GAA BASKETBALL PROGRAM

Guidelines and Rules

Revised 10/13

1. All games will be played with Georgia High School Athletic Association rules as guidelines, except for rules adopted by the Association.
2. All coaches in all leagues agree to a criminal history background check before being allowed to coach.
3. The league will be divided into divisions based on grade level and participation rates.
4. Games will consist of four 8-minute quarters. The clock will continue to run at all times except:

1) During the last minute of the game (the clock will stop on all whistles.)

2) During free-throws.

3) During time-outs

4) At approximately 4:00 minutes of each quarter for substitutions.

5) At the request of a referee for any situation such as a player injury, rules/score clarification, etc.

There will be a two-minute break between quarters and over-time and a five-minute break between halves.

In the event a team is leading by 15 points or more going into or during the fourth quarter, the clock will continue to run until the lead has been decreased to 14 points or less.

One two-minute overtime period will be played in the event the game ends in a tie after regulation play during the regular season games. During overtime, the clock will run continuously for the first minute and during the final minute will stop on all whistles. If the overtime period ends in a tie, the game will be considered a tie for both teams. No additional overtime periods will be played during the regular season. Overtime rules during tournament play will be two minute periods until a winner is decided.

1. A team may start a game with four players. If a team has less than five players at game time, a five-minute grace period will be given before starting the game. If a team has fewer than four players present after five minutes have passed on the game clock, the game will be declared a forfeit.
2. Each team will have two 45-second time-outs per half with no carry over from the first half to the second half. There will be one 45-second timeout per overtime period per team.
3. Each player must play a minimum of 16 minutes per game, equivalent to two full quarters. This can be accomplished by playing two full quarters or by playing four 4:00 minute periods. A player cannot accomplish the minimum playing time requirement by any other means. To assist with the rotation of players, the game clock will be stopped at approximately the 4:00 minute mark during each quarter to allow for substitutions. Once a player has entered the game at the beginning of a quarter or at the 4:00 minute mark, that player can not be taken out of the game via substitution for the remainder of that 4:00 minute period. However, once a team has met the minimum play level for all players, they may substitute at any normal stoppage of play per Georgia High School Athletic Association rules. A player must play a minimum of 16 minutes, unless the player is injured or has four fouls and is removed at the coach’s discretion. Every player MUST leave the game for a minimum of at least one (1) four (4) minute period unless the team has only five (5) players. No player may play the entire game, unless another player has been removed from the game due to injury, foul trouble or ejection, leaving the team with only five (5) players. Late arriving players must still play two full quarters, if time permits. The intent of this rule is to allow each player to participate in each game as much as possible. If properly protested by another coach, violation of this rule will result in a forfeit for the violating team. Subsequent violation of this rule may result in suspension and/or dismissal of the responsible coach. The official scorekeeper should note periods played to help ensure adherence to this rule.

A coach may sit out a player for major disciplinary reasons, if the coach notifies the commissioner and/or director prior to the game, and approval is given.

1. The following rules will apply with regards to each division. The Basketball Board reserves the right to modify any rules it deems necessary to ensure the integrity of the program.

**6-12 Grade Boys and 6-7 Grade Girls**

Goal Height 10’

Ball Size 28.5 (Girls) 29.5 (Boys)

Free Throw Line 15’

Lane Violation 3 seconds

3 pt FG’s 3 pt shots will be recognized if the court is marked with a 3pt line. Otherwise, all baskets count as 2 points.

Pressing Boys - Full-court pressing is allowed the entire game.

Girls – Full-court pressing is allowed the entire game.

If a team is leading by 15+ points, the defense must remain behind the top of the key extended to the sidelines. If a team is leading by 10-14 points, they may press at half court.

**4/5 Grade Boys and Girls**

Goal Height 10’

Ball Size 28.5

Free Throw Line 12’

Lane Violation 3 seconds

3 pt FG’s 3 pt shots will be recognized if the court is marked with a 3pt line. Otherwise, all baskets count as 2 points.

Restricted Defense Restricted area extends to mid-court.

Pressing Boys - Full-court pressing allowed in the last 4 mins of the game and OT. Girls – Full-court pressing allowed in the last 2 mins of the game and OT.

If a team is leading by 10+ points, the defense must remain behind the top of the key extended to the sidelines.

However, a team may defend a fast break in the back court or open area. If a turnover occurs the offensive team will retain possession with the defense setting up in the restricted areas.

**2/3 Grade Boys and Girls**

Goal Height Girls - 8’ 6” Boys – 9’

Ball Size 28.5

Free Throw Line 12’

Lane Violation Liberal 3 seconds

3 pt FG’s 3 pt shots will be recognized if the court is marked with a 3pt line. Otherwise, all baskets count as 2 points.

Restricted Defense Defenders are allowed to play half-court defense as the defenders are allowed to extend to the half-court line.

If a team is leading by 10+ points, the defense must remain behind the top of the key extended to the sidelines.

Pressing No full-court pressing allowed at any time. However, a team may defend a fast break in the back court or open area. If a turnover occurs the offensive team will retain possession with the defense setting up in the restricted areas.

**K/1 Coed**

Goal Height 8’

Ball Size 28.5

Free Throw Line 10’

Lane Violation Liberal 5 seconds

3 pt FG’s Not allowed

Restricted Defense Defenders must stay inside the lane (at least one foot inside lane). Using the rule to delay the game is forbidden. The offensive team should penetrate the restricted area within 10 seconds of crossing half court.

Pressing No pressing allowed. Defenders are restricted to areas noted above. However, a team may defend a fast break in the back court or open area. If a turnover occurs the offensive team will retain possession with the defense setting up in the restricted areas.

Scoring All players from each team will shoot one foul shot at halftime (after the cheerleaders have performed.) A made free throw will count as one point for that team in the official scorebook and scoreboard. No team will be penalized for having more players in attendance and participating during any game. All participating players shoot one foul shot. (Ex. Team A has 7 players and Team B has 6 players – Team A shoots 7 FT’s and Team B shoots 6 FT’s)

Coaches The Head Coach from each team is allowed on the floor for instruction for the first half of the season. The second half of the season will require coaches to coach from their respective bench. While coaching on the floor, they should not impede the flow of the game or stop play unless instructed by the official.

1. Practice must start and stop at scheduled times. In the event a coach cannot attend a practice or a game, the coach must appoint a responsible adult to take their place during their absence. Coaches should not leave a child alone at any gym. Parents should not leave children unattended at the gyms for practice or games.
2. Team Responsibilities – The Designated Home Team will wear white jerseys and the Designated Visiting Team will wear dark jerseys. Additionally, the Designated Home Team will be responsible for providing someone to keep the official scorebook during the game while the Designated Visiting Team will be responsible for providing someone to operate the clock/scoreboard during games. The scorekeeper and clock operator must sit at the scorer’s table in the center of the court.
3. **GYM RULES**

GAA Basketball rents the participating gyms from the Gwinnett County Schools and each individual school reserves the right to revoke our rental contract if certain rules are not followed. Please observe and enforce the following rules:

* No smoking in or around the gym area
* No chewing gum in the gym
* Only WATER allowed in the gym – NO FOOD OR DRINKS IN THE GYM
* No foul language
* No climbing on or destruction of the gym property
* No dunking or hanging on rims or nets at any gym
* No Heeley’s or Roller Shoes permitted in the gym
* ALL TRASH MUST BE PICKED UP AND DISPOSED OF PROPERLY
* GYM Attendants have FINAL AUTHORITY

ALL GAA Board members, coaches and officials have the authority to enforce these gym rules.

1. **Post Season Tournament**

At the end of the regular season, there will be a single elimination tournament for each age group. (There may not be a tournament for the K/1 Coed League.) Teams will be seeded for the tournament based on their rankings after the regular season. In the event of two team’s record being the same, the first tie-breaker will be head-to-head results with the second tie-breaker being strength of schedule.

1. **Referees** – there will be a minimum of one referee for each game in all leagues.
2. **Protests** – All protest during the regular season must be submitted in writing to the League Commissioner and Director of Basketball within 48 hours of the game in question. During tournament playoffs, the protest must be submitted in writing to the League Commissioner and Director of Basketball within 2 hours of the completion of the game in question. Protests on judgment calls will not be accepted. The protest must clearly state the reason for the protest, and must be accompanied by $50 in cash. If the protest is upheld, the money will be returned and the appropriate action will be awarded at the discretion of the Director of Basketball. If the protest is denied, the money will be placed in the Association’s treasury.
3. **Technical Fouls and Ejection Rules** – Two technical fouls on a coach or player will result in automatic ejection. Any individual who has been ejected from the game will be required to leave the gym immediately. In the event a player, coach or spectator is ejected from the game, that individual will be required to appear before the Board for appropriate disciplinary action which may include suspension for the next game(s) and/or expulsion from the program. Disciplinary actions are at the discretion of the Board. All technical fouls must be recorded in the official scorebook and reported to the Director of Basketball. Excessive technical fouls in a season may be subject to disciplinary action.
4. **Game and Practice Cancellations** – GAA will follow the Gwinnett County School policy for school closing, early school closure or release of classes due to inclement weather Monday through Friday by automatically canceling all games and practices that are scheduled that day and subsequent days, if necessary. Saturday and Sunday cancellations will be at the discretion of the Board and will be final. Any such cancellations will be posted on the Basketball website at [www.gaasports.org](http://www.gaasports.org). Canceled games or practices may not be made up.