

**Salt Lake County Parks and Recreation**  
**Rookie League Jr. Jazz Rules**

**Structure:** Rookie League Basketball is a program designed to teach participants the basics of basketball, so participants understand rules, proper techniques, and basic skill development in a fun environment. The focus of this program is clinic time led by SLCO staff with the help of parent volunteers / coaches. To see what skills are being taught for each age group, see the age-appropriate curriculum. During the scrimmage portion of the program, the following rules will be used.

**Duration:** Clock will be running continuously during scrimmages. There will be a 1-minute break between quarters and a 2-minute halftime.

- Kindergarten:
  - Weeks 1 -3 = 30-minute clinic & two 5-minute halves
  - Weeks 4 - 6 = 20-minute clinic & four 5-minute quarters
- 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade:
  - Week 1 = 25-minute clinic & two 5-minute halves
  - Week 2 = 25-minute clinic & two 10-minute halves
  - Weeks 3 - 6 = 20-minute practice & four 6-minute quarters

**Jump Ball:** Curriculum will dictate:

- Kindergarten: No Jump Balls
- 1<sup>st</sup> Grade: Introduced: weeks 5 & 6
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade: Jump Balls entire season

**Equipment:** Each league will use the junior size (27") basketball.

Kinder: 6ft hoop

1<sup>st</sup> Grade: 7ft hoop

2<sup>nd</sup> Grade: 8ft hoop

**Free Throws:** Kindergarten and 1<sup>st</sup> Grade: No free throws or bonus shots will be awarded when a foul has been committed. 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade – Introduced Week 3: Free throws will be shot from 8 feet from the basket. The shooter's feet may cross the line after the shot has been released but should be encouraged to learn the proper techniques of staying behind the line until the ball leaves the shooter's hand. No bonus foul shots will be awarded.

**Violations:** Violations will be called as need at discretion of staff – based on skills taught in Rookie League. Staff may be lenient on calls during the first few weeks of scrimmages, as children are learning.

**Defense:** Only man-to-man defense can be played. Double teaming will not be permitted. Wrist bands will be used to signify who guards whom. No defense can be played until the ball crosses the three-point line or as designated at each facility. **Steals are NEVER permitted** in Rookie League.

**Substitutions:** All players should play an equal amount of time during the scrimmage. Parent volunteers/coaches will oversee all players are substituted in and out for an equal amount of time.

**Officials:** Staff/Coach will lead instruction time with the help of volunteer parents. Staff will officiate during scrimmages. Coaches are encouraged on the court to help their team.

**Recreation:** We do not keep score for these scrimmages. This is a recreational league, designed for participants to have fun playing basketball in a non-competitive atmosphere. All rule interpretations are at the discretion of the staff members and site supervisor.

