



YOUTH BOYS & GIRLS

U.S.S.S.A. BASKETBALL NATIONAL RULES

**2005 USSSA
NATIONAL
TOURNAMENT
JULY 25-31, 2005**

Effective November 2004

National Basketball Rules

The National High School Federation Rules and Regulations will apply to all U.S.S.S.A. games with the following exceptions.

- I. All games will be played as follows:
 - A. High School games will consist of four eight (8) minute quarters.
 - B. Grade 7 & 8 will consist of two sixteen-minute halves. These grades will use a regulation size basketball.
 - C. Grade 3, 4, 5 and 6 contests will consist of two fourteen-minute halves. These grades will use the 28.5 intermediate basketball.
- II. Halftime shall be no longer than 5 minutes. At least a five-minute pregame warm-up will be given if games are running behind schedule. No games will start before their scheduled time unless agreed to by both coaches.
- III. A total of two (2) 30 second time-outs per half and one (1) floating timeout will be allowed to each team. One (1) additional time out per team will be awarded for each overtime period. There will be no carry over of timeouts to the three-minute overtime periods.
- IV. The clock will be stopped for all whistle stoppages.
- V. Two (2) direct technical fouls during a game on any player, coach, or team representative will result in their disqualification for the rest of the tournament.
- VI. Each team is responsible to provide a designated representative to assist in keeping the scorebook or running the game clock. This must be an adult who will conduct themselves in a professional manner. The team representative will receive a team pass for the duration of the tournament.
- VII. Each team is responsible for their own warmup and game balls and/or any other items brought to the game. U.S.S.S.A. is not responsible for items lost.
- VIII. If a team forfeits two (2) or more pool games; the team will be disqualified from the event and cannot participate in the tourney round of play.

ROSTER RULES:

- I. Players participate at present grade level of school – AND AGE. The U.S.S.S.A. does use a maximum birthday extension guide to accommodate players who have been retained in a grade for more than one year due to academics and/or parental preference. Refer to OVERAGE PLAYER GUIDE.
- II. Proof of age and/or grade is required. Acceptable proofs of age are, clean photocopies of birth certificates, adoption papers, immigration papers or school documentation. Proof of grade is a clean copy of any report card of the current calendar year. Teams are required to have proof of age and/or grade upon check-in.
- III. Players can play up in grade level but not down.
- IV. No roster additions will be permitted after the team has begun play of its first tournament game.
- V. Completed roster and registration fees must be submitted to U.S.S.S.A. within the time limits noted or the team will be ineligible for play.
- VI. Teams participating in the National Tournament are allowed to add two (2) additional players that are not rostered on teams that have qualified and are participating in the National Tournament. Rosters are allowed a maximum of 15 players.



National Basketball Rules (cont.)

- VII. Players not registered with U.S.S.S.A. cannot play – NO EXCEPTIONS.
- VIII. Any team violating roster or team rules will be ineligible to participate in future tournaments.

POOL PLAY AND TOURNAMENT PAIRINGS FOR NATIONAL TOURNAMENTS

- I. In the National Tournament, each team will be placed in a pool for a minimum of three (3) games of play.
- II. All teams will advance to the double elimination championship tourney based on their pool placing. The following criteria will be used to determine pool placing.
 - A. Pool win-loss record.
 - B. Ties are broken by who won head-to-head competitions (2 teams tied).
 - C. Point spread on all games in the pool with a maximum of 20 points counting in any one game (3 teams tied).
 - D. Teams will be seeded in tourneys based on their pool placing.
 - E. The Tournament Director’s decision is final regarding placement of any teams.

DIVISIONS OF PLAY:

U.S.S.S.A. Basketball offers two divisions of play at each grade for boys and girls. The Division I level is for Premier/All-Star teams and Division II is for competitive teams that are primarily School Teams or Community Based teams that do not meet Division I requirements.

ELIGIBILITY:

All players must participate in their own grade level or above.
Players may play in multiple grade levels in any given tournament.

ELIGIBILITY PROTESTS:

All protests must be filed in writing accompanied by a \$100.00 protest fee (refundable if protest is upheld) with the Tournament Director PRIOR to protested game. If protest is valid, the protested team forfeits all previous games. Tournament Director’s ruling on protests is final.
If eligibility protests, team must present required proof of eligibility. See ROSTER RULES for acceptable proofs of age and/or grade.

OVERAGE PLAYERS:

The U.S.S.S.A. is a grade and age-based basketball tournament with defined age parameters based on birth dates that allow players in each specific division to compete only against other players currently at the same grade level or age.

The following guide determines all eligible ages at each grade level.

BOYS ONLY

- 9 & under / 3rd grade – player can not turn 11 before Sept. 1, 2005, if currently in the 3rd grade.
- 10 & under / 4th grade – player can not turn 12 before Sept. 1, 2005, if currently in the 4th grade.
- 11 & under / 5th grade – player can not turn 13 before Sept. 1, 2005, if currently in the 5th grade.
- 12 & under / 6th grade – player can not turn 14 before Sept. 1, 2005, if currently in the 6th grade.
- 13 & under / 7th grade – player can not turn 15 before Sept. 1, 2005, if currently in the 7th grade.
- 14 & under / 8th grade – player can not turn 16 before Sept. 1, 2005, if currently in the 8th grade.
- 15 & under / 9th grade – player can not turn 17 before Sept. 1, 2005, if currently in the 9th grade
- 16 & under / 10th grade – player can not turn 18 before Sept. 1, 2005, if currently in the 10th grade.
- 17 & under – player must be at least 17 & under or have at least one year of high school eligibility remaining.

Players may qualify either by age or grade. An athlete’s grade level is the grade they are during the last semester of the current school year.

The maximum age differential is 12 months.



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National Basketball Rules (cont.)

GIRLS ONLY

9 & under / 3rd grade – player can not turn 11 before Jan. 1, 2005, if currently in the 3rd grade.

10 & under / 4th grade – player can not turn 12 before Jan. 1, 2005, if currently in the 4th grade.

11 & under / 5th grade – player can not turn 13 before Jan. 1, 2005, if currently in the 5th grade.

12 & under / 6th grade – player can not turn 14 before Jan. 1, 2005, if currently in the 6th grade.

13 & under / 7th grade – player can not turn 15 before Jan. 1, 2005, if currently in the 7th grade.

14 & under / 8th grade – player can not turn 16 before Jan. 1, 2005, if currently in the 8th grade.

15 & under / 9th grade – player can not turn 17 before Jan. 1, 2005, if currently in the 9th grade.

16 & under / 10th grade – player can not turn 18 before Jan. 1, 2005, if currently in the 10th grade.

17 & under – player must be at least 17 & under or have at least one year of high school eligibility remaining.

Players may qualify either by age or grade. An athlete's grade level is the grade they are during the last semester of the current school year. The maximum age differential is 12 months.

- NOTE:(1) Area and State tournaments have the authority to modify local playing rules to accommodate local circumstances. All teams participating in the National Tournaments must adhere to the National Tournament Rules as outlined above.
- (2) There must be a minimum of six teams per division for the National Tournament to be held. If less than six teams, all teams will be contacted to see if they want to play in another division.