



YOUTH BASKETBALL LEAGUE RULES  
Farm, Mite and Midget  
2024 -2025

I. PURPOSE

The Murray County Youth Basketball Program is organized to provide a recreational activity for boys and girls ages 5-12 . The program is designed for the following purposes:

1. To aid in the physical development through fun and exercise.
2. To teach the basic fundamental skills of the game of basketball.
3. To aid in the social development through good sportsmanship and moral character with adult guidance.
4. To teach good attitudes and discipline to our youth participants.

II. ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

A. Governing Authority

1. The governing body of this league will be composed of the Murray County Parks & Recreation Board and the Recreation Department.
2. The program shall be carried out under the guidance and direction of the Murray County Parks & Recreation Department.

B. Governing Rules

1. The Murray County Parks & Recreation Department Youth Basketball League will be governed by the current rules and regulations of the National Federation of State High School Association, with the exception of the local league rules which supersede the National Federation rules.

C. Coaching Requirements

1. A person of high moral character who is a respected member of the community.
2. A coach should have a basic knowledge and understanding of the fundamentals of basketball.

3. A coach should never incite their players or parents by criticizing an official.
4. A coach should never use profanity, drink alcoholic beverages, smoke, or use tobacco in any form during any activity.
5. A coach should never be overly concerned with winning, but more concerned that each child on the team has fun and learns the fundamentals while participating.
6. A coach should put the program first, and not focus on situations that could cause harm to the program and participants involved.
7. A coach is expected to be present at all practice sessions, games, and meetings; or have an approved coach present.
8. A coach should try to the best of their ability to keep each player (especially the weaker players) interested and participating throughout the season.
9. Each coach must attend the NYSCA Clinic online @ [www.nays.org](http://www.nays.org). All All-Star coaches must be NYSCA Certified to participate in GRPA Tournaments.
10. Coaches need to remember that posting derogatory comments towards fans, officials, or the department will be deemed as unsportsmanlike and are grounds for removal from the program. (anyone with concerns is encouraged to contact department staff)

### III. LEAGUE RULES AND REGULATIONS

#### A. The Game:

1. The game will consist of four 10 minute quarters of running clock with the last 3 minutes of the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter ran by regulation with five minutes between games and at halftime. **The clock will stop for injuries and timeouts only when it's a running clock.**
2. Each coach should have a line-up turned into the scorekeepers, ten minutes prior to game time.
3. The ball shall be 28 ½ inches for all girls divisions and also Boys Mite Division and 29.5 for 11/12 Boys in circumference as outlined for high school in the National Federation of State High School Rules book.
4. The Mite divisions will play on 8½ ft. goals and Midgets on 10ft. Goals
5. The participation rule is as follows: Each participant must play a minimum of 5 minutes each half.

6. There will be three full 45 second time-outs and two 30 second time-outs permitted for each game. A warning will sound at 30 seconds of a full timeout, and 20 seconds on a 30 second timeout.
7. If a league game ends in a tie there will be a two minute overtime. If the game is still tied, the game will end in a tie.
8. A full court press will be allowed in the 4th quarter of each game. Any team that has a 15 point or more lead must play defense inside the three point line. The first two violations will be a team warning and all subsequent violations will constitute a team technical.  
**Defense in the backcourt will not be allowed. The procedure will be 2 warnings and then a technical foul will be called.**
9. The clock will run in the fourth quarter when a team has a 20 point lead and will continue to run until the losing team pulls to within 10 points. The clock will stop for timeouts.
10. Foul shots - Mites and Midgets from the foul line 15ft. Teams may not scream or yell on the foul line and arms must be straight up. Players cannot make contact with other players on the foul line. Penalty – Lane Violation
11. Lane - 5 seconds for Mite Division - 3 seconds for Midget. The lane area shall be standard for both the Mite and Midget Divisions.
12. There will be a ten-minute grace period for the first game only.
13. There will be three activities allowed per week, including games and practices, plus one activity on the weekend. Practice sessions should be limited to 90 minutes and finished by 9:00 p.m. No practice on Wednesday after 5:00 p.m. Games will be scheduled on Wednesday nights during the Post Season Tournaments, if necessary.
14. If a player is being disciplined and not permitted to play, the coach must advise the opposing coach and scorekeeper.
15. Ties for standings of first or second place in league play will be broken as follows:
  - a. Head to head regular season competition.
  - b. Common opponents from outside league play.
  - c. Play-off game or games.
17. No Participant or spectator of the Murray County Recreation Department shall be on school property until 20 minutes before scheduled practice time and shall be confined to the gym only.

## 7-8 FARM RULES

### A. The Game:

1. The game will consist of four quarters of 8 minutes of running clock with the last three minutes of the fourth quarter ran by regulation play. There will be five minutes between games and at halftime. **The clock will stop for time-outs and injuries only when we are using the running clock**

The ball shall be 28½ inches in circumference as outlined for high school girls.

FARM will play on 8½ ft. goals

The participation rule is as follows: In 7/8 each player must play a minimum of 4 minutes per half.

There will be three full 45-second time-outs each game. The clock will stop for timeouts.

There will be a 1 minute overtime in FARM league. If the teams are still tied after the overtime the game will end in a tie.

FARM teams will be allowed to play half-court defense the entire game. Ball handlers must be allowed to cross half court, defense must stay 3 feet from half court. They will also be able to play full court defense the last minute of the game. **Note:** When a 15 or more point lead is obtained, the defensive team must play defense inside the 3 point area.

Foul shots – 12 Foot. There will be a 5 second lane violation. Teams may not scream or yell on the foul line and arms must be straight up. Players cannot make contact with other players on the foul line.

Penalty – Lane Violation

There will be a ten-minute grace period for the first game only.

## B. Eligibility

1. The age divisions are: Mite 9 & 10 and Midget 11 & 12
2. The age control date is prior to September 1<sup>st</sup>.
3. Participants must live or own land in Murray County, or attend school in the Murray County school system
4. Each player must have a copy of their birth certificate on file in the Recreation Department office.
5. Every participant must have insurance whether private or the supplementary policy available through the Recreation Department, in order to be eligible to participate.

## D. Conduct

1. The penalty for fighting, or flagrant conduct such as profanity is ejection from the present game and the following game. On the 2nd offense the coach will be suspended from the program. Coaches suspended will not be allowed to attend games in any capacity (Parent or Spectator). Players that are ejected will be suspended from the rest of that game and the following game.
2. Problems with spectators:  
  
First - Warning or Technical (Officials Judgements)  
Second - Technical foul or ejection-Officials Judgment  
Third - Removal from Gym or Program/ Team Technical Foul
3. No Smoking, Tobacco products, food, or drinks are allowed in gyms.

## V. ALL-STAR SELECTION

### A. All-Star Coaches

1. The All-Star coaches are determined by a set of rules followed by the Recreation Staff.
2. The All-star coaches will pick the participants with help from the Recreation Department
3. No more than 5 players can be picked off a regular season team for any one All-Star team.

### B. Team Selection

1. The All-Star coaches will pick participants with the help of the Recreation Department. Each coach will submit a list to the Recreation Department of who they consider to be the top 10 players in the league ( not on their team). If a coach does not turn in their all-star ballot they will be banned from coaching the next sport they coach.
2. Once votes are compiled, the Allstar coach must take the Top 5 vote getters. If there is a tie: the coach is required to take 5 total from the group...he/she then can choose his team based on need (i.e Guards/post etc.)