

Franklin Youth Basketball

Kindergarten, 1st & 2nd Grade Basketball – 2011-2012 Season

The Kindergarten and 1st & 2nd Grade Basketball Leagues are part of the Franklin Recreation Departments (Instructional level), which is designed to introduce the game of basketball to boys and girls in a non-competitive, team-oriented manner. NEW this season, each grade will play in their own 3 v 3 half court game based on grade. Last year 1st graders, played with 1st and 2nd graders. This year, they will try to separate. Our goal is to encourage friendly participation at a young age, while teaching the fundamentals of basketball: Passing, Dribbling, Shooting and “proper” defense.

Rules

- Each team has ½ court for 1 hour and 15 minutes during practices. Kindergarten practices are scheduled for 1 hour, but 1 hour and 15 minutes of gym time will be reserved in case a coach needs a little extra time. Do not run over time as you will be cutting into other team’s time. This year the boys 1st & 2nd graders program will practice at Oak Street Gym (its the blue gym at Horace Mann Complex), and the 1st & 2nd grade girls will practice at the Jefferson small gym. Kindergarten coed will practice at JF Kennedy School.
- No stealing during the dribble. This includes after kids reach half court.
- No reaching in, swatting or poking at the ball. Children should practice hands up defense and learn to stay low and cover an opponent **without** “hugging.” Coaches need to make sure that “your” players follow the rules. It isn’t up to the other teams coach to enforce this.
- No fast breaks. Allow the defense to setup on a possession change. Of course, that won’t be a problem if you are playing 3 v 3 half court.
- If “excessive” double dribbling & traveling occurs, coaches should stop play and remind the children what they should be doing but do not turnover possession. Try not to single individual players out, but address the entire group so that they all learn. Coaches should feel free to stop play and explain to the 10 kids on the court what has happened and how to correct it. This is a learning experience for all of them. Coaches should not feel embarrassed to stop the game and explain what is going on, but do it in a positive learning manner. Then, give the ball back to the player and resume play.
- Scrimmages/Games will be 5 on 5, half court. 3 vs. 3 half court with 2 players from each team standing on the sidelines (one on either side) as an outlet passer. These two players can not shoot, dribble, steal, or travel. They can only serve as an outlet pass and then they must return the pass back in bounds to one of the other 3 on-court players. Once the on-court player scores a basket, they will tag in one of the outlet passers. 5-minute periods then break for water. Teams should get 6-8 periods if scrimmages/games if they start on time. If your time is up, the game is over. Please stop the game with 5 minutes left, so that your team can collect all the balls, water bottles, sweatshirts/jackets, etc. and allow the next team to set up for their game. Trust me, 1.25 hours of 3 v 3 half court and EVERYONE will be exhausted.
- During the scrimmage, teams should be playing a man-to-man defense. However, if possible, try to discourage 3 kids standing under the net, clogging the lane. NO ZONE defense.
- First 3 weeks are individual team practices. Week 4 on will be 15 min practice, 1 hour scrimmage. Coaches can mutually decide to start scrimmage sooner or later. “Try to resist throwing on the pinnies, and scrimmaging until the kids are ready!”
- There is no scorekeeping for the scrimmages/games
- There are no standings or playoffs
- Coaches should use their best judgment calling out of bounds and fouls.

Expectations of parents:

- There must be at least one responsible party (parent/guardian/older sibling) for each child during the entire session. No dropping off/babysitting
- First aid should be administered by the responsible party only. Band aids and ice packs are about the extent of our first aid. If a serious injury occurs, 911 will be called to assist. Coaches are not responsible for stitching cuts, administering medications, etc. However, if a bump occurs and an ice pack is needed, they are available in the first aid kits which are in the rolling carts.
- Please refrain from coaching your child from the sideline. It is confusing for the children and unfair to the coaches. “Johnny, steal the ball, steal the ball!”

For more information regarding the Franklin Youth Basketball through the Recreation Department, please visit our website at:

http://franklinma.virtualtownhall.net/Pages/FranklinMA_Recreation/basket/index