



PIAA Basketball Rules & Regulations 2018-19

Exceptions, Qualifications and Points of Clarification to
the National Federation of High School rules, as adopted by the PIAA/WPIAL.

METRO REGISTRATION COMPLIANCE & ACCEPTANCE

Metro USA Sports reserves the right to deny entrance to a district and/or team, or remove a team and/or district, at any time during the season, for the following reasons:

- 1) Final rosters not received by due date
- 2) Registration fees not received by due date
- 3) Roster substitutions and/or additions after due date
- 4) Ineligible player not residing within school district
- 5) Behavioral issues with player, coach, parent and/or 3rd party
- 6) Unsafe playing environment both on and off the court
- 7) Willfully not playing scheduled games

If a player, coach, team, parent and/or 3rd party is removed, it will be immediate. Any *fees paid will NOT be refunded*. Any administrative hours required to repair any schedule adjustment, will be invoiced to the district and team. Re-entry into Metro USA Sports, in subsequent years, will require approval.

GAME SCHEDULE COMPLIANCE

Each team that gains entry to Metro USA Sports is required to play all games as scheduled between the specified dates.

SEASON COMMITMENT

All teams must be game-ready and committed to play between December 1st and the end of the Metro Invitational Tournament. The MIT's is a segment of the winter season. All teams are required to participate. MIT entry fees are paid by Metro USA Sports for all teams in good standing. All proceeds benefit the MIT Host District non-profit organizations.

CODE OF CONDUCT

Our Primary Objective: **To provide a secure and safe environment for the youth of our communities, as well as our PIAA referees.** Metro USA Sports will do whatever it takes to protect our youth. Therefore, there will be "zero tolerance" when executing the code of conduct. Metro USA Sports follows rules as specified by the National Federation and as adopted by the PIAA and WPIAL.

The "HEAD COACH" will have complete control over the code of conduct. This means the "HEAD COACH" must control all players, assistant coach, parents, and any 3rd party that is in attendance at a Metro USA Sports scheduled game. The team "HEAD COACH" shall be held accountable for any violations as reported by the PIAA Officials. Metro USA Sports will uphold all violations from PIAA sanctioned referees. **If a PIAA sanctioned referee reports an incident, Metro USA Sports will act immediately** in accordance with PIAA regulations.

PIAA CERTIFIED REFEREES & RULES

Two (2) certified PIAA officials are required for each home game. Referees are NOT appointed by Metro USA Sports. They are appointed and compensated by the host team. It is required by Metro USA Sports that every game book, for each team, be signed by a referee. **ALL referees shall be treated with respect at all times.**

COMMENT: Metro USA Sports will completely rely on PIAA and WPIAL rules and regulations, entirely, to manage all sanctioned games. All conflicts will be settled by well established, rules & definitions as noted in the PIAA handbook. Therefore, it is important that all teams familiarize themselves with current PIAA rules & regulations. In addition, it is important that each district utilize referee chapters and referees that are well versed in officiating games at the appropriate level.

WAIVER & RELEASE OF LIABILITY (Player...Coach)

COACHES will have verified that all rostered players hereby acknowledge, prior to participating, that they have general health and/or accident insurance to cover any or all injuries that may be sustained at any location where games are scheduled throughout the defined season. That all participants have further acknowledge that they have released Metro USA Sports from any liability resulting from injuries or carelessness which is beyond the control of Metro USA Sports.

TEAM & PLAYER QUALIFICATION

Teams must be formed with players that reside within their school district. Verification is done through address and school attending per WPIAL standards.

AGE RESTRICTIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH PIAA

You may NOT have reached.....

Your 15th birthday by June 30th immediately preceding the 8th grade school year.

Your 14th birthday by June 30th immediately preceding the 7th grade school year.

Your 13th birthday by June 30th immediately preceding the 6th grade school year.

Your 12th birthday by June 30th immediately preceding the 5th grade school year.

Your 11th birthday by June 30th immediately preceding the 4th grade school year.

Your 10th birthday by June 30th immediately preceding the 3rd grade school year.

RULES & DEFINITIONS

Rules & definitions shall be in accordance with current National Federation and as adopted by PIAA/WPIAL rules & definitions.

Exceptions, qualifications, and points of clarifications as follows:

Ball Size:

(NEW) BOYS Grades 3rd, 4th and 5th: 28-1/2" circumference

BOYS Grades 6th, 7th and 8th: 29-1/2" circumference

GIRLS all Grades: 28-1/2" for all grades.s

Jersey: Reversible preferred

Numbers: Any one or two digit number is acceptable by Metro USA Sports. Numbers on front & back is preferred.

Team Size: Games must be started with five players. Preferred rosters between 7 and 10 players.

Sponsors: Sponsor names on uniforms are acceptable, as long as there is no affiliation with groups that support alcohol, drugs, tobacco, and firearms.

3-Point Field Goal: A 3-point field goal is NOT permitted for 4th grade & under for boys and girls. If the shot is taken & made, it shall be scored as 2 points. The rule was created to teach & encourage proper shooting technique.

Pressure Defenses (NEW):

3rd Grade (NEW):

Man-to-man ½ court defense entire game.

Man-to-man pressure full court defense last two minutes of 2nd half only and the last minute of each overtime.

Trapping is not permitted. Team may not press if up by 10 or more points.

4th Grade (NEW):

Man-to-man ½ court defense entire game.

Man-to-man full court pressure defense last two minutes of each half and the last minute of each overtime.

Trapping is not permitted. Team may not press if up by 10 or more points.

Foul Shots 4th & Under Only: The foul shot must begin at the line. If, after the shot, the player lands over the line, there will be NO violation.

Team Bench: The team bench shall be limited to rostered & uniformed players and no more than three (3) coaches. Coaches shall be limited to two (2) during MIT's.

DIVISIONS (Important)

(NEW) Teams are classified as Division 1 or Division 2 for grades 5 through 8 and scheduled separately. Metro will classify teams based on number of teams entered for each grade, WPIAL alignment based on school size and historical team information. Final classification/alignment will be approved by the *Governing Board of Core Districts*.

The scheduling **exception** would be if there were not enough Division 1 teams in a given grade level. In which case, Division 2 teams will be used to fill the schedule. All games will count as regulation games. Scheduling would be done randomly by using available gym dates & teams.

CALL-UPS

Definition: A call-up is a "rostered" player, from the same district, that may be used by another team from the same district. You may ONLY use a rostered call-up from a lower grade level/division from the same district.

(NEW) Teams may call-up, from a *lower grade level of the same division*, if short players for a given game. Ex: B8d2 may call-up from B7d2 only and G6d1 may call-up from G5d1 only.

Any team with a call-up shall be restricted to a *maximum of 7 players on the bench* including the call-up. The call-up must be identified to the opposing coach and scorer's table.

(NEW) **In addition**, the call-up must be reported to the programdirector@metrousasports.com for verification 24 hours prior to game start time. Failure to report a call-up will result in a game forfeit.

GAME PROCEDURE & TIME MANGAMENT

QUARTERS:

3rd & 4th Grade: Four, 6-minute quarters.

5th, 6th, 7th and 8th Grade (NEW): Four, 7-minute quarters.

Gym Time Slots: A minimum of 1-hour should be allotted for each scheduled game.

(NEW) TIME-OUTS: Three (3) full only. (may be modified for MIT's)

OVERTIME: 3-minute stop clock with 1 full time-out per overtime. There will be a 1 minute timeout between overtimes. Overtime games must be completed the same day or recorded as a tie.

(NEW) GAME TIME START LIMITS: No game time shall start after 8:00 PM on any night.

SCOREKEEPER: The home team shall designate an official scorekeeper and notify each coach & referee. The scorekeeper shall have a copy of the Metro Rules & Regulations at the table. The scorekeeper must inform the referees of any special rules that will apply to each specific game. The official scorebook must be signed by the referee.

(NEW) TECHNICAL FOULS: All technical fouls on players, bench, and any other incident must have the scorebook signed by the PIAA referee. Copies of the signed scorebook must be emailed to Metro USA Sports for documentation in the event of an incident. The referee must print their name, sign, indicate their chapter, phone contact number, email, and date. The report must be emailed & received within 24 hours. **If this information is not provided, by the specified deadline, no record will be recorded by Metro USA Sports...no exceptions!**

GAME RESPONSIBILITIES

HOME TEAM

The home team shall provide equal practice time and game ball.

Home team may charge admission for adults and students, sell refreshments, and sell 50/50 raffle.

Home team must provide & compensate (2) PIAA certified officials, clock operator, scorekeeper, and scoring table at mid-court.

VISITING TEAM

The visiting team must arrive 10 minutes prior to game time.

Teams must bring their own practice balls unless prohibited by the host team.

Visiting teams must yield jersey color to the host team.

The visiting team shall forfeit if arriving at game start or after.

Once a game has started, it will be considered a regulation game.

Example: If a game begins and after 2 minutes there is a power failure, the district opts to close the gym, it shall be considered a game played. Score must be reported with explanation.

IMPORTANT: All technical fouls on players, bench, and any other incident must have the scorebook signed by the PIAA referee. Copies of the signed scorebook must be emailed to Metro USA Sports for documentation. The referee must print their name, sign, indicate their chapter, phone contact number, email, and date. The report must be emailed & received within 24 hours.

SCHEDULED GAMES

The HOST team has complete authority over a scheduled game. Once a game is scheduled, it cannot be changed. If the visiting team does not comply with a scheduled game, it shall be recorded as a forfeit.

AUTHORIZED POSTPONED GAMES

If a game has been postponed due to school permit changes or due to adverse weather, then the HOST team must report it to Metro USA Sports immediately. The visiting team must be informed immediately and copied with any email. Proof of permit change will be required.

If a schedule change has been made due to permit changes or weather, it must be agreed upon by both teams and reported to Metro USA Sports within 24 hours.

If the HOST and/or Visiting team cannot agree on a make-up date before the end of season, it shall be considered a game not played with a zero-point value awarded.

If a game is rescheduled for any other reason, agreed on by both teams and reported to Metro...it will become an authorized/sanctioned game.

ANY game change or modification must be reported to Metro USA Sports within 24 hours. The HOME team must copy the VISITING team when emailing Metro USA Sport.

(NEW) FORFEITS FROM NO-SHOWS OR LATE FORFEITS

(NEW) Late forfeits, no-shows and associated referee costs.

All teams must have an email record of at least a 72-hour confirmation. The confirmation must be available to Metro by email if needed. If after a confirmation, the team does not show or does not give at least 24-hour notice of cancellation to the host team and Metro USA Sports, a fee in the amount of \$62 (or going rate) will be assessed. The visiting team shall make payment to the host team at once.

SCORE REPORTING

Metro USA Sports will ONLY accept scores from the winning team. The **head coach** from the winning team must report their score, electronically, to myscore@metrousasports.com. Scores must be reported within 24 hours of the scheduled game.

SCORE REPORT DEADLINES & ACCURACY

It is the responsibility of the HEAD COACH to be sure that their scores have been published accurately. Any inaccuracies must be reported prior to the score report deadlines as established in the season calendar.

Metro Invitational Tournament (MIT) Seeding

Team standings, for seeding, will be based on the following criteria (refer to the standings page on the website):

- 1st Total Standings Points as shown in the website standings column
- 2nd If there is a 2-way tie, head-to-head will be used or coin-toss if head-to-head cannot determine
- 3rd If there is a 3 or more team tie, Metro USA Sports, will use a lottery

NOTE: Points are awarded for **wins only**. If games are not played, there will be no points awarded. Tie games will no longer be considered. Points for/against WILL NOT be considered in standings calculations.

IMPORTANT! We must stress that the “*game scorebook*”, as provided by the home team, is the only evidence of the completed game. The lead referee must print his/her name, sign the book, and provide an email address for verification. If there is an issue...it must be verified. Metro USA Sports will no longer be liable to settle disputes since we cannot be at every game. Any issue must be reported, by email, within 24 hours of the end of game. NO EXCEPTIONS.

DISCLAIMER: *Any inaccuracies or contradictions that may be displayed on this sheet are purely accidental, and shall be ruled upon by Metro USA Sports. Rules may be amended from time to time and as needed. Any such amendments can be found at the website.*
<http://www.metrousasports.com>

