



# YOUTH CO-ED COMMUNITY RECREATIONAL BASKETBALL HANDBOOK



**FALL / WINTER SEASON**

**TOWNSHIP OF CHERRY HILL  
RECREATION DEPARTMENT**

*Amended October 2018*

### **Welcome**

Thank you for volunteering your services as basketball coach for the Township of Cherry Hill's Recreation Department. We greatly appreciate your time and effort, and the important influence you will have on many children in the program. Because it takes a "Community" of volunteers, your dedication is paramount to the success of the program.

### **Philosophy of the Program**

This league is centered around skill development on both offense and defense with the help of community parental volunteers. Cherry Hill Recreation is committed to the concepts of fair play and good sportsmanship while teaching youth to appreciate the game of basketball. The main goal is to provide an atmosphere where participants can succeed, feel good about themselves, smile, and have FUN.

### **Code of Conduct**

The purpose of this Code of Conduct is to provide overall guidance and direction to volunteer coaches. These guidelines do not constitute a binding contractual or personnel agreement. The Cherry Hill Recreation Department reserves the right to modify any of these guidelines at any time and to expect adherence to the changed policy. Please read the following guidelines thoroughly and contact the recreation department with any questions at 856-488-7868. Your signature will be required separately for the Code of Conduct, but it is included in your Handbook. Coaches will provide participants the opportunity to practice and play in a healthy, supervised, safe and controlled environment. Sportsmanship, team spirit, and a sense of fair play should govern participation. Coaches are responsible for the conduct of their players, parents and fans before, during and after games. Poor sportsmanship by coaching staff, team members or fans will result in, but is not limited to, a warning, an ejection and/or forfeiture of the game.

### **During my tenure as a volunteer coach for Cherry Hill Parks and Recreation, I pledge to:**

1. Cooperate with all participants involved with the activity. This includes officials, other coaches, participants, parents and spectators.
2. Never physically, verbally or emotionally harm, hurt, humiliate or intimidate another participant, coach, parent or official. Never show frustration in the presence of players, parents, spectators, etc.
3. Never use profanity or language that is in bad taste.
4. Listen to and follow all direction from program directors, Recreation staff and officials.
5. Communicate to all participants, players, parents, spectators and officials in a friendly and reasonable manner.

6. Respect all facilities, fields and equipment.
7. Participate to the best of my ability and in a safe and professional manner at all times
8. Complete all required league paperwork and organize team practices (if applicable) that provide a safe and fun environment. Create practices that are fun and challenging for all players.
9. Review and provide basic first aid principles if needed. Review/complete concussion awareness documents/training and look for signs and symptoms while children are under my supervision.
10. Be knowledgeable of league rules, and communicate them to my players and parents as needed.
11. Demonstrate and require fair play and sportsmanship from your players at all times. Lead by example by demonstrating respect and class toward your opponent at all times.
12. Provide an environment that is free from aggressive behavior, violence, drugs, tobacco and alcohol.
13. Place the emotional and physical well-being of my players ahead of a personal desire to win.
14. Treat each player as an individual, taking into account the large range of emotional and physical development for youth age groups.
15. Use only coaching techniques appropriate for the skill level and level of league competitiveness.
16. Always remember that I am a youth sports coach, and that the game is for children and not adults.
17. All children shall get equal playing time to the best of my ability.
18. All teams will respect one another and practice sportsmanship during all games.

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If I cannot participate according to this Agreement and/or league rules, then depending on the seriousness of the offense(s), I understand that any, or all of the following disciplinary actions may occur:

- Verbal warning and written documentation
- Immediate removal from activity and facility
- Temporary suspension from participation including attendance at activity and/or facility (no refund, full or partial, of registration fee)
- Indefinite expulsion from all activities and facilities (no refund, full or partial, of registration fee)

### **General League Information**

- For Cherry Hill resident only
- For children in grades entering 2-10
- Grades 2/3, 4/5, 6/7, 8-10 play together
- Co-Ed
- Games on Saturdays (about 1 HR in length)
- Practices scheduled during the week and attendance is optional (about 40 min. in length)
- One head coach per team (other parents may assist head coach as necessary)
- No basketball coaching experience necessary, but preferred
- Must pre-register for program
- Teams are assigned by draft/tryout. All registered children will be placed on a team during draft.
- League runs from early November – early March or about 4 months
- Recommended equal playing team
- No records or scores are recorded, with the exception of grade 8-10
- Each player gets a team t-shirt
- # of teams dependent on registration
- Cannot “play up” a grade level

### **Games / Schedules**

- 1 HR in length
- Grades 2-5 will play cross court and Grades 6-10 will play full court
- On Saturdays
- Held either at Rosa, Carusi, Beck Middle Schools
- Coaches and all players are expected to arrive at least 15 minutes before their schedule game time
- Game schedules are determined by number of registered players and are subject to change
- We'll try out best to alternate morning game times equally

### **Practices**

- Held weekly at a designated school
- Attendance is optional
- 40 min increments
- Grades 8-10 will practice full court
- Grades 2/3 & 4/5 will practice at one basket
- May reserve a second practice slot after all teams have picked slots

- No one should touch any BOE property
- Please clean up after yourselves (water bottles, trash etc.)

### **Tryouts / Draft**

- All players called in alphabetical order are to dribble, pass, shoot and attempt a layup
- Coaches are to be on hand evaluating each player
- Immediately following tryouts, we will conduct the draft in a separate room
- All registered players are recommended to attend tryouts/draft but not required
- The team coach will select a # which will represent the team's order in the draft
- The coach's child(ren) will be selected automatically before the draft begins
- The draft will begin (round 1) by the team holding the #1 selection and continue until all teams have selected on player from the group of players that were PRESENT at tryouts
- Rounds 2 and after will be selected by "snake" draft. This process will continue until all players that were PRESENT at the tryout are selected.
- Upon conclusion of the selection of players currently at tryouts, the recreation department will assign players whom were not available at the draft to complete rosters.
- EXCEPTION: Siblings will be assigned to the same team if requested prior to the draft
- Once the draft is complete, teams will not be able to trade players. Only extraordinary circumstances are made with only recreation department approval.

### **Team Communication**

- You will be supplied with parent contact information for each player (phone and email)
- It is the coach's responsibility to communicate with all player parents notifying them of team assignments and practice days and times.
- For general league or specific grade information, the recreation department will send out email blasts to each league (weather, makeups etc.)
- Most communication between the recreation department and coaches will be by email. You may contact the Recreation Manager, Chris Marmo at any time ([cmarmo@chtownship.com](mailto:cmarmo@chtownship.com) or 856-661-4717 or 856-488-7868)

### **Rosters**

- Comprised of boys and girls, but girls to boys ratio may be different for each team
- Picked by draft selections to promote competitive balancing
- CANNOT accommodate carpool and/or friend requests
- Ideally, rosters will be made up of no less than 7 and no more than 10 children per team

### **Officiating/Sportsmanship/Conduct**

- Recreation department will not tolerate actions that prohibit game officials (referees and gym supervisors) from administering the games.
- Game officials are instructed to keep the games moving in a timely manner w/o compromising safety.
- Any player/coach/spectator behaving in an unsportsmanlike conduct will be subject to warning by game officials and/or ejection of the game and/or suspension from future games
- The minimum penalty for ejected players/coaches/spectators is suspension from the current game. The recreation department will decide if further suspension is warranted
- Swearing, obscene language or actions, etc., either on or off the court by the players, coaches, or spectators will not be tolerated
- No player may show baiting or taunting acts or words which can cause ill will towards any player/coach/spectator

### **RULES – GRADES 2/3**

- 1. Players on the court:** The maximum number of players on the court for each team is five. Teams may borrow players from the opposing team to make a full team or we can play with a minimum of three players for each team. Players must wear an official league colored t-shirt.
- 2. Coaches on the court:** One (1) cleared coach by the Township of Cherry Hill is permitted on the court for the entirety of the game. Coaches can only direct players while on the court and coaches cannot interfere with plays. One (1) additional coach may be on the team bench. Only those coaches whose names appear on the official roster will be allowed to address the game officials, scorekeepers, or staff.
- 3. Basket Height:** All grades play on a 10 feet basket.
- 4. The Ball:** Grades 2/3 will use a size 27.5 basketball.
- 5. Game Time:** Grades 2/3 games will consist of four (4), eight-minute quarters with subs at the four-minute mark. The clock will run continuously, except during timeouts. The clock will not be stopped during substitution.
- 6. Time-outs:** Each team will have two (2) time-outs per half. Time-outs will not carry over to the second half.
- 7. Score:** Score will be kept but no standings will be kept.

**8. Minimum/Maximum Play Rule:** All players will play four (4) consecutive minutes in each quarter. Minutes cannot be carried over from one quarter to the next. Late arriving players, if time permits, should play the minimum consecutive minutes within the half of their arrival. Failure to comply will result in forfeit of the game. Each player also must sit out a minimum of four (4) consecutive minutes for the entire game.

**9. Defense:** All defenders must retreat to their lane on every exchange. No defense can be played outside of the lane. Double-teaming on defense is only allowed inside the lane to prevent against shot.

**10. Offense:** The offensive team must dribble the ball past the mid court line. Offense will have the opportunity to shoot the ball at all times only outside lane and possession changes when defense gets the rebound after any shot.

**11. Ball Possession:** The visiting team will receive the ball to begin the game. The home team will receive the ball at half time.

**12. Fouls:** All fouls and violations will be taken out-of-bounds at the spot of the foul or violation. The referee facilitating the game will call fouls.

**13. Unsafe Objects Not Allowed:** Jewelry, pierced earrings, and any other items determined dangerous by staff/officials.

### **RULES – GRADES 4/5**

**1. Players on the court:** The maximum number of players on the court for each team is five. Teams may borrow players from the opposing team to make a full team or we can play with a minimum of three players for each team. Players must wear an official league colored t-shirt.

**2. Coaches on the court:** One (1) cleared coach by the Township of Cherry Hill is permitted on the court for the entirety of the game. Coaches can only direct players while on the court and coaches cannot interfere with plays. One (1) additional coach may be on the team bench. Only those coaches whose names appear on the official roster will be allowed to address the game officials, scorekeepers, or staff.

**3. Basket Height:** All grades play on a 10 feet basket.

**4. The Ball:** Grades 4/5 will use a size 27.5 – 28.5 basketball.

**5. Game Time:** Grades 4/5 games will consist of four (4), eight-minute quarters with subs at the four-minute mark. The clock will run continuously, except during timeouts. The clock will not be stopped during substitution.

**6. Time-outs:** Each team will have two (2) time-outs per half. Time-outs will not carry over to the second half.

**7. Score:** Score will be kept but no standings will be kept.

**8. Minimum/Maximum Play Rule:** All players will play four (4) consecutive minutes in each quarter. Minutes cannot be carried over from one quarter to the next. Late arriving players, if time permits, should play the minimum consecutive minutes within the half of their arrival. Failure to comply will result in forfeit of the game. Each player also must sit out a minimum of four (4) consecutive minutes for the entire game.

**9. Defense:** Man to man defense at all times and cannot play defense until offense passes mid-court.

**10. Offense:** There will be no fast breaks. The offensive team must dribble the ball past the mid court line. No picks can be set.

**11. Ball Possession:** The visiting team will receive the ball to begin the game. The home team will receive the ball at half time.

**12. Fouls:** All fouls and violations will be taken out-of-bounds at the spot of the foul or violation. The referee facilitating the game will call fouls. Each player can receive up to five (5) fouls per game.

**13. Unsafe Objects Not Allowed:** Jewelry, pierced earrings, and any other items determined dangerous by staff/officials.

## **RULES – GRADES 6/7**

**1. Players on the court:** The maximum number of players on the court for each team is five. Teams may borrow players from the opposing team to make a full team or we can play with a minimum of three players for each team. Players must wear an official league colored t-shirt.

**2. Coaches on the court:** One (1) cleared coach by the Township of Cherry Hill is permitted on the court for the entirety of the game. Coaches can only direct players while on the court and coaches cannot interfere with plays. One (1) additional coach may be on the team bench. Only those coaches whose names appear on the official roster will be allowed to address the game officials, scorekeepers, or staff.

**3. Basket Height:** All grades play on a 10 feet basket.

**4. The Ball:** Grades 6/7 will use an official (29.5) size ball.

**5. Game Time:** Grades 6/7 games will consist of two (2), sixteen-minute halves. The clock will run continuously, except during timeouts. The clock will not be stopped during substitution. Free substitution rule applies. Running clock will stop last 2 minutes of each half.

**6. Time-outs:** Each team will have two (2) time-outs per half. Time-outs will not carry over to the second half.

**7. Score:** Score will be kept but no standings will be kept.

**8. Minimum/Maximum Play Rule:** Grades 6/7 will follow high school rules. Free substitution rules applies.

**9. Defense:** Grades 6/7 will follow standard high school rules.

**10. Offense:** Grades 6/7 will follow standard high school rules.

**11. Ball Possession:** The visiting team will receive the ball to begin the game. The home team will receive the ball at half time.

**12. Fouls:** Grades 6/7 will follow standard high school rules. Each player can receive up to five (5) fouls per game.

**13. Unsafe Objects Not Allowed:** Jewelry, pierced earrings, and any other items determined dangerous by staff/officials.

### **RULES – GRADES 8-10**

**1. Players on the court:** The maximum number of players on the court for each team is five. Teams may borrow players from the opposing team to make a full team or we can play with a minimum of three players for each team. Players must wear an official league colored t-shirt.

**2. Coaches on the court:** One (1) cleared coach by the Township of Cherry Hill is permitted on the court for the entirety of the game. Coaches can only direct players while on the court and coaches cannot interfere with plays. One (1) additional coach may be on the team bench. Only those coaches whose names appear on the official roster will be allowed to address the game officials, scorekeepers, or staff.

**3. Basket Height:** All grades play on a 10 feet basket.

**4. The Ball:** Grades 8-10 will use an official (29.5) size ball.

**5. Game Time:** Grades 8-10 games will consist of two (2), sixteen-minute halves. The clock will run continuously, except during timeouts. The clock will not be stopped during substitution. Free substitution rule applies. Running clock will stop last 2 minutes of each half.

**6. Time-outs:** Each team will have two (2) time-outs per half. Time-outs will not carry over to the second half.

**7. Score/Playoffs:** Score and standings will be kept. All teams make the playoffs with the last two games reserved for playoffs. High and low seeds, as well as middle seeds will play each other to determine championship and third place game. Standings are determined by record. Total points scored during the season determine tiebreaker.

**8. Minimum/Maximum Play Rule:** Grades 8-10 will follow high school rules. Free substitution rules applies.

**9. Defense:** Grades 8-10 will follow standard high school rules.

**10. Offense:** Grades 8-10 will follow standard high school rules.

**11. Ball Possession:** The visiting team will receive the ball to begin the game. The home team will receive the ball at half time.

**12. Fouls:** Grades 8-10 will follow standard high school rules. Each player can receive up to five (5) fouls per game.

**16. Unsafe Objects Not Allowed:** Jewelry, pierced earrings, and any other items determined dangerous by staff/officials.

### **General Game / Gym Rules**

- No food is allowed in the gym area
- If sneakers are wet, please dry them before entering gym area
- All players must arrive and be picked up promptly
- Players and spectators are not wander the building or touch anything that doesn't belong to them
- Coaches are not to leave the bench area
- Uniforms are not to be altered in any way
- Please clean up after yourselves (water bottles, trash etc.)

<b>Cherry Hill Township Recreation Department Youth Basketball</b>				
<b>Game Format</b>	<b>Grades 2/3</b>	<b>Grades 4/5</b>	<b>Grades 6/7</b>	<b>Grades 8-10</b>
<b>Total # of Players on team</b>	10 max	10 max	10 max	10 max
<b>Players on Court</b>	5 per team, can play with at least 3	5 per team, can play with at least 3	5 per team, can play with at least 3	5 per team, can play with at least 3
<b>Minimum Play Rule</b>	Each player must play a minimum of 4 consecutive minutes in each quarter	Each player must play a minimum of 4 consecutive minutes in each quarter.	Free substitution rule applies	Free substitution rule applies
<b>Referees</b>	1-2	1-2	1-2	1-2
<b>Standings</b>	No	No	No	Yes
<b>Fouls</b>	None	5 per player	5 per player	5 per player
<b>Time Outs</b>	2 per half	2 per half	2 per half	2 per half
<b>Coaches on Sidelines</b>	1 Head Coach and/or 1 assistant	1 Head Coach and/or 1 assistant	1 Head Coach and/or 1 assistant	1 Head Coach and/or 1 assistant
<b>Score</b>	Score will be kept	Score will be kept	Score will be kept	Score will be kept
<b>Length of Games</b>	Four (4), Eight (8)minute quarters	Four (4), Eight (8)minute quarters	Two (2), 16-minute halves	Two (2), 16-minute halves
<b>Half Time</b>				
<b>Ball Size</b>	27.5 "	27.5 - 28.5 "	29.5 " (Official)	29.5 " (Official)
<b>Sportsmanship Rule</b>	If leading by 30 pts the score will be removed	If leading by 30 pts the score will be removed	If leading by 30 pts the score will be removed	N/A