



2026 NEW ENGLAND CYO BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT RULES

Venue Rules

1. Gyms will not be open until 30 minutes prior to the start of the first game.
2. All coaches must wear (display) their Tournament Coaches ID during all games. Only adults wearing a coaches' badge will be allowed on the sideline.
3. No outside food should be brought into the gyms. (In addition, remind your players and parents to bring only water into the gyms.)
4. Admission: \$5.00 each game, Children 5 & under Free. Weekend passes are \$10. Venmo payments accepted, otherwise, CASH ONLY.
5. Spectators may not bring basketballs into the gym or have basketballs in the stands. Any loose basketballs will be confiscated at the gate.
6. Spectators are expected to stay off of the court for safety reasons, and to keep the court clean.
7. Absolutely no shooting around by any spectators will be allowed at half time, between games or quarters, or during any timeout.

Game Rules

1. The Tournament is a one-game-elimination tournament with consolation games in selected divisions. Winning teams move on to the next bracket.
2. All Head Coaches must check in with the Diocesan Site Coordinator 30 minutes prior to their first game.
3. Due to extremely tight gym time availability, teams must be ready to take the court as soon as the previous game ends (but allow the departing team time to clear its bench).
4. All games will begin with a prayer and Pledge of Allegiance with both teams and coaches at Center Court.
5. Games shall start promptly. Teams are requested to be at gym at least 30 minutes before their scheduled games.
6. Head coaches must have their score sheets completed and submitted to the scorer's table.
7. All basketballs must be in the team's ball bag when entering the gym.
8. All Girls divisions and Boys 5/6 division will use the 28.5 ball.
9. Boys 7/8 division and Boys HS division will use the 29.5 ball.
10. The game ball for each game must come from one of the teams that are playing in the contest. A referee can select the ball.
11. Each team's head coach is responsible for the control of team balls before, during, and after each game.
12. Team benches will be determined by the position on the scoreboard, which reflects the home or away status if possible and agreed to by mutual consent.

13. The team that is first alphabetically will be the home team.
14. In accordance with NFHS Rules only the head coach will be allowed to stand on the sideline. Assistant coaches must remain seated.
15. Each team must have 5 players present to begin a game within 15 minutes of the scheduled start time or the game is forfeited unless there are extenuating circumstances.
16. The National Federation of State High School Association Rules and Regulations, when not in conflict with NE CYO Rules for competitive activities, shall govern ALL play in the tournament, both boys and girls.
17. There is no minimum play time rule in this tournament. Each division will play 4 quarters.
18. The length of the quarters by division will be:
 - a. Grades 5/6: 6:00 Minutes
 - b. Grade 7/8: 7:00 Minutes
 - c. HS: 8:00 Minutes.
19. Each team will be allowed three full time outs and two 30 second time outs per game.
20. Overtime begins with a jump ball and is one half the number of minutes of a quarter in all divisions (Grade 5/6: 3:00 Minutes, Grade 7/8: 3:30 Minutes and HS Division: 4:00 Minutes)
21. Unused time outs carry into overtime and an additional time out is granted to each team in overtime.
22. According to newly adopted Federation rules, teams will not enter the bonus until five team fouls have been committed in a quarter.
23. After the five fouls, teams will shoot two free throws on all fouls.
24. At the start of the next quarter the team fouls are set to zero.
25. In the event of a 20-Point lead - no press or 1/2 court trap rule is in effect.
26. Teams finishing their games must vacate the court immediately. Please use lobbies for post-game talks, pictures, etc.

GOOD LUCK TO ALL TEAMS AND REMEMBER THAT GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP IS JUST AS IMPORTANT AS THE FINAL SCORE.

