

BOYS & GIRLS YOUTH BASKETBALL RULES
GEORGIA HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATION WILL GOVERN THESE LEAGUES
EXCEPT AS SPECIFIED BELOW
SEASON 2012-2013

1. The underlying principles of the basketball program as organized by the SPALDING BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION, INC. (SBA), are as follows:
 - a. To provide the youth of this community with a safe, wholesome and fun environment in which to learn the basic skills of playing basketball;
 - b. There are no life and death matters that can arise from the basketball games being conducted under this program. Consequently there will be no need for participants, parents, coaches, spectators, officials nor anyone else to conduct themselves as though. The SBA will not tolerate any verbal, mental nor physical abuse towards anyone involved in any activity that we sponsor. We expect all persons associated with this program, in any capacity, to respect and abide by this philosophy.
2. Boys and girls who wish to participate in the program should have a parent or guardian complete participant application form, present a birth certificate or some other valid birth date verification form and pay the registration fee.
3. Ages will be determined as of December 31 of each year.
4. Teams must have at least five (5) players to start a game. If a team does not have five (5) players present at the time the game is designated to start, it shall forfeit the game. For the Instructional League, the game will be forfeited if there are less than four (4) players present at the time the game is designated to start. A grace period of ten (10) minutes shall be allowed for the first game of the day only. Coaches may conduct a scrimmage game (regular season only) that does not count in the standings if there are not enough players present to officially start a game. Players on other teams may participate in the scrimmage games with the permission from the coach of the players' team and the parent or guardian of the child.
5. Any player or coach ejected from a game must leave the facility immediately and will be suspended from all practices, games, and Spalding County Parks and Recreation Department facilities for a period of one (1) week. If the next game for the ejected player or coach does not fall within the week of suspension, said player or coach may not participate in that next game. Any player or coach ejected from two (2) games over the course of the season and/or tournament shall be declared ineligible for participation for the remainder of the season in the youth basketball program. The suspension can be more than one (1) week.
6. All games shall be divided into four (4) quarters. Length of quarters shall be as follows:
 - a. 4-6 years old boys- 10 minutes with a running clock.
 - b. 4-6 years old girls- 8 minutes with a running clock.
 - c. 7-8 year old - 6 minutes
 - d. 9-13 year olds - 7 minutes

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7. All players present at the start of the game must play the minimum of one (1) quarter's length per game unless the player is injured, sick or under legitimate disciplinary action of the coach. The coach of a disciplined player shall report these circumstances to the official scorekeeper, parent/guardian, and SBA representative prior to the start of the game. During the 1st and 2nd quarters of each game there will be no substitutions made until $\frac{1}{2}$ of the time period has elapsed. There will be an Official time out called at the half way mark of each of the 1st and 2nd quarters of each game or at the closest dead ball to the half way mark. At this time the coach must substitute with the next 5 (five) players or remaining player(s) if less than five (5).
8. Any player who has not played the minimum time at half-time must start the third quarter and remain in the game until his/her minimum playing time is accumulated. The coach should check with the scorekeeper at half-time as to the amount of time each player has remaining.
9. Failure to abide by the participation rule will result in a forfeit for the offending team and the head coach present will be subject to rule (5)
10. Only the head coach and one (1) assistant coach and players are allowed on the team bench. Anyone on the bench, other than players, must be NYSCA certified.
11. All team members must wear SBA issued uniforms unless specified excepted by the SBA.
12. The clock will be operated in accordance with G.H.S.A. rules with the following exceptions:
 - a. 4-6 age groups — The clock shall be stopped only on time-outs.
 - b. 7-13 age group—The clock shall be stopped only on time-outs, fouls and substitutions. During the final minute of each quarter and overtime period the clock will be stopped on all whistles.
 - c. Each team will be allowed two (2) time-outs and one (1) 30 second time out per half. Time outs are not carried over from the first half to the second half. Each team will receive one (1) additional time out per overtime period in addition to any time -outs left over from the second half.
 - d. Overtime periods shall be two (2) minutes in length.
13. 5-10 year old modifications:
 - a. The goals shall be eight (8) feet high.
 - b. An official ladies basketball will be used.

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- c. Teams may not guard or pressure their opponents in the backcourt except as follows:
 - 1. 4-6 year olds may guard only at the 3-point line. Teams may guard opponents once the ball has crossed the 3-point line. If the ball crosses the 3-point line and comes back out, the defensive team may guard the offensive player anywhere on the court. During the last two (2) minutes of the 2nd and 4th quarters defense can begin at half court.
 - 2. 7-8 year olds-- Teams may guard at half court. Any team that is ahead by 20 points may not press. Once the score is within 15 points, regular play will resume.
 - 3. The lane violation shall be five (5) seconds in the 4-8 year old leagues.
 - 4. The 4-6 year old boys and girls shall shoot free throws from the bottom of the circle and back. The 7-8 years old shall shoot free throws 8 feet from the goal.
 - 5. 7-13 year olds —There will be a running clock once a team is ahead by twenty (20) points. Once the score is within fifteen (15) points, regular play will resume.
- 14. Half- time will last five (5) minutes.
- 15. One (1) coach may stand in front of the team bench.
- 16. In case of a tie in league or divisional standings, playoffs position and league champions will be determined by, 1. Overall record, 2. Head to head results, and 3. Play 1 (one) regular quarter game the same day as the last regular scheduled game. There will be 15-minute grace period given prior to the start of the game. Each team will be allowed 2 time outs and 2 fouls. Bonus rule will be in effect after four (4) team fouls and double bonus will be in effect after six (6) team fouls.
- 17. All of the above rules will apply to the post-season single elimination tournament. Teams will be seeded in the tournament according to the season's final standings. Coaches are responsible for picking up tournament brackets.
- 18. All coaches must be nationally certified by N.Y.S.C.A. For details call 770-467-4750.
- 19. The coach who wins the regular season schedule shall coach district teams. If that coach is unwilling to coach, the second place coach is next in line to coach, and so on. If there are two (2) teams playing in District play in a particular age group, the first place coach can select any player from any team to play on his/her team.