

1st/2nd Grade:

Basketball Size: This grade group plays with a Junior Ball (27.5")

Other: Colored Wristbands for each kid so they know who to guard. (yellow, green, orange, blue, red)

Game Play: We attempt to play 45 minutes, with breaks as needed. Generally 2 - 20 minute halves with a short half time.

We play 5 on 5. However, if both teams have fewer than 9 members present, it is best to play 4 on 4.

Hoop Height: 8 foot hoops will be used to promote good shooting form.

Coaching: All of our coaches are volunteers and come from a variety of different skill levels. Coaches will be encouraged to stress proper shooting techniques, good sportsmanship, and proper game play.

Each coach should designate a "passer" for inbounding and a "dribbler" to advance the ball up court.

Different players can assume these roles during each game to keep everyone involved. Rules: We do not keep score at the 1st/2nd grade level unless it is requested by both teams.

The basic rules of basketball apply to 1st/2nd grade games such as traveling, double dribble, etc. The referee will stop play and coach the players. After several attempts to change the behavior, they will call a turnover of possession.

As the season moves forward, the referee's will adhere more closely to the rules, and call more fouls with less coaching on the rules of the game.

No "stealing" is allowed. Players can intercept passes and recover lost dribbles, but they can't take a ball from a player. We do not allow stealing so kids just learning the game don't make bad habits because they are afraid someone is going to steal the ball.

Referees will encourage players to put their hands straight up on defense when a player picks up their dribble.

Referees will discourage "hovering" or "reaching" to take the ball.

If a player is dribbling or holding the ball continuously, interrupting play, the referee will count out loud to three, giving the player notice to either pass the ball or shoot the ball.

There are no presses in this age group to encourage a focus on ball handling and allowing for kids to get comfortable on the court.

Players are taught to get back on defense. We ask them to retreat below the red volleyball line to pick up the player they are defending.

Colored wrist bands are used for match-up purposes.

Double teaming will be discouraged. One free throw shot will be allowed on shooting fouls from a closer spot on the floor, (about 2 steps forward from the free throw line).

Screens are great. Players must be taught the difference between a legal screen, feet planted, stance within the players vertical plane, they must also be within the opponents line of sight.