the officials, and manage the crowd by controlling the behavior of all fans and assisting the officials in this area. Gym Monitors are responsible for introducing themselves to the officials before the start of each game and to have a copy of the rules on the scorer's table.
 9. Admission fees are \$3 per adult, \$1 for seniors and students, and \$5 for family.
 10. Due to injury or illness a team that has 5 or less healthy rostered players can add players for a given game to a maximum of 6 players as long as they follow these guidelines:
 - For 3rd and 4th grade teams, an eligible substitute(s) can be from the same grade or younger and should be a player with a similar talent.
 - For 5th-8th grade teams, an eligible substitute(s) can be from a younger grade at any level OR the same grade at an equal or lesser league level.
 - If a substitute cannot be found that meets any of the previously mentioned criteria, the team can use a player from a higher level in the same grade, but the game will be counted as a forfeit and the score must be reported as 2-0.
 - In all of the above cases, the school/parish coordinator should be made aware so a player of equal talent level of the player(s) missing is used as the substitute(s).
 - If the league finds a team "stacking" a roster the score will be registered a forfeit. No debate, no protest.
 - No substitutes can be used for GCCYS Post-Season Tournament play.

11. OHSAA rules are the basis for our league operation with GCCYS modifications.

- a. No A-B-C teams prior to 5th grade. Grades 3 and 4 are to be evenly divided (balanced).
- b. All teams in 3rd – 5th grade and 6th- 8th recreation teams (identified as Level 5) must play each player for one full quarter from start to finish. Coaches should strive for roughly even playing time or what is determined by your school/parish. Exception if a player is injured or sick. You must play all your players regardless of the opposing team's size. 6th-8th grade competitive teams have NO required playing time. This rule is in effect for the regular season as well as the post-season tournament. The scorekeeper must sit at the scorer's table. It is the scorekeeper's responsibility to keep track of playing time, it is NOT the referee's responsibility.
- c. The 6th-8th grade Boys & Girls teams can use a full court press. 3rd – 5th Boys and 3rd – 5th Girls (Reserve) cannot press. For 6th – 8th Grade Boys and Girls, if a team has a lead of 20 points or more they can no longer press.
- d. The new free throw rule will be adopted for all Boys and Girls levels (3rd – 8th), which states that teams will now shoot two free throws on common fouls when in the bonus, and teams will reach the bonus once their opponent commits five (5) fouls in each quarter, with team fouls resetting at the end of each quarter.
- e. In 3rd-4th grade, teams must play man vs man. Zone defense is not permitted.
- f. In 3rd-8th grade once a 20+-point lead has occurred in the 4th quarter there will be a running clock.
- g. Game Time/Clock:
 - 3rd – 8th Grade – (4) 6 minute Quarters, stop and go.
 - 3rd & 4th Grade teams receive (4) 45 second timeouts.
 - 5th – 8th Grade teams receive (3) Full Time Outs and (2) 30 Second Time Outs.
 - All overtime Periods are 2 minutes, stop and go.
 - The clock operation is the responsibility of the home team. If playing at a high school gym and a clock operator is not provided by the high school, then the home team is responsible for the clock.
 - Clock & Scorebook Keepers are part of the officiating team and are prohibited from cheering, coaching, or engaging anyone other than the Officials or the Coaches when passing along information pertinent to the game. Clock & Scorebook Keepers that do not adhere to this rule will be removed from the scorer's table and ejected from the gym.
- h. Special rule for 3rd- 5th grade games and where full court press is not allowed: When a dead ball throw in occurs in the back court with less than one (1) minute remaining, the clock is to start when the offensive player crosses mid court. This will be signaled by the referee. This rule applies to DEAD BALL SITUATIONS in the 4th QUARTER and OVERTIME periods only.

- i. Grades 3rd – 5th Defender must allow ball handler 3' to cross half court line
 - j. Free throw lines:
 - 3rd & 4th Grade – 9 feet (bottom of the circle)
 - 5th Grade – 12 feet (top hash on the lane)
 - 6th – 8th Grade - 15 feet (regulation free throw line)
 - k. Free-Throw Rule – Players may enter the lane when the shooter releases the ball, except the shooter who cannot enter until the ball hits the rim. The lane is from your respective free-throw line down.
 - l. Boys 3rd – 6th Grades will be using the intermediate size ball (28.5"). 7th & 8th Grades will be using a regulation ball (29.5").
 - m. Girls 3rd – 8th Grades will be using the intermediate size ball (28.5").
 - n. No jewelry may be worn. No face paint or hair paint.
12. Every team is automatically entered in the GCCYS postseason tournament. Teams that play in "A" divisions will play in the Division I tournament (discretionary to tournament committee) and they will be seeded. The date of tournament pairings/seedings is decided by GCCYS basketball coordinator. **If you do not wish to be entered in the tournament you must notify GCCYS a minimum of two weeks prior to the end of the regular season.**
13. Winning team must report scores within 48 hours of the game.
14. Two coaches maximum on each team bench. Only one coach can stand at any given time.
15. Poor behavior: There is no appeal process for an ejection to a player, fan, or coach. Ejection leads to automatic suspension from next scheduled league game. If a parent, family member, relative, or any adult is ejected from a game, then they are suspended from the next league game as well as the player associated with that adult.
16. All Player, Coach, Parent/Spectator penalties, as a result of misconduct and poor behavior, will be administered and upheld by the GCCYS League

Man To Man Defense – 3rd & 4th Grade

Man to man defense is to be officiated in the spirit that the rule is written. No player is to be standing in an area, not guarding anyone, in essence playing a zone.

To make sure every coach and referee is clear on this If the defensive team is helping, the help player must leave the ball when the original defender recovers. If the team is switching, the original defender must pick up the other defender's player immediately and not continue after the ball. Switching and helping should not result in two defenders pressuring the ball simultaneously trying to force a turnover.

Help side defense is allowed. Help defense is defined as a defensive player must be guarding an offensive player but may rotate to provide help side defense when appropriate. For example, if an offensive player is in the corner of the court and the ball is on the opposite side of the court. The defensive player can slide into the help position. In the example, the player would slide and “put a foot in the lane”. The man to man defensive principle of one pass away be in deny, two passes away be in help is the intent of this rule so the players in 3rd and 4th grade will be afforded the opportunity to advance their defensive skills

No double teaming is allowed except for in the paint, WHICH IS DEFINED AS THE 15' FREE THROW LINE AND DOWN TO THE BASELINE. One small exception will be when a ball screen is being set by the offensive team.

- In this situation, a natural double team may occur as the screening player is bringing his defender next to the ball. Patience in this is required. If the double team continues to happen after the ball handler clears the screen, it should be called.

In man to man, you are allowed to switch defenders when picks are being set or at any other time where switching may occur. **YOU ARE NOT ALLOWED TO SIT AND WAIT FOR AN OFFENSIVE PLAYER TO COME INTO YOUR AREA AND THEN JUST SWITCH PLAYERS.**

There is no defensive pressure in the BACK COURT at all. Players on the defensive team **MUST** get back once the offensive team secures possession. The defensive team must stay back three feet to allow the offensive team to be able to get the ball and both feet into the front court.

On sideline out of bounds plays at or near mid-court the defensive team may stay back at three point line and then pick up the offensive player once the ball is inbounds.

On out of bounds players under the offensive team's basket, the defensive team may not just place a player under the basket to “protect” it. They must defend the out of bounds thrower but **CAN BE** placed at an angle to take away the direct throw to the area in front of the basket.

Failure to adhere to these rules will result in a warning on the first violation; and one point and the ball on each violation thereafter.

If players are instructed to stop a fast break, current OHSAA rules for delay of game will be enforced. A warning will be issued for the first offense. Further offenses will result in bench technical fouls. After two technical fouls the head coach would be ejected. The officials need to be aware that these are young players. Some may simply not know what to do which would not mean they are intentionally trying to impede the progress of the offensive player in the back court. The rule of thumb will be if one player or multiple players make an intentional move to stop the fast break, delay of game will be called. The coaches who are doing this are violating the spirit of the rule and we need to define that this is illegal.

No “clear-outs” are permitted on offense. A clear-out is defined as moving four players to one side of court to gain an advantage for one superior player to take the ball to open side.

5-out offense with motion is permitted as long as both sides are balanced. In this case, two pass away defenders are permitted to help on the block. That defender does not have to follow his/her defender to corner.