



City of Allentown  
Department of Parks and Recreation  
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[www.allentownpa.gov](http://www.allentownpa.gov)

# YOUTH BASKETBALL LEAGUE RULES

1. **Eligibility:** Organizations/Teams are responsible for keeping birth certificates on file for all players assigned to a roster. These birth certificates may be called upon for review. Each roster will be reviewed for discrepancies. Eligibility protests **must be made by 10:00am on the next business day.**  
2019 Summer League Eligibility
  - a. (Minor Division): Player cannot turn 11 before June 15th of 2019. (DOB on/after 6/15/2008)
  - b. (Cadet Division): Player cannot turn 13 before June 15th of 2019. (DOB on/after 6/15/2006)
  - c. (Junior Division): Player cannot turn 16 before June 15th of 2019. (DOB on/after 6/15/2003)
2. **Rosters/Coaches Meeting Attendance:** Every player and **ALL coaches** must be included on a roster. All teams **head** coaches must be present at the league meeting. Each team shall be limited to 12 players. Players may only play on one (1) team in only one (1) Division. **No roster additions will be accepted after the Roster Addition Deadline(s): Friday June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2019**
3. **League Fines:**

- Team Head Coach missing League Meeting	\$25.00
- Incomplete/Missing Roster at League Meeting	\$25.00
- Ineligible Player	\$100.00 and forfeit each game played
- First Forfeit	\$25.00
- Second Forfeit (by same team)	\$75.00
- Third Forfeit (by same team)	\$100.00 and league suspension

  - a. Fines are to be made payable to A-YOUTH (Allentown Youth Organizations United to Help)
  - b. Organizations that do not pay their fines will not be permitted to participate in any City of Allentown Leagues or receive any permits for field/court usage.
4. **Rules:** City of Allentown Parks & Recreation Department Youth Basketball League(s) are governed by PIAA basketball rules with the exceptions stated here.
5. **Game Ball:**  
Minor Boys Division/ All Girls Divisions ball is to be a 28.5" size ball.  
Cadet / Junior Boys Divisions ball is to be a 29.5" size ball.  
Each team is required to supply one ball. It is the referee's choice as to which team's ball will be used as the official "Game Ball".
6. **Bench & Court Personnel:** All coaches must be listed on the roster. Each team will be allowed one (1) head coach and one (1) assistant coach on the bench before, during and after games. Only the Head Coach will be able to stand. Only rostered players will be allowed on the bench with the designated

Head and Assistant Coach. All eligible players must wear the same colored jersey with a number that is not identical to that of a teammate. The home team will have the choice to wear pinnies if both teams have similar colored jerseys. Only players that are involved in the game in progress or the players warming up for the next scheduled game will be permitted on the court. **NO spectators are permitted on the court at any time.**

7. **Points of Emphasis:**

- a. Taunting and baiting will not be tolerated. [**Penalty: automatic technical foul - no warning.**]
- b. Rough play in the lane (kneeing, pushing, etc.). [**Penalty: personal foul.**]
- c. Backing into an opponent during a rebound. [**Penalty: personal foul.**]
- d. Diving for a loose ball with possession falling on the player [**Penalty: personal foul.**]
- e. Hand checking is not allowed. [**Penalty: personal foul.**]
- f. All talking to the referee concerning decisions is to be done by the head coach of the team. [**Penalty: Possible Ejection**]
- g. Dunking isn't allowed in pre-game warm-ups or half-time [**Penalty: technical foul.**]  
*Dunking is permitted during the game.*
- h. Pressing- If a team is winning by 20 or more points at any time during the game, that team cannot use any full or half court press defense. [**1<sup>st</sup> Penalty: team warning / Additional Penalties: technical foul**]
- i. Striking an Official or Game Staff [**Penalty: immediate (2) two year suspension from all Parks & Recreation Department Leagues. Incomplete suspensions carry over into the next sport such player or coach participates in.**]

8. **ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES / SMOKING:** Alcoholic Beverages and Smoking are prohibited before, during or after games by any game participant (players, coaches, scorekeepers, etc.) at any Allentown School District or City of Allentown facility or adjacent parking lot, court, ball field, etc.) For individual offenses, players will be suspended for the remaining games; for team offenses, the entire team will be dropped from the league for a period of one (1) calendar year. City Ordinance also calls for a \$300.00 fine if prosecuted.

9. **Hold Harmless:** In this program, all players participate voluntarily and absolve the City of Allentown and the team sponsor(s) from any liability for either personal injury or property damage or loss.

10. **Game Time & Timeouts:** All Divisions will use the 20 minute running clock for each half, except for the last two (2) minutes of each half when the clock will be stopped at each whistle. The clock will be stopped for each time out. There will be a 5 minute rest period between halves. Teams are allowed four (4) timeouts per game and one (1) timeout per extra period.

11. **Overtime Rules:**

***1<sup>st</sup> Overtime Period-*** Four (4) minute overtime period(s) with the clock running for the first three (3) minutes. The last minute the clock will stop at each whistle.

***Additional Overtime Periods-*** will be Three (3) minutes with the clock running for the first two (2) minutes. The last minute the clock will stop at each whistle.

***Minor Division-***ONLY one(1) three(3) minute overtime period will be played with the clock running for the first two (2) minutes. The last minute the clock will stop at each whistle.

12. **Game Scheduling:** All games are to be played as scheduled, unless cancelled due to weather conditions as determined by the City of Allentown Parks & Recreation Department (Summer), or the Allentown School District (Winter). Any team not ready to play as scheduled within the ten(10) minute grace period from the scheduled start time shall forfeit that game-and be assessed a forfeit fine Each

team must have five (5) rostered players in uniform on the court to start the game. If inclement weather approaches during the course of play, the referees and staff will make the call on postponing. You may call the Recreation Inclement Weather Hotline at **(610) 437-7750 after 4:30pm on weekdays and 8:00am on weekends** or visit [www.eteamz.com/acbl](http://www.eteamz.com/acbl) for more information.

13. **Sign in Sheet:** Each player must legibly sign the official sign-in sheet prior to the start of each game.
14. **Technical Fouls for Unsportsmanlike Conduct:** (cursing, taunting, unsportsmanlike conduct, etc.)
  - a. If a technical foul is called on a **player** for a conduct violation, that player must sit out the remaining time of the half.
  - b. If a technical foul is called on a **coach** for a conduct violation, one (1) additional free throw will be added, making the penalty three (3) shots and the ball. Any technical foul called on the **bench** is also awarded to the **coach**.
  - c. **Direct Technical** - a technical foul on a player or coach. The second technical foul charged to a player or coach is considered flagrant and the player or coach shall be disqualified.
  - d. **Indirect Technical** - the coach shall receive an indirect technical foul for each technical foul charged to his/her players. Any combination of three (3) direct or indirect technical fouls shall result in disqualification.

**Any player or coach disqualified will be suspended for up to the next three (3) games played by their team for the first offense and one (1) year for the second offense.**

15. **Unsportsmanlike Behavior:** The Parks & Recreation Department may suspend any player, coach, team or **spectator** for actions considered detrimental to the welfare of the league. Those ejected for reasons other than fighting are suspended for up to three (3) games. If the same person is ejected a 2<sup>nd</sup> time they are suspended for the balance of the schedule, or five (5) games (whichever is greater). Any sponsor, team, player, coach or spectator may be refused entry to the program because of past actions. In the event of inappropriate spectator behavior, the game staff and referees will stop the game to give all spectators a warning. If the inappropriate behavior continues, the game staff/referees will stop the game and clear the spectator area for the remainder of the game.
16. **Mandatory Playing Time:** All eligible players on the bench must play **in each half**, except injured players or players removed for disciplinary action. **The scorer's table will be responsible for monitoring that each eligible player has participated in each half of the game.** The scorer's table, and referees **must** be notified before the start of the game of any player in uniform that will not play in the game due to injury, illness, disciplinary action, etc. [Penalty: **Forfeit.**]
17. **Bleeding & Wounds:** A player who is bleeding, has an open wound, or has excessive amount of blood on his or her uniform, must leave the game and may not return prior to the first opportunity for such player to re-enter.
18. **Safety Concerns:** The referee is authorized to deal with safety concerns relative to jewelry, fingernails and hair styles. If detected, the player shall be directed to leave the game and may not re-enter until the situation is corrected. **ALL JEWELRY MUST BE REMOVED ....no exceptions (ex. taping)**
19. **Playoff Eligibility:** players must play in 50% of regular season games in order to be eligible for playoffs. Any questions regarding playoff eligibility should be directed to the City of Allentown Parks & Recreation Department.

## **Specific Division Rules**

### **Minor Division**

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|-------------------|--|
| 1. Summer Minor A | - Full Court Press is allowed at any time during the game                |
| 2. Summer Minor B | - Full Court Press ONLY allowed during last two (2) minutes of each half |
| 3. Winter Minor   | - Full Court Press ONLY allowed during last two (2) minutes of each half |
| 4. ALL MINORS     | - Players may move up one (1) step from the foul line for free throws    |

### **Cadet Division**

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|-------------------|--|
| 1. Summer Cadet A | - Full Court Press is allowed at any time during the game                |
| 2. Summer Cadet B | - Full Court Press ONLY allowed during last two (2) minutes of each half |
| 3. Winter Cadet   | - Full Court Press ONLY allowed during last two (2) minutes of each half |

### **Junior & Senior Division(s)**

1. Full Court Press is allowed at any time during the game in all Junior & Senior Division Offerings

### **SPORTSMANSHIP RULE (FULL COURT PRESS EXCEPTION)**

**When a team is winning by 20 or more points at any time during the game, the winning team cannot use any type press defense. In the spirit of good sportsmanship coaches should be verbalizing this to their players and spectators. [1st Penalty: team warning / Additional Penalties: technical foul]**