

CATHOLIC GRADE SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION
DEVELOPMENTAL LEAGUE BASKETBALL RULES
2nd and 3rd Grades Only
(Revised 11-5-25)

1. **LEAGUE ELIGIBILITY:** At the discretion of the Basketball Commissioner, the following Developmental Leagues, as defined below, may be offered to CGSAA member schools. The Basketball Commissioner is authorized to appoint an Assistant Commissioner for each league. All players must be enrolled in the school they represent. (Note: there is no Division "1". Division numbers correspond to the grade in which most students will be enrolled.)
 - a. Division 2 – Any student who has not reached their 9th birthday before September 1, 2025, and who is enrolled in 2nd Grade. Division 2 will not be coed per team. Students enrolled in either Kindergarten or 1st Grade are NOT eligible for participation in this division.
 - b. Division 3 – Any student who has not reached their 10th birthday before September 1, 2025, and who is enrolled in 3rd Grade. Division 3 will not be coed per team. Students enrolled in 2nd Grade are eligible for participation in this league.
 - c. Notes on League Eligibility:
 - i. 3rd Grade students and younger are NOT eligible for participation in the CGSAA 4th-8th grade leagues, even if they are outside the age restrictions defined above.
 - ii. Students are NOT eligible to play down a division, regardless of a student's age.
2. **PARTICIPATION RULE:** There will be EQUAL playing time for all players, to be monitored by the coaches. Violations of the Participation Rule in the Developmental League will be investigated and, if necessary, dealt with immediately. A report of any violations will be sent to the CGSAA Representative and the Principal of said School. The Basketball Commissioner or the CGSAA Executive Committee is authorized to assess a two (2) game suspension for the coach. A second violation of this rule may result in suspension for the remainder of the season.
3. **NUMBER OF PLAYERS FOR EACH DIVISION AND SUBSTITUTIONS:** Division 2 and Division 3 will have five (5) eligible players from each team on the floor. Substitutions must report to the scorer's table and may only enter the game upon approval of the referee.
4. **PRAYER:** A prayer will be recited before each game by all players and coaches. The prayer should be led by the home team and should reflect the ideas as set forth by the CGSAA, in accordance with our love of God and fellow participants in the contest.
5. **GAMES TIMES:** The following game times will be in effect for the Developmental League:
 - a. Division 2 and Division 3 – will have a 1-hour game time allotment, with two 20 minute, running clock halves and a 5-minute halftime break. There will be 5 minutes of warm-up time prior to the start of each game.
 - i. 2 timeouts per game, per team, are permitted. Timeouts last 1 minute and the running clock will be stopped.
 - ii. One referee will be used, and will be provided by the CGSAA.
 - b. Teams who play the 1st game of each day may not take the floor prior to 10 minutes before the scheduled start of the games/practices.
 - c. There will be no overtime or extra periods for games in any of the Developmental Leagues.
 - d. League games will be completed no later than the last weekend in February.

- e. After each game, teams will line up and shake hands of opposing players promoting positive sportsmanship.
6. **START TIMES/FORFEITURES:** All games will start at their scheduled time unless the previous game has not ended, in which case the game will start 5 minutes after the previous game ends.
 - a. Each player is encouraged to be at the playing gym 15 minutes prior to the scheduled start time of their game.
 - b. A forfeit will be declared when a team is not ready to play 10 minutes after the scheduled start time, or 5 minutes after the previous game has ended, whichever is later. The game will not be played or rescheduled.
7. **EQUIPMENT:** Basketball size and the height of the goals will be consistent for all Development Leagues.
 - a. All Developmental League games will use the Junior Size Basketball (27.5”).
 - b. The home team will be the team designated as such on the schedule. The home team will provide the game ball, which must meet the acceptability of the coaches and referee.
 - c. Division 2 and Division 3 will use a 9’-0 basketball goal height setting.
 - d. If both teams have the same color uniforms, the team listed first on the schedule will wear target jerseys.
8. **SCORING:** Keeping score and determining wins/losses is **NOT** a key factor in the Development League. Division 2 and Division 3 will keep score; however, it will be reset back to 0-0 at halftime. No standings will be kept for league play. A clock-keeper will be provided by the CGSAA.
9. **FOULS/FREE THROWS:** With a running clock, fouls and free throws will be handled under the following guidelines: Division 2 and Division 3 – Fouls will be called by the referee on the floor and the coaches will discuss with the individual player why the foul was called. Two free throws will be awarded for shooting fouls. The clock will stop for shooting fouls. For non-shooting fouls, the opposing team will get possession of the ball, regardless of how many fouls have been called for the half. The clock will not stop for non-shooting fouls.
10. **COACHES/REFEREES:** For developmental purposes, coaches will play an active role during play of the games.
 - a. All Coaches must go through the Archdiocesan protocol for Safe Environment, including, but not limited to, a background check and training. This includes all coaches on the floor with the players and all coaches sitting with the players on the benches.
 - b. No coach will be on the floor with the players. One referee will be provided by the league. While the ball is in play, coaches must remain in their seats, except for spontaneous reaction to an outstanding play. Only three (3) coaches may be on the bench with the players and only the head coach can assist a referee with helping the players understand why a foul has been called. The referee may ask the head coach to assist on the court for teaching purposes, depending on game-time situations.
11. **DEFENSE:** Guidelines for defense are in place to ensure all participants get offensive scoring opportunities: Defense will be man-to-man. The defensive player must stay completely within the 3-point line. Fast breaks are allowed, but not encouraged, and the defense cannot attempt to steal the basketball until the offensive team has advanced the ball into its offensive 3- point area. Coaches may teach man-to-man help defense, but may not allow the players to play zone, or at any time have 2 defensive players intentionally guarding one offensive player.

12. **COACHES MEETING:** A coaches meeting may be held prior to the start of the season. This meeting will be led by the CGSAA Basketball Commissioner. If the meeting is held, all coaches are required to attend for opportunities to learn about rule changes, ask questions about rules, and learn coaching techniques specific to the development of our student participants. Attendance will be taken at the meeting.

13. **SEASON DECORUM:** All requests from coaches, fans or players should be addressed to the CGSAA League Commissioner through that School's CGSAA Representative. Complaints should never be made to referees or to other coaches, either during or after a game.
 - a. All rule violations are subject to discipline by the CGSAA, which could include suspension from any future games. Any discipline to coaches, players and fans will be addressed to the appointed Representative of that school. It is the mission of the CGSAA to ensure all schools are informed of documented problems for any further action.
 - b. All Participants, including but not limited to, players, coaches, parents and fans, should conduct themselves first and foremost as Christian people. They are to be models of good sportsmanship and Christian behavior. They should respect their players and care for them as any family member would. The guiding principle is that we are all brothers and sisters in Christ and our behavior should affect that belief. Therefore, a coach should not use abusive language or demean a child in any fashion. A coach should show respect for all players on both teams.