

## Rules and Eligibility

Please be sure to read all rules. Thank you!

1. No trainers on site. Coaches should bring ice packs, first aid kits etc. The event is unable to administer medical care. **VHSL Rules will apply with the following exceptions:**

2. All games will be played as follows: 6th Grade & below (2) 16-minute halves (28.5 Ball) , unless both teams agree to use a bigger ball.

7th Grade & above (2) 18-minute halves (29.5 Boys) (28.5 Girls)

3-minute warm-ups / 3 minutes half times (Both can be adjusted at the tournament director's, official's, clock staff's discretion if running behind, etc.)

**(Running Clocks until the final 2 minutes of the second half! The clock will then stop on free throws and dead balls.)**

3. **Mercy Rule will be in effect** when a team is ahead by **fifteen (15)** points or more the clock will continue to run (except during timeouts). Clock will revert to normal pace once the point difference is less than **ten (10)** points. **No Full Court Pressing allowed while Mercy Rule is in effect!**

4. Teams will be allowed **(2) full** and **(2) thirty** second time-outs during the regulation game.

5. 1st Overtime period will be two minutes (running clock). 2nd overtime will be first to score. **(1) 30 second timeout in overtime!**

6. Each team is responsible for their own warm up balls and any other items brought to the gym site.

7. Home team shall **provide Game Ball. No yelling or coaching from score table!**

8. Home team will wear light colored jerseys. Visiting team will sit to the right of table and wears dark colored uniforms.

9. Two shots beginning with the 10<sup>th</sup> foul of each half.

10. Rosters are limited to 15 players. Players can only play for one team during the tournament unless director approval provided in advance and based on circumstance. For teams within the same org no approval is needed but cannot play on two teams in the same division. **All players with first name, last name, uniform number, and your 2 coaches receiving coach bands must be listed on your roster by Thursday at 7pm.** Event materials will be printed and no changes or additions will be honored after this time.

11. Each Team will be supplied with **Two (2) coach's passes ONLY.** These bands are only for coaches on the bench and names of those receiving the coach passes must be on the roster submitted by **Friday at 5pm. If the name is not correct on the printed check-in sheet, a band will not be provided.**

**Wristbands must be worn on wrists throughout the entire tournament for coaches and spectators  
NO EXCEPTIONS!!!**

12. **All games can start up to 30 minutes early. Please plan accordingly to prevent a forfeit. If your team is not ready to play when we are ready to start, including up to 30 minutes in advance of the scheduled game time, it can result in a forfeit at the tournament director's discretion.**

13. **No outside food or drinks are allowed in gym. Concessions will be available. The only exception is if concessions sell out and signage would be posted if that occurs. Concessions are not affiliated with the tournament and are being provided independent from the tournament organizer. For any concession issues please discuss with concession staff.**

14. **PROTEST:** Any protest must be presented to Tournament Director or Admissions Staff with \$100 Cash *before tipoff*. Official's calls are not grounds for a protest.

We are Grade based tournament (see below) with age parameters and limitations/exceptions determined by birth date, that allow players in each division to compete against other players currently at the same grade/age level. A player may qualify under the age exception rule. ***Proof of grade and age MUST BE AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST DURING THE TOURNAMENT. Failure to provide may result in player(s) not being able to participate. The USSSA eligibility will be followed. NTBA eligibility can be permitted but will not be allowed for State, Regional, or National titled events, only USSSA eligibility will apply for those events. Player must be on the roster submitted to the tournament.***

15. **Conduct of Participants:** Unsportsmanlike conduct on the part of players, coaches or spectators will not be tolerated and **may result in expulsion from the tournament. Coaches will be held responsible for their players & spectators. Any coach, player or fan exhibiting unacceptable behavior will be removed from the premises without reimbursement and unable to attend future events hosted by the event organizers in any city/state. Failure to leave the property when told will result in a call to the police for trespassing. We will have a functional event and environment for athletes to thrive in.**

16. Any tiebreaker situations will be decided in the following format: Head to head, **fewest points allowed in all games**, point differential capped at 15, coin toss.

17. **In two-day events, only players that played on Saturday are eligible for Sunday play. Any exception requests by teams that have paid would need to be submitted to Candace and in writing via email by Thursday of tournament week for review. These requests will only be approved in rare circumstances.**

**Eligibility: (National Travel Basketball Association's Guidelines)**

3rd Grade—a player must be in the 3rd grade as of October 1, 2025 & must be 10 years old or younger on August 31, 2026 or a player in the 4th grade that is 9 years old or younger June 30, 2026.

4th Grade—a player must be in the 4th grade as of October 1, 2025 & must be 11 years old or younger on August 31, 2026 or a player in the 5th grade that is 10 years old or younger on June 30, 2026.

5th Grade—a player must be in the 5th grade as of October 1, 2025 & must be 12 years old or younger on August 31, 2026 or a player in the 6th grade that is 11 years old or younger on June 30, 2026.

6th Grade—a player must be in the 6th grade as of October 1, 2025 & must be 13 years old or younger on August 31, 2026 or a player in the 7th grade that is 12 years old or younger on June 30, 2026.

7th Grade—must be in the 7th grade as of October 1, 2025 & must be 14 years old or younger on August 31, 2026 or in the 8th grade that is 13 years old or younger on June 30, 2026.

8th Grade—must be in the 8th grade as of October 1, 2025 & must be 15 years old or younger on August 31, 2026 or in the 9th grade that is 14 years old or younger on June 30, 2026.

#### High School Eligibility

9th Grade—must be in the 9th grade as of October 1, 2025 & must be 16 years old or younger on August 31, 2026 or in the 10th grade that is 15 years old or younger on June 30, 2026.

10th Grade—must be in the 10th grade as of October 1, 2025 & must be 17 years old or younger on August 31, 2026 or in the 11th grade that is 16 years old or younger on June 30, 2026.

11th/12th Grade—All must be in the 11th or 12th grade as of October 1, 2025 and be enrolled in a state/nationally recognized high school. Homeschool entities are also recognized as eligible.