

Basketfest Guidelines

Format: Three (3) mini-games. Specifically, each of the three games is the *first half* of a game.

Rules: All coaches should *completely review their laminated sheets* of general rules and division-specific rules prior to the first of these games. Coaches must coach their teams to the intent of the rules. Remember, players on both sides are our friends and neighbors in this *instructional* league.

Rationale: Basketfest is designed to 1) create excitement at the start of the season, 2) provide coaches with real-time feedback in terms of critical work that needs to be accomplished prior to the season (*e.g.*, execution of an offense or a defense), 3) allow the players to experience competition, and 4) allow parents to familiarize themselves with the clock, scoreboard, and associated rules.

General Guidelines:

1. Only the head coach is allowed to stand and talk to their players on the court. One assistant coach is permitted per team, who must remain seated and may not talk to the players on the court. The assistant coach should be working with the players who are not in the game. A white board is encouraged in order to enable a useful discussion. *No one should express their opinion to any of the referees.*
2. These are games. Treat them as such. They are not scrimmages that can be paused for teaching purposes.
3. Each game must start on time. Therefore, every game must end at least 2 minutes prior to the next starting time. No exceptions.
4. Coaches *must use* the **substitution forms** for all three games. As stated on the form, the tear-off section must contain full names and uniform numbers and presented to the opposing coach before tip-off. If you have not done so already, it is critical for the head coach to LEARN THE SUBSTITUTION RULES. This is a rotation based substitution scheme.
5. Parents will act as referees. This is often a humbling experience. Remember the old adage: “Bad call, play on.” Get used to it now. Coaches: make sure you bring a whistle(s) with you to Basketfest.
6. One parent from each team will keep their scorebook *at the score table*. One parent from either team will keep the clock.
7. Remind coaches to have their teams pick up after themselves after *each* game (water bottles, clothes, etc.).
8. In order to maximize playing time, it is highly recommended that, in divisions that shoot free throws, that the ball simply be taken out of bounds and *free throws not be shot* during Basketfest. Historically, taking free throws slows down the game enormously, reduces the time teams have playing, and provides little in the way of instruction that cannot be obtained during the first regulation game.
9. **RESPECT, DIGNITY, and CLASS.** Every minute of every day at AYB. Parents, players, and coaches *must* adhere to this philosophy.