

## **2025-26 Gold Crown YDL Program: 2nd-4th Grade Divisions - Game Rules**

**Rules:** The Gold Crown Youth Development League will use the National Federation of High School Association's (NFHS) basketball rules, and follow modified Jr. NBA/Jr. WNBA Guidelines *except for*:

**Game Time:** Each game consists of two 18-minute, running-clock halves.

**Fouls:** No free throws will be shot during the game. Teams will be awarded two points when fouled in the act of shooting. Teams will be awarded three points when fouled in the act of shooting and the shot goes in the basket. For non-shooting fouls, teams will take the ball out of bounds at the spot of the foul.

**Time-Outs:** Each team will have two 45-second time-outs. Unused time-outs do not carry over into overtime

**Halftime:** Halftime will consist of three minutes.

**Overtime:** When a game ends with a tie score, the game will go to sudden death with the following guidelines: after a jump ball at center court, the first team to score any combination of two points will be the winner. There will be no time-outs in the sudden death overtime period.

**Equal Playing Time:** Equal playing time is required of every team.

**Substitutions:** To have a better flow to the game and help players identify who they are guarding, players are to be substituted in six-minute increments. Note: If both coaches agree on a different timeframe for their substitutions, it will be permitted if the official is notified prior to the game.

**Game Ball:** Size 6 ball (28.5")

**Height of Basket:** All 2nd-4th grade divisions will play on 9' baskets.

**Set Defense/Double Teaming:** Only player-to-player defense is allowed throughout the competition, and deliberate "double-teaming" is not allowed. **Note:** If an offensive player with the ball advances past their defensive player, another defender may rotate to guard that offensive player, and then recover back to the player they were guarding.

**Pressing Defense:** Teams are not allowed to press in the backcourt, except in the last two minutes of the second half and overtime. However, if a team is leading by 10 or more points they are not allowed to press in the last two minutes of the second half. **Note:** Only player-to-player pressing in the backcourt is allowed (i.e. no zone press is allowed).

**3-Point Field Goals:** There are no three point lines marked on the cross-courts, so three point baskets are not allowed.

**Scorekeeping:** Each team must provide one person to keep the clock or scorebook for their game. A minimum of two people are required for each game.

### **Unsportsmanlike Behavior/Zero Tolerance Policy**

Gold Crown has implemented a **ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY** regarding unsportsmanlike behavior during Gold Crown events. Any spectator, coach, or player who is ejected from a game is automatically disqualified from attending any games for the remainder of the event. Once the person has been ejected from a game, he/she must leave the facility immediately. If the person does not leave the facility in a timely manner, the local authorities will be contacted. **Note:** If the person who was ejected attempts to attend any subsequent games during the event, the team that he/she is associated with will automatically forfeit their remaining game(s) and no refund will be given.