

Tiverton Junior Basketball League

Bylaws

Article I – Registration and Eligibility

- A. Registration shall be opened no later than (INSERT DATE/MONTH), or as soon as practicable.
- B. Children in grades 1 – 8 shall be eligible to register for the respective division for their grade level.
 - 1. **D League** – Children shall be in grade 1 or grade 2. Children may be divided into “Instructional Beginner” and “Instructional Advanced”, if such a program is offered in a given season, at the sole discretion of the Division Director. If warranted, an Instructional Division player with at least 1 year of instructional play, may be moved to “C” Division.
 - 2. **C Division** – Children shall be in grade 3 or grade 4. The division may be co-ed.
 - 3. **B Division** – Children shall be in grade 5 or grade 6. The division may be co-ed.
 - 4. **A Division** – Children shall be in grade 7 or grade 8. The division may be co-ed.
 - 5. **Rookie Girls** – Children shall be in grade 3 or grade 4.
 - 6. **Junior Girls** – Children shall be in grade 5 or grade 6.
 - 7. **Senior Girls** – Children shall be in grade 7 or grade 8.
 - 8. **Senior Coed** – If interest allows, TJBL may operate a Senior Coed Division with eligible players being in grades 9-12.

All who register that meet eligibility will be placed accordingly.

Exceptions:

All divisions shall operate as a “Plus 1”, which shall mean a player that has been held back in school shall remain eligible for one (1) additional year in the pertinent division (unless it will adversely impact the competitive balance of that division in the sole discretion of the Division Director).

Girls’ divisions, depending on registration numbers, may be redistributed to “Junior” and “Senior” as needed subject to the approval of the Board of Directors.

Article II – Team Structure

- A. **Team size** – The ideal team size for all divisions shall be eight (8) players. It is preferred that no team includes more than nine (9) players.
- B. **Drafting** – All divisions shall re-draft all teams each year to maximize parity, to expose more players to different coaching techniques, and to minimize the possibility of players not returning because of conflict with other players or coaches. Order of selection will be established by coin flip, drawing lots, etc. The order of selection shall be reversed in each round (i.e., The team that selects last in round one shall pick first the next round etc.) During the draft, coaches and directors shall make every effort to maintain competitive balance between the teams. Each division is encouraged to place all players on teams according to skills, and then select the

coaches for these teams by lottery or to at least place the more advanced players before assigning coaches. After the initial draft, children of head coaches may be switched for a player of equal skill. This is not a privilege guaranteed for assistant coaches. Drafts shall be run by the Division Director in addition to at least one (1) other board member to ensure parity.

C. Filling out a roster –

1. The Player Agent, in conjunction with Division Directors, shall work to ensure that roster needs are met with parity in mind.
2. If at any time the number of players on any division team falls two below the average number of players on all other teams, or six players, the team shall be required to select a player or players from the next division down such that their roster shall be brought up to the total of the team with the next fewest players.
3. Any player brought up in accordance with Paragraph Two (2) shall not play more time in any given game than a player who was on the original roster. The purpose is to protect the playing time of the original team member.
4. Any player brought up in accordance with Paragraph Two (2) shall also remain a member of their original team, with the original team maintaining priority for game play unless the move is long term and will not affect the original team.

Article III – Operating Rules

A. Game Play

1. In the event of inclement weather, the game/games will be moved to the next available scheduling day. Decisions on cancellations shall be made by the President in conjunction with the Vice President with the Director of Referees notified.
2. NFHS rules are utilized except where described or clarified below.
3. A Division and Senior Coed will use a 29.5" basketball.
4. B, C, Senior Girls, Junior Girls, Rookie Girls, and D League will use a 28.5" basketball.
5. Players must not wear earrings, jewelry, watches, wristbands, or other hard objects such as hair bands/clips.
6. Players MUST BE in full TJBL uniform (shorts and shirt).

B. All Divisions

1. Two (2) timeouts per half, resetting at the half with no carry over. One (1) additional timeout for each additional overtime. Overtime timeouts will only carry over in the playoffs.
2. All divisions shall play four, six (6) minute quarters except for Senior Coed.
3. Overtime shall be played in three (3) minute intervals with a running clock for the first two (2) minutes. The final minute will have clock stoppage on all whistles. Overtime will be played during the regular season ONLY if time permits. The Director and/or head referee (if no Director is available) will make the decision.
4. STOPPAGE - The clock stops on all whistles.

C. Schedules

Games shall be played according to published schedules. The Division Director, in conjunction with the President or Vice President, with the Director of Referees notified, shall have the authority to cancel games for a reasonable cause. Every effort shall be made to play prior to the cancellation taking place. Coaches must be given a twenty four (24) hour notice of the scheduling of a make up game. Division Directors shall have the authority to suspend games that are running beyond a reasonable hour. Such suspended games shall resume from the point of suspension at a later date unless reasonable cause dictates that the game should not be continued.

D. Playing Time

1. Minimum playing time for all TJBL players is twelve (12) minutes. Each player must play at least two (2) full quarters or the substitution equivalent of split three (3) minute quarters.
2. Any complaint concerning equal playing time must be recorded in the score book and reported to the Division Director for that division. If upon investigation the Division Director finds the complaint is justified, the game shall be replayed if the offending team won the original game. Any coach found to be repeatedly guilty of such action shall be subject to suspension or dismissal as determined by the board.

E. A Division & Senior Girls

1. Full court defense (press) is permitted unless a team is ahead by fifteen (15) points or more. (EX: Team A is beating Team B 40-23. Team A cannot press in the backcourt but Team B can. If Team B narrows the lead to 40-27 (under 15 points), both teams can equally press in the backcourt).
2. Three (3) point baskets will be credited.
3. Teams may play player to player (man to man) or zone defense.

F. B Division and Junior Girls

1. Full court defense (press) is permitted unless a team is ahead by ten (10) points or more. (EX: Team A is beating Team B 30-18, Team A cannot press in the backcourt but Team B can. If Team B narrows the lead to 30-22 (under 10 points), both teams can equally press in the backcourt).
2. Three (3) point baskets will be credited.
3. Teams may play player to player (man to man) or zone defense.

G. C Division and Rookie Girls

1. Full court defense (press) is permitted unless a team is ahead by ten (10) points or more AND ONLY in the final 2 minutes of the 3rd and 4th quarters. (EX: Team A is beating Team B 30-18, Team A cannot press in the backcourt but Team B can. If Team B narrows the lead to 30-22 (under 10 points), both teams can equally press in the backcourt.
2. Teams may play player to player (man to man) or zone defense.
3. Three (3) point baskets will be credited BUT are discouraged at this level.
4. Foul shots may be attempted from the 14' mark.

H. Coaches/Score table

1. Each team is allowed two (2) coaches on their bench except for an approved Junior Coach. Coaches must stay within the confines of the bench area.
2. Only the head coach is allowed to stand during the game.
3. No other individuals are permitted to be in the bench area.
4. Each team must provide an adult to maintain the scorebook and clock during the game.
5. Games will not start until the scorebook and clock are staffed. Failure to provide a volunteer in a timely manner may result in forfeiture.

I. Fouls

1. One and one foul shots awarded on the seventh (7th) team foul in a half. Upon reaching ten (10) team fouls in a half, two foul shots will be awarded.
2. A technical foul counts as both a personal and a team foul.
3. Five (5) personal fouls will result in disqualification for the remainder of the game.
4. A player or coach who earn two (2) technical fouls in a single game, or an ejection by the referee, will result in a one game suspension for that individual for the next scheduled game. The Board of Directors shall take necessary disciplinary actions.
5. A delay of game technical foul results in in a team foul.
6. All technical fouls and/or game ejections must be reported to the Division Director in a timely manner. Failure to notify the Division Director may result in additional penalties.

J. Player/Coach Discipline

Any player/coach ejected from a game shall be suspended for the next scheduled game. The player shall appear at the game in full uniform but will remain seated in the bench area.

Conditions for ejection include:

1. A second technical foul in the same game
2. A flagrant foul
3. Fighting
4. Excessive foul language

5. Destruction or misuse of league or school property
6. Disrespect for any league or game official
7. Throwing or kicking of any objects

The Board of Directors shall have the right to suspend any player or coach for action(s) in not keeping with good conduct.

A coach may require that a player sit out a game for disciplinary reasons including inappropriate behavior or excessive absenteeism providing that the coach notifies the player, score keeper, and opposing coach before the game.

K. Post Season Play – All Divisions

1. Time and financing permitting, all divisions shall play double elimination post season finals.
2. Bracket seeds will be determined by lottery.

L. Travel Division of TJBL

1. Tiverton Junior Basketball may operate a travel division.
2. Travel teams would be grade based per RIYBA's guidelines.
3. Travel team coaches are recommended by the Travel Director with the approval of the Board of Directors.
4. Uniform and travel costs may be a separate fee as determined by the Board on an annual basis.
5. The Travel Division differs from the recreation division of TJBL in that tryouts may determine the number of players on a team and not all players trying out will make the team.

M. Gym Rules

All coaches and assistant coaches shall assist Division Directors in seeing that the following rules are observed:

1. No food or beverages shall be allowed in the gym except for water or sports beverages for players/coaches.
2. No basketballs or otherwise, shall be allowed in the gym during scheduled games. Outside balls may be confiscated and returned to the owner when they leave.
3. Only players with basketball sneakers or similar athletic sneakers shall be allowed on the gym floor playing area.