



2011-12

*New Rules for the 2011-12 Season are in bold & italic style*

## **2011-12 YOUTH BASKETBALL LEAGUE RULES**

### **I. PURPOSE**

The Whitfield County Youth Basketball Program is organized to provide a recreational activity for boys and girls ages **7-12**. The program is designed for the following purposes:

1. To aid in the physical development through fun and exercise.
2. To teach the basic fundamental skills of the game of basketball.
3. To aid in the social development through good sportsmanship and moral character with adult guidance.
4. To teach good attitudes and discipline to our youth participants.

### **II. ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE**

#### A. Governing Authority

**1. The governing body of this league will be composed of one (1) Community Leader or representative from each community forming a rules making body with the Whitfield County Parks and Recreation Department (W.C.R.D.)**

2. The program will be carried out under the guidance and direction of the Whitfield County Recreation Department and the Community Leaders.

#### B. Governing Rules

1. The Whitfield County Recreation Department Youth Basketball League will be governed by the current rules and regulations of the National Federation of State High School Association, with the exception of the local league rules which supersede the National Federation rules and ***Georgia Parks & Recreation Association (GRPA)***.

**2. The League Rules will be developed and governed by the Whitfield County Recreation Department.**

#### C. Coaching Requirements

1. A person of high moral character who is a respected member of the community.
2. A coach should have a basic knowledge and understanding of the fundamentals of basketball.
3. A coach should never incite their players or parents by criticizing an official.
4. A coach should never use profanity, drink alcoholic beverages, smoke, or use tobacco in any form during any activity.

5. A coach should never be overly concerned with winning, but more concerned that each child on the team has fun and learns the fundamentals while participating.

6. A coach is expected to be present at all practice sessions, games, and meetings; or have an approved coach present.

7. A coach should try to the best of their ability to keep each player (especially the weaker players) interested and participating throughout the season.

8. Each coach must submit to a background check conducted by the Whitfield County District Attorney's office.

9. Each coach must be certified by the National Youth Sports Coaches Association online at [www.nays.org/nyscaonlineclinics/](http://www.nays.org/nyscaonlineclinics/)

### III. LEAGUE RULES

A. Team Rosters will consist of no more than **12** players per team. No additions may be made unless a team drops below the **recommended number of nine players**. No additions will be made the last two weeks of the regular season.

B. No more than (3) three coaches allowed on the bench

**C. For Mite 9/10 and Midget 11/12 games will consist of four quarters of six minutes each with a five minute halftime. Farm 7/8 games will consist of four quarters of 8 minutes of running clock with the last two minutes of the fourth quarter ran by regulation play. Their will be five minutes between games and at halftime. In Farm 7/8 games the clock will stop for time-outs and injuries only!**

D. Uniforms must have legal numbers. No numbers can include 6, 7, 8 or 9's. See your NFSHA Rule Book for list.

E. If both teams are wearing similar colored uniforms, must have legal numbers, the Home team will wear the pullovers.

F. Each coach should have a line-up turned into the scorekeeper's, ten minutes prior to game time.

G. Each coach is responsible for having a scorekeeper available at each game. The scorekeeper's should not be emotionally involved in the game; i.e.: coaching, disagreeing with officials, screaming and yelling etc. Any scorekeeper that does not comply will be removed from the score table. Scorekeepers should complete the publicity sheet provided for each game.

H. The ball will be 28½ inches in circumference as outlined for high school girls in the National Federation of State High School Rules books.

**I. The goals will be set at 8½ feet high for the Farm 7/8 and Mite 9-10 Division and at regulation 10 feet for the Midget 11-12 Division.**

**J. The participation rule is as follows: Each participant should play three minutes per half. The penalty for violation of this rule upon an upheld protest shall be the suspension of the protested coach for the next scheduled game. If a player is being disciplined and not permitted to play, the coach must advise the opposing coach and scorekeeper before the game begins. Any player suspended or absent from school should not be allowed to participate in a Whitfield County Parks and Recreation activity during the period of suspension or absenteeism.**

K. For Mite 9/10 and Midget 11/12 there will be three full 45 second time-outs and two 30 second time-outs permitted for each game and for **Farm 7/8 there will be three full 45 second time-outs**. A warning will sound at 30 seconds of a full timeout and at 15 seconds on a 30 second timeout.

L. In Mite 9/10 or Midget 11/12 divisions if the game ends in a tie there will be a **two (2) minute overtime**. If the game is still tied, there will be additional one (1) minute overtimes until a winner is determined. In Farm 7/8 there will be no overtime, games may end in a tie.

M. For Mite 9/10 and Midget 11/12 divisions a full court press will only be allowed in the 4th quarter of each game. Any Midget Division 11/12 or Mite Division 9/10 team that has a 15 point or more lead must play defense inside the three point line. The first violation will be a team warning and all subsequent violations will constitute a team technical. Farm 7/8 Division a full court press will not be allowed. Farm 7/8 teams must play with both feet inside the 3-point line and may not reach over the line to deflect a pass. The team on offense shall have ten seconds from the time the ball is inbounded to get the ball to half court. Once they cross half court they have an additional ten seconds to either penetrate the 3-point line or take a shot. Once the ten seconds are up, the referee will signal that it is ok for the defense to play half court defense. Teams may play half court defense the last two minutes of each half. Ball handlers must be allowed to cross half court defense must stay 3 feet from half court line to allow ball handlers to cross half court line.

N. The clock will run in the fourth quarter when a team has a 20 point lead, and will continue to run until the losing team pulls to within 10 points. The clock will stop for timeouts and injuries.

O. Foul shots –Mite 9/10 and Midget 11/12 divisions will shoot from the regulation free throw line (15 feet). **Farm 7/8 will shoot from 12 feet. Teams may not scream or yell on the foul line and arms must be straight up. Players cannot make contact with other players on the foul line.**

**P Free throw Lane Violation : 5 seconds for Farm 7/8 and Mite 9/10 Division and 3 seconds for Midget 11/12 Division.**

Q. There will be a ten minute grace period for the first game only.

R. There will be three activities allowed per week, including games and practices, plus one activity on the weekend. Practice sessions should be limited to 90 minutes and finished by 9:00 p.m. No practice on Wednesday after 5:00 p.m. Games will be scheduled on Wednesday nights during the Post Season Tournaments, if necessary.

T. Ties for standings of first or second place in league play will be broken as follows:

1. Head to head regular season competition.
2. Play-off game or games (if more than two teams).
3. Co-champions recognized with first place trophies. (Coin toss to determine seed in tourney).

#### **IV. TOURNAMENT RULES**

A. All teams with a .500 winning percentage or better will participate in the Gold Cup Tournament.

All teams under a .500 winning percentage record will participate in the Silver Cup Tournament. Contact the recreation department if you would like to play in the Silver Cup Tournament.

**ALL FARM 7/8 TEAMS WILL PLAY IN THE SAME TOURNAMENT BRACKET.**

B. Teams will be seeded by their regular season record and league placement. The top seeds will receive byes, if available, or will play lower seeds. The division champions will be placed in separate brackets.

C. **During post season tournament each member of a team must participate at least one minute per half.**

D. During post season play the Midget Division (11-12 age group) may press any time during the game. The Mite Division (9-10 age group) may press only in the 4th quarter. **Farm 7-8 cannot press.**

E. All other rules will be the same as league rules.

F. There will be a gate admission fee to all tournament games.

## V. ELIGIBILITY

A. The age divisions are: **FARM 7&8** - Mite 9 & 10 - Midget 11 & 12

B. The age control date is prior to January 1<sup>st</sup>.

C. Participants must attend school in the Whitfield County School system or reside in Whitfield County.

D. Participants must play in the Whitfield County Elementary School district in which they live or attend school. If a community does not have a team, participants may go to the next nearest elementary school community within the same middle school district. The participant must return to their elementary school community when a team exits.

E. Any Whitfield County resident living and attending school outside the Whitfield County Elementary School boundaries may choose any community to participate in the Whitfield County Recreation Program. Once this community is selected, the participant must stay in that community for all sports in the youth program. If the participant moves to a Whitfield County Elementary School District he/she must participate in that community.

F. If a participant changes residence to a new Whitfield County Elementary School district and does not change schools, the participant may participate in either community, but can only change communities once. The same rule will apply if the participant changes Whitfield County Elementary Schools but does not change residence.

G. To be eligible to participate each participant's name must be on a roster, must have a parent's signature on a registration card (green card), must have a copy of their birth certificate on file at the Recreation Department, and must have insurance whether private or the supplemental policy available through the Recreation Department.

I. Playing ineligible players will result in the forfeiture of all games in which illegal players participated. Any coach that allows an illegal player to participate will be suspended from coaching for the remainder of the season and for a one year time period.

## VI. PROTESTS

A. The only protest allowed will be for eligibility or violation of the participation rule.

**B. The protest committee will consist of the W.C.R.D. Athletic Coordinator and uninvolved Community Leaders.**

C. Protests must be filed within 24 hours after completion of the game, in writing, to the Whitfield County Recreation Department.

## VII. CONDUCT

A. The penalty for fighting, or flagrant conduct such as profanity is ejection from the present game and the following game. Any ejection will constitute a one game suspension. On the 2nd offense the player or coach is suspended from the program. Scorekeepers are also included in the rule.

B. Problems with coaches or spectators:

First - Warning or technical foul

Second - Technical foul or ejection Officials Judgment

Third - Removal from Gym or Program

C. Second Technical/Ejection on Coach

1. Sits out for next game – 1 game only

2. Ejection of Coach – Sits for next 2 games

3. Second Ejection of Coach – Suspended for (1) One year in all recreation sports.

## VIII. GAME POSTPONEMENT

A. For Inclement Weather - The Whitfield County Recreation Department will notify all local radio stations of game postponement due to inclement weather (snow, sleet, school closings etc.) Also, the cancellation will be posted on the rain-out cancellation hotline 281-2588. **You may TEXT WCRDbasketball to the phone number "82672"**

B. Postponement for Other Purposes

1. Any scheduling conflict should be brought to the attention of the Athletic Coordinator before season schedules are complete.

2. Games will not be rescheduled after the official schedule has been published.

## IX. AWARDS

League Trophies: 1st & 2nd Place Individual

Gold & Silver County Tournament: 1st & 2nd Place Individual

## X. ALL-STAR SELECTION

A. **Whitfield County Parks and Recreation Department will choose the All-Star Coaches. Criteria for coaching an All-Star team are:**

(1) **NYSCA Certified**

(2) **Coaching Experience**

(3) **Coaches Poll**

(4) **Basketball Officials Poll**

(5) **Final season League position**

