FRANKLIN COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT
WINTER YOUTH LEAGUE BASKETBALL
CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS
updated Oct. 08

ARTICLE I
SPONSORING ORGANIZATION

Franklin County Parks and Recreation Department will sponsor the Youth League Basketball Program.

ARTICLE II
PURPOSE

A. To promote youth basketball on a well-organized basis where good sportsmanship and fair play are to be practiced at all times.
B. To draw teams of the county into a closer fellowship through participation in countywide sports programs.
C. To give every youth a chance to play and participate.

ARTICLE III
ORGANIZATION

A. Youth basketball will be policed by the Recreation Department personnel and the departments paid representatives. (Ex. officials, scorekeepers, timers, and facility supervisors). Any disciplinary problems that should arise during season will be the sole responsibility of the facility supervisor, the Recreation Department staff, and/or a representative of this department. (Ages are as of Oct. 1 of the current year)

B.	Co-Ed Instructional-	a player must be at least 5 years on or before October 1 a player cannot be 7 on or before October 1
C.	Co-Ed Biddy-	a player cannot be 9 on or before October 1
D.	Pee Wee Boys-	a player cannot be 11 on or before October 1
	Pee Wee Girls-	a player cannot be 11 on or before October 1
E.	Little League Boys-	a player cannot be 13 on or before October 1
	Little League Girls-	a player cannot be 13 on or before October 1
F.	Junior League Boys-	a player cannot be 15 on or before October 1
	Junior League Girls-	a player cannot be 15 on or before October 1
G.	Senior League Boys-	a player cannot be 18 on or before October 1
	Senior League Girls-	a player cannot be 18 on or before October 1

Note: The Recreation Department will make final decisions on players and parents with requests of advancement to the next league. Special requests for team assignments will not be honored. Players will be placed on teams in their own elementary school districts as much as possible. Late sign ups are not promised assignment.

ARTICLE IV
THE GAME

National Federation of State High School Association basketball rules will be used with the following exceptions.

ALL LEAGUES: EXCLUDING SENIOR LEAGUE

A. Two time outs will be allowed **per half**. Unused time outs from the first half **cannot** be carried over into the second half.
B. Pre-game rosters- the coach of each team is to present a copy of his/her complete roster with proper jersey numbers to the scorer at least 10 minutes prior to the scheduled starting time. This will be enforced. The starting five players should be listed first. Penalty for this violation of this rule will be a modified technical foul.
C. Games will start on scheduled time or if the previous game is finished after the scheduled start time, the game will start as soon as possible after the proceeding game. Failure to field five eligible players when the referee calls for the start of the game will result in a forfeit. **10 minutes** will be allowed after the scheduled starting time.
D. All Play- All leagues will adhere to the "All Play" rule. For the current youth basketball season coaches will adhere to a **"fair play"** rule from all age groups **12 and under**. All the above-mentioned leagues play **six**-minute quarters. Under this rule the clock will stop at the three-minute mark of each of the first three-quarters. Five players must start the game and remain in the game until the three-minute mark of the quarter (unless injury occurs). At this point the clock will sound no matter where the ball is in play. If the team has five additional players they must all be inserted into the game at this time. If the team has more then ten players all additional players would be inserted following the next three-minute period.

This system will be followed in the first three-quarters of each and every game. The **5-6 Instructional League** and the **7-8 Biddy League** will play all **four** quarters under the "all play" rule.

Officials, scorers, and timers will know by the official score sheet who the next five players on the court should be at any given time. Once the line up sheet has been handed in any change in the line up will result in a **modified** technical foul. (Example: A player comes in late, his name is added to the line up sheet and the rotation must be changed, this will result in a modified technical foul). This will be strictly enforced.

All other exceptions to the VHSL rules will be listed per league.

INSTRUCTIONAL LEAGUE (CO-ED) 5-6

A. This league will play on an 8 foot basket
B. No zone defense
C. No full court press
D. No standings will be kept
E. Foul shots will be taken at the front of the circle and not at the foul line
F. Junior size basketballs will be used
G. This league will adhere to the "fair play" rule for the entire game
H. Teams must wear numbered uniforms with no repeating numbers
I. The league will play six minute quarters
J. There will be no timeouts
K. There are no officials assigned to the game, the coaches are on the floor with the teams to help.
L. Score will not be kept, but timekeeper will be provided
M. No Double Teaming.

BIDDY LEAGUE (CO-ED) 7-8

A. This league will play on an 8-½ foot basket.
B. Man or Zone defenses will be allowed, however defense can only be played beginning at the top 3 point arc (players can play defense outside of the 3 point arc as long as it is below the top of the arc).
C. No double-teaming of players.
D. No full court press.
E. Five-second lane violations will be enforced.
F. No standings will be kept.
G. Foul shots will be taken from the front of the circle and not at the foul line.
H. Intermediate size basketballs will be used.
I. This league will play 6 minute quarters.
J. This league will conform to the "fair play" rule listed above for all four quarters.
K. Teams must wear numbered uniforms with no repeating numbers.
L. Walking called after 5 steps.
M. Double Dribble will be called.
N. All Fouls will be called, only shooting fouls will be shot.
O. Back Court will be enforced.

Note: This basketball league is very much an instructional league with emphasis on learning the basics and fundamentals needed to continue to grow in the sport. Referees will be asked to stop play and explain different fouls, procedures, and situations to this age division.

PEE WEE BOYS AND PEE WEE GIRLS LEAGUES FOR AGES 9-10

A. The Pee Wee league will play on a 10 foot basket.
B. No full court press. If a team advances by 10 points or more over the other team, defense can only be played below the top of the 3 point arc (players can play defense outside of the 3 point arc as long as it is below the top of the arc).
C. Teams may play a zone defense
D. **Five**-second lane violations will be enforced.
E. Intermediate size basketballs will be used in this league.
F. The "**three** point shot" will be allowed in this league.
G. Teams will be warned of a full court press. The second warning and thereafter will result in a "**modified** technical foul" giving the other team one foul shot and the ball.
H. Standings will not be kept.
I. This league will play **6**-minute quarters.
J. This league will also adhere to the "fair play" rule listed above for the first three-quarters.
K. Numbered uniforms are required in this league and teams may not repeat numbers.
L. Foul shots will be shot from the foul line. **A player shooting and then running over the line will be called for a line violation.**

Note: This league is an instructional league that will be more concerned with participants becoming familiar with the basics and fundamentals of the sport as well as getting a good grasp on the rules and penalties of the game.

LITTLE LEAGUE BOYS AND LITTLE LEAGUE GIRLS AGES 11-12

A. This league will play on the 10-foot basket.
B. No full court press after a 10-point lead. The first incident will result in a warning with the second and all other times resulting in a modified technical foul. This would give the opposing team a single foul shot and the ball.
C. The 3-point shot will be allowed in this league.
D. The three-second violation will be enforced.
E. Foul shots will be taken from the foul line.
F. Full size basketballs will be used for the boys but the girls will use the intermediate ball.
G. Standings will not be kept.
H. This league will play 6-minute quarters.
I. This league will also adhere to the "fair play" rule explained above for the first three-quarters.
J. Numbered uniforms are required in this league and teams may not repeat numbers on the uniforms.

JUNIOR LEAGUE BOYS AND JUNIOR LEAGUE GIRLS AGES 13-14

A. This league will play on the 10-foot basket.
B. No full court press after a 15-point lead. The first incident will be a warning, then a modified technical foul will be called for each incident after.
C. The 3-point shot will be allowed in this league.
D. All penalties and violations strictly enforced.
E. Full size basketballs will be used for the boys and intermediate size balls used for the girls.
F. Standings will not be kept.
G. This league will play 7-minute quarters.
H. Teams must wear numbered uniforms with no repeating numbers.
I. This league will adhere to playing each player a minimum of one quarter that does not have to be continuous. However, close observation will be made to determine if this league would need to adhere to the rule used in the lower leagues of "fair play". If at some point flagrant misuse of the above one-quarter minimum were to result the Recreation Department would reserve the right to institute the "fair play" rule into this league at any time during the season.

SENIOR LEAGUE BOYS AND SENIOR LEAGUE GIRLS AGES 15-17

A. All players must have numbered jerseys of the same color. A team without matching jerseys can have their games forfeited by the referee. Hand written numbers will not be allowed,
B. This league will play strictly Virginia High School Rules.
C. The head coach and any assistant coaches that may be at the game in place of the head coach will be at least 21 years old. No team will participate if there is not a 21-year-old coach in attendance at the game.
D. The head coach is personally responsible for any damage done to school property by their team members.
E. Players drafted to a particular team will not be allowed to change teams.

F. There will be no "taunting" or "trash talking" allowed. Disciplinary action **will** be taken on all parties involved in misconduct problems through the Parks and Recreation Department personnel when reported to this office by game officials.
G. Standings will not be kept.
H. No full court press after a 20-point lead. The first incident will result in a warning with the second and all other times resulting in a modified technical foul. This would give the opposing team a single foul shot and the ball.
I. This league will adhere to playing each player a **minimum of one quarter** that does not have to be continuous. However, close observation will be made to determine if this league would need to adhere to the rule used in the lower leagues of "fair play". If at some point flagrant misuse of the above one-quarter minimum were to result the Recreation Department would reserve the right to institute the "fair play" rule into this league at any time during the season.

ARTICLE V
OFFICIALS

A. Officials assigned to the games will be in **complete** control of the facility in which they are working. They will start, stop, and run the game in general.
B. Shoving or striking an official will result in **immediate** suspension from the league and facility for the remainder of the season. This rule applies to everyone in attendance of the game.
C. Officials will help players get into position and match up for man to man defense if needed. Officials will assist players with any questions that may arise during the game.

ARTICLE VI
COACHES

A. Coaches need to be aware that these players are out here for a fun and learning experience. Please keep this in mind and control yourself to keep the influence of winning from taking preference over the well being of the players.
B. Coaches must remain seated on the bench at all times while the clock is running or is stopped except to:
    1. Confer with bench players during time outs or between quarters.
    2. Stand to request a charged time out.
    3. Confer with scorers and timers to prevent or rectify an error in scoring, timing, or possession.
    4. Attend to an injured player when beckoned by an official.
    5. Replace or remove a disqualified or injured player.
    6. To spontaneously react to an outstanding play or to acknowledge a replaced player.
    7. Coaches can be held responsible for the actions of their team's parents. Coaches must be in charge of the parents as well as their players.
    8. Coach the co-ed instructional league.
    9. If a Head Coach has to stand he/she may not leave their bench area. <u>Warning for first offense and technical foul for second offense</u>.

C. Practice slots can be taken from coaches and teams if any of the rules on the gym usage contract, signed by the coach, are broken or neglected.

Note: Coaches from last year have first option to coach the same team this year. This coach must be in good standing with the Recreation Department before he/she will be considered. If coaching positions become available due to coaches leaving or new teams forming the coach that requested a team first will have the option to take the new team.

ARTICLE VII
PROTEST

The only protest that will be considered will be pertaining to **player eligibility** and violation of the **minimum playing time** rule. The coach making the protest must notify the referee during or immediately after the game that a player is being protested. If the protest is eligibility the referee will simply verify the player's name at the time and will turn the information into the Recreation Department. If the protest is on minimum playing time the referee will get the players name. The referee will then confer with the scorer and with the player in question if possible. All information will be turned into the Recreation Department.

The coach will then deliver a handwritten copy of the protest accompanied by a fee of $15.00 to the Recreation Department within one working day of the actual protest. If the protest is upheld the $15.00 is returned and the team playing the ineligible player will forfeit the protested game. If the protest is not upheld the money will go into the Recreation Department general fund and the game will stand as is.

*****Please refer to your protest form and following all the items on the checklist!*****

ARTICLE VIII
DISCIPLINARY ACTION

A. Any player of a team getting **two** technical fouls in a game will be ejected from the game. If the same player is ejected from another game during the season, he will be dismissed from the league.
B. The Recreation Department will issue any coach getting a technical foul a written warning. If the coach is given a **2nd** technical foul in a single game he will be asked to leave the facility. If the same coach is ejected from more than one game he will be **dismissed** from his position as coach and his future as a youth coach will be in jeopardy.
C. Fighting is not allowed in any Recreation Department league. Basketball is no exception. Any abusive language directed toward an official, coach, player or spectator will not be tolerated. Any person involved in either of the above mentioned activities will be removed from that facility and will be dismissed from the basketball program and will not again play until reinstated by the Recreation Department.

ARTICLE IX
PRACTICE

A. No team will be allowed to start practice before slots and equipment are assigned after the fall organizational meeting. Penalty for violation of the rule can be expulsion of the guilty coach involved from the Recreation league. Monday following Thanksgiving weekend will be the official first day of practice.
B. One practice per week will be assigned to all teams.

ARTICLE X
PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

A. The Parks and Recreation Department stresses the importance of children staying in school: therefore, all players within our youth basketball program must be regularly enrolled in school. Any player that is not attending school will be viewed as ineligible and all games will be forfeited in which said player participated.
B. Any player that is either suspended or expelled from school will be prohibited from both participating in league games and practices for the duration of the school suspension/expulsion period.
C. It is the responsibility of each coach to play only eligible players. Failure to do so will result in departmental disciplinary action.
D. All traveling, AAU, high school athletes, or other are eligible to participate in this basketball program.

****Please remember that this is a recreation program. The facilities, players, coaches and officials are not expected to be of the caliber of the NBA. This is a learning level program for everyone involved, so try as hard as you can to make this a fun program to make kids want to continue playing basketball whether they continue in high school or in their driveway!