

Faith Baptist Church

(4-5 years) Basketball League Rules

Faith Baptist Church is committed to lifting up the name of Jesus and reaching people throughout the community for Christ. Our mission is to:

1. To share the love of Jesus Christ in our community.
2. To have a first-class, organized, evangelistic athletic ministry.
3. To promote character and integrity, the understanding of sportsmanship and a respect for authority.

Our primary goal is that all players will grow in their understanding and enjoyment of Jesus. Secondary goals include learning the basic fundamentals of basketball, lessons about sportsmanship and the advantages and gratification of being part of a team.

Though we do keep score in this league, **this is a recreational league**. The focus is on sportsmanship and participation. We hope that every team will win at least one game and lose at least one game.

Playing Time

- Each player should play approximately 50% of the game.
- Game will consist of 4 quarters of 8 minutes each.
- The game clock is a running clock. It will stop for timeouts and at the referee's discretion for instances including injuries, tying shoes and/or rule explanations.
- There will be a one-minute rest period between each quarter and a five-minute rest period between halves.
- At the end of the half-time rest period, each player will shoot one free throw that is counted in the team's score. If one team has more players, then the possible number of points for each team will be equal to the number of players on the team with the most players. For example, if one team has 10 players and the other team has 7, then the total number of points available will be 10 for each team. The team that has 7 will need to have 3 players shoot twice.
- There are no lane violations for free throws and the referee may move any players who need assistance even closer.
- If the game is tied at the end of regulation, then everyone wins! Unless it is a special situation, there will not be an overtime shootout. [In the event of approval of a special situation, overtime will be conducted in the same manner as the half-time shooting process, with each player shooting one free throw. In the above example, the players shooting extra must be rotated. The three players who shoot twice at half-time would not be eligible to shoot twice again until all of the other four players have shoot twice. In case of a tie, this process will be repeated until one team has won or until both coaches agree to leave the score tied.]

Uniforms and Equipment

- All team uniforms must have jersey tops of the same color.
- The first team listed on the schedule is the home team. The home team should wear the white side of their jersey.
- Jerseys must have numbers on the front and back.
- A mini ball will be used.
- The game ball will be provided by FBC.
- Goal height is 7 feet.
- Free throw distance is 7 feet. No free throws will be awarded. Free throws may be shot at halftime. Coaches should help keep track with the scorekeeper.
- The personal foul limit is 5.
- Each team will be allowed 2 (one-minute) time outs per game.

The “Box” Defense

- To encourage participation for players of all skill levels, defense is restricted to the “Box.”
- The dimensions of the box are about 8 feet wide by 8 feet long.
- Defensive steals are only allowed if a player has at least one foot in the box.
- No defense outside the box is allowed.

Other Special Rules

- All players will meet at center court for opening prayers and a short devotion based on the bible verse before each game. The devotion will be completed by the league Director or designee. Coach participation is expected to ensure players are acting appropriately during this time. The devotion will be based upon the weekly bible verse and conclude with a group prayer.

Inclement Weather

- In the case of potentially dangerous driving conditions, a contact the Weather line at 901-213-2936 or on our Facebook page Faith Baptist Recreation Ministry.

Sportsmanship and Appropriate Conduct

- Good sportsmanship is expected and required from coaches, players and spectators. Inappropriate conduct will not be tolerated.
- Coaches will be responsible for their conduct and that of their players and any assistant coaches. In addition, coaches are responsible for their fans. Coaches will be expected to control any spectator assumed to be associated with their team for unsportsmanlike behavior. If the problem persists, the coach will be assessed a technical foul and the unruly fan will be escorted out of the gym.
- It is imperative that everyone involved in our basketball program demonstrates Christian behavior at all times. It is our intention to provide the best playing atmosphere possible and to mitigate or correct any errors or problems that may hinder a positive sports experience.