

**Loudoun County Travel Basketball League
2008-2009 Rules**



Table of Contents

- 1. Commitment**
- 2. League Liaison**
- 3. Team Personnel**
 - a. Team composition
 - b. Playing age specifications
 - c. Grade specific items outside the normal criteria
 - d. All players stay in specific travel program to their home school
 - e. House / Travel Rule
- 4. Travel Rosters**
 - a. Minimum and Maximum players
 - b. Minimum playing requirements
 - c. Rosters (specific items needed)
 - d. Roster changes
- 5. Practices**
 - a. Begin date
 - b. Practice times
- 6. Game Rules**
 - a. Period length
 - b. Number of timeouts
 - c. Length of overtime
 - d. Coaching box
 - e. Players required playing min time limit
- 7. Officials organization must continue for the full season**
- 8. Uniform Rules**
- 9. Regular Season**
 - a. Schedule
 - b. Clock Operation
 - c. Awards
- 10. Post season Tournament/Awards**
 - a. Playoff bracket rules
 - b. Awards
 - c. Home team vs. away
- 11. Tie Breakers**
 - a. Won/Loss
 - b. Head to Head
 - c. Number of Points (Common)
 - d. Number of Points (Head to Head)
 - e. Coin Flip
- 12. League Infractions**
 - a. Inclusion of input to create fair decisions
 - b. Base current/future infraction on prior rulings
- 13. Loudoun County Code of Conduct**

Loudoun County Travel Basketball League By-Laws

2008-2009 Season

1. All Leagues will encourage their travel players to honor the commitment needed to play for a Loudoun County Travel Team. They will attend all scheduled practices and games as required by this grater dedication and commitment to the sport of basketball.
2. Each participating league will appoint a Liaison/Point person that will attend meetings and respond to all issues and concerns regarding Travel Basketball. This same individual will be responsible in communicating with Loudoun County PRCS weekly to confirm correct scores and/or other game details as needed.
3. Team Personnel
 - a. The Loudoun County Travel Basketball League will be composed of Boys and Girls teams 6th, 7th, and 8th grades.
 - b. Players participating on a 6th grade travel team cannot turn 14 years old before March 31 2009. Players participating on a 7th grade travel team cannot turn 15 years old before 31 March 2009. Players participating on an 8th grade team cannot turn 16 years old before 31 March 2009.
 - c. Players selected for each travel team must be grade specific. For example, only 7th grade boys can play on a Boys 7th Grade Travel Team. All home-schooled players must participate on the age-appropriate travel team. Loudoun County Public School age-attendance policies will be used to determine the appropriate travel team. EXCEPTION: If necessary to achieve minimum roster size of 8 players, leagues may allow 6th and 7th grade players to move up. However, coaches cannot cut 7th or 8th graders to move up a 6th grader. Any league requesting to remove a player must receive a majority vote of the commissioners.
 - d. Players must play for the travel program that serves their middle school. Any home schooled or private schooled children must play for the travel league team associated with the middle school they would geographically attend if they had attended public school. A league may request a special exception for individuals that may need special arrangements outside their house program extending their status to other jurisdictions. A majority vote of the commissioners is required to approve this change.
 - e. Players are not permitted to play both House and Travel.
4. Travel rosters
 - a. Each team must have a minimum of 8 and a maximum of 10 players.
 - b. All players who are participating must meet the minimum-playing requirement (see section 6e).
 - c. Rosters must be turned into PRCS (Sports Specialist) prior to 14 November 2008, which is at least 2 weeks prior to the first scheduled game. The roster form must include the following information for each player on the team, unless it is provided on the league registration form:
 - Full Name
 - Date of Birth
 - Grade and School
 - d. No changes are allowed to the roster once the season begins unless approved by a majority vote of the commissioners during a meeting, which may be conducted in person or via email.
5. Practices
 - a. Organized travel practices may not begin prior to the Friday of the last week in October.
 - b. Each team is allowed a maximum of 3 hours practice time per week.

6. Playing rules for all regular season and tournament games are in accordance with Virginia State High School Rules (<http://www.nfshsa.org/rules-basketball.htm>) except those changed or emphasized within this document, including the following:
 - a. Periods: 7 minutes
 - b. Timeouts: 3-full and 2-20
 - c. Overtime period(s) will be 3 minutes long
 - d. A coaching (box) will be utilized during each game per (<http://www.nfshsa.org/rules-basketball.htm>)
 - e. Each player suited up for a game must play one period or at least 7 minutes per game.

Travel team coaches are **required** to comply with the playing time rules as long as the coach has the opportunity to do so. Exceptions: If a player is required by a game official to leave the court due to injury, illness or rule infraction, the coach may make a one-for-one substitution. The coach must return the exited player to the court as soon as possible. The quarter will be considered as played in full for the exited player.

Officials are NOT expected to monitor this issue. If a player, parent or opposing coach has issue with the way another team is managing this rule PRCS should be contacted, or a coach can register a formal protest. Coaches should not disrupt the game, in any manner, to discuss playing time rules. After hearing the protest and if a violation of the playing time rule is founded the penalty for a violation of playing time rules will result in an automatic forfeit of the game. PRCS will review the violation, which may also result in disciplinary action for the team coach. Penalties may also include, but not be limited to, probation or suspension of the offending coach. Repeated offenses will be reviewed, and may result in further suspension, and possibly the coach not being allowed to coach in the PRCS Travel League in the future.

7. All travel games must be officiated by the same official's organization during the 2008/2009 season.
8. The home team must wear a light color jersey, and the visiting team must wear a dark color jersey. Any team not complying will be required to change their jersey or wear a "pinnie".
9. Regular Season
 - a. 6th, 7th and 8th Grade Divisions will play a 10 game schedule
 - b. Each team will supply a volunteer to keep score book or operate the clock. The home team shall supply the scorebook keeper unless both coaches agree to allow a change.
 - c. The regular season champion and runner-up teams within each division will receive individual awards. This current year FSBL has volunteered to organize and purchase these items. Next year there will be a lottery or any other league may volunteer to take the lead role.
10. Post Season Tournament
 - a. All divisions will play a single elimination playoff, with teams seeded according to their finish during the regular season.
 - b. All regular season playing time rules are applied to the post season.
 - c. The post-season tournament champion and runner-up teams will receive individual trophies.
 - d. During the post-season tournament the higher seeded team will be the home team and will wear a light color jersey.

11. Tie breakers ruling which will be used to break all ties, including seeding for the post-season tournament are as follows in descending order:
 - a. Won/Loss percentage
 - b. Head to Head Record or Won/Loss Record among the tied teams/opponents - this is the won/loss record among the teams that are tied (this is used to break 3-way ties for example)
 - c. Number of points allowed in games against common opponents - this would be a comparison between points allowed for the entire season
 - d. Number of points allowed in head-to-head games - e.g., if the teams that are tied played 2 games against each other, and each won 1 game, the team that allowed the fewest points in those 2 games would win this step.
 - e. Coin Flip
12. League infractions – The PRCS Travel Commissioner will make the final decision regarding all alleged rules violations after consulting with the appointed Travel representatives from each league.
13. All players, coaches, league staff, and spectators are required to follow the Loudoun County Code of Conduct, at all times. (Please refer to the Loudoun County Web Site for more details)