

Ebenezer Church Basketball League

GUIDELINES & OBJECTIVES

1. To honor Christ in all of our actions & words and develop a Christian environment where fellowship, recreation, and ministry can occur.
2. To use the league as a tool to spread the Gospel of Jesus and reach people for Christ.
3. To develop within each participant patience, self-control, courage, good sportsmanship, teamwork, and a Christian outlook toward competition.

I. Membership Requirements

The participating church is to be of the Florence area and must agree to the rules and guidelines below.

II. Organizational Structure

- A. The league will be governed by the League Committee, consisting of the League Director(s), Coach/Representatives, and the Recreation Committee of EBC.
- B. Duties of this committee will be to perform the following tasks:
 - Enforcement of rules and guidelines.
 - Review of protests and/or violations with determining action.

III. League Fees

- A. The total cost of each team will be **\$350**. Checks may be made payable to "Ebenezer Baptist Church."
- B. The fee deadline is **Monday, November 4, 2024**.

IV. Player Eligibility

- A. Each team member must be a member of the sponsoring church or a member (regularly involved) in Sunday School or other small group Bible study. EBC holds each individual church accountable for implementing this rule.
- B. **Four non-church members** are allowed per team with the following criteria:
 1. They are actively attending the sponsoring church for which they play.
 2. ...or they are members/active in a church that does not have a team or teams in their age bracket in the Ebenezer Baptist Church League. If a church does not have enough players to complete a reasonable roster, the church may combine with another church.
- C. Age requirements are effective as of September 1, 2024
 - Players must be the age or younger of the age of the league to participate. We recommend a minimum age of 6 years old by Sept 1 to participate in 8U. 17U players who are 18 are eligible to play as long as they are still in high school at the time of the basketball season.

D. All leagues are co-ed.

E. No player who plays for their school at any level is eligible to play in the 12U, 14U or 17U leagues here at Ebenezer.

V. Official Rosters and Roster Forms

A. All official rosters and forms are due by the first game.

B. No additions to the roster will be accepted after after the Christmas break.

VI. League Structure

A. Game play will follow this schedule:

Age Group	Type of Period	Length of Period
8 and Under	Quarter	6 minutes
10 and Under	Quarter	6 minutes
12 and Under	Half	14 minutes
14 and Under	Half	14 minutes
17 and Under	Half	14 minutes

B. Games must begin on time.

C. Five minute break between halves.

D. Less than five players constitute a forfeit. A five minute grace period will be allowed for the first game of the day only. After the first game no grace period is allowed.

VII. Officiating and Scorekeeping

A. Officials and scorekeepers will hired by the League Committee. Each church is asked to submit names for these potential officials and scorekeepers.

B. Pay Schedule:

1. Timekeeper/Score \$10 per game
2. Officials \$20.00 per game

C. High School basketball rules will be followed except where noted within these rules.

VIII Equipment

- A. All players must have Jerseys with numbers. Reversible jerseys are recommended. Regular court shoes are required.
- B. Shorts or Pants must be worn at the waist at all times.
- C. No player may play with cast or splint.
- D. No two players on the same team may have the same number.
- E. No two teams may have like jerseys. However, Team A and Team B from the same church may have jersey and number color reversible. Team colors must be submitted at the league meeting. Ebenezer Baptist Church supplies no jerseys to other church teams.
- F. T-shirts worn under jerseys must be the same color as the jersey or white.
- G. Jewelry must be removed prior to playing

IX. Protests

- A. Protests must be in written form and submitted to the League Committee within 48 hours of the protested event.
- B. The League Committee will rule on the protest as soon as possible.

X. Prayer

- A. A prayer will be said at center court before each game led by the home team (as indicated on the schedule) and prayer will be said at center court after each game led by the visiting team.

XI. Championships

- A. We plan to hold a playoff tournament for 12U, 14U and 17U. We will update teams as we get closer to February regarding tournament dates and times.

XII. League Play in the Ebenezer Baptist Gym

A. Rules for League Play:

1. All coaches, players, and parents are expected to treat the Ebenezer Baptist Church gym and equipment with respect and care.
2. A coach or responsible adult is required to be with the team before they are allowed to enter the facilities and begin practice.
3. Areas other than the gym and restrooms are off limits.
4. No balls are to be thrown or kicked against walls or lights.
5. No street shoes allowed on the gym floor.
6. Ebenezer Baptist Church will not be responsible for valuables.
7. Ebenezer is a smoke-free (and vape free) campus.
8. No one is allowed on stands when folded shut.
9. Hanging or slam dunking on goals is prohibited.

10. Each coach is responsible for making sure all players have rides and have safely left the church property before you leave. Please do not leave your players here after practices or games. Make sure they all have rides home.

11. Equipment damage caused by misuse, unnecessary roughness, and thrown balls (i.e. broken lights, signs, lockers, etc.) will be billed to the church involved.

12. No balls are to be brought to the EBC Gym. EBC supplies all game balls. Any other balls brought or found in the EBC Gym during game play will be confiscated by the League Director.

B. No dunking will be allowed at anytime. Dunking can break church property. Players grabbing the rim will receive a technical foul and those who dunk will get a double technical and be ejected from the game. (Ejections result in having to sit out the next game). This includes slapping the backboard. Please, have players keep their hands off the backboards or rims.

C. Technical fouls will be given for unsportsmanlike conduct.

1. When a player receives two technical fouls for unsportsmanlike conduct, he/she is immediately dismissed from the game and must leave the Family Life Center immediately, and becomes automatically disqualified from the next scheduled game and must be reinstated after meeting with the League Committee before playing again (NOTE: Reinstatement is not an automatic act of the committee and will be at the committee's discretion) .
2. When a team has a lead of 20 or more points no full court press is allowed. If a team presses at 20 points or more, the first offense is a warning. The second and subsequent times will result in the team receiving a technical foul.
3. If the player plays in more than one league, he/she is disqualified from the other league until after the suspension is fulfilled in the league where he/she received the technical fouls.
4. If the player receives three unsportsmanlike technicals in one season, he/she is automatically suspended for the remainder of the season. If he/she plays in more than one league, he/she is suspended in both leagues.
5. If a team receives four unsportsmanlike technicals in one game, the game is automatically forfeited.
6. If a team receives eight unsportsmanlike technicals in one season, the team will be automatically dropped from the league for the season and possibly for an extended period of time at the discretion of the League Committee.
7. THERE ARE NO EXTENUATING CIRCUMSTANCES AND THERE WILL BE NO APPEAL OF THE ABOVE six rules.

D. FIGHTING: Any player who throws a punch or is involved in starting a fight or returns a punch and is actively involved in a fight will be automatically

disqualified from the next scheduled game and must be reinstated after meeting with the League Committee before playing again (NOTE: Reinstatement is not an automatic act of the committee and will be at the committee's discretion).

E. Each team must have a team captain who will identify himself to the officials at the opening prayer.

1. Only the captain and coach may address the referees.
2. Any other player addressing the referees will receive an unsportsmanlike technical foul.
3. The captain / coach may address the referees concerning clarification of a call (understanding what was called).

F. Only players, coaches, officials, timekeepers and scorers are allowed on playing floor during and after the game.

G. Each church as well as each coach, is responsible for its fans. Only sportsmanlike conduct and Christian attitudes are acceptable. We are a Church League.

H. The League Director or the officials have the right to eject anyone (player or spectator) from the building if necessary. If a player is ejected during a game - that player must sit out the next game as well.

Coaches, players, and/or fans who show any type of misbehavior (including unsportsmanlike comments to players, coaches, or referees) will be immediately ejected from the Family Life Center and will be required to meet with the Recreation Committee of Ebenezer Baptist Church before they will be allowed to return to the league.

J. The League Committee has the right to suspend any player or team from the league for failure to adhere to these guidelines, or for any misconduct (conduct which is in direct conflict with the league objectives).

K. Ebenezer Baptist Church is not responsible for any injury which may occur during practice or league play. This rule also applies to sickness. Any player, fan or official participates in this league at their own risk.

L. Coaches, please make sure your players are following school guidelines related to sickness. If they are ineligible to be in school due to illnesses - they should not be practicing or playing games with your team.

M. INSURANCE LIABILITY FORM - All participating churches must provide a "Certificate of Liability Coverage" from your Church's insurance company that shows liability coverage for all of your teams, players and coaches for the season that will run from November - February. Please turn in a copy of this Insurance Certificate along with your Church's registration information.

Ebenezer Basketball Rules and Policies for 8U

Revised - November 2019

Objectives:

- To honor Christ in all of our actions and words and develop a Christian environment where fellowship recreation, and ministry can occur.
- To use the league as a tool to spread the gospel of Jesus and reach people for Christ.
- To develop within each participant patience, self-control, courage, good sportsmanship, team work and a Christian outlook toward competition.

Game Rules for 8U:

1. Teams gather on the gym floor to say a prayer before each game and a prayer after each game. The home team coach is responsible for the prayer before the game and the visiting team coach is responsible for the prayer after the game.
2. The teams are to form lines to shake hands after each game.
3. The goal is 8 feet and the basketball size is 28.5.
4. Games will consist of four six minute quarters. The clock will stop only for shooting fouls, time outs, substitutions, and injuries.
5. There will be a one-minute intermission after the first and third quarters and a five-minute intermission between halves.
6. Each team will be allowed five time outs per game (maximum of three per half) for no longer than sixty seconds.
7. No lane violations will be called but, excessive time in the lane will result in a warning and an explanation of the violation.
8. No double teaming will be allowed while playing defense except in the lane.
9. No guarding in the backcourt. The defense can play the ball after the offense has crossed the half court line. The defense will allow room for the offense (the ball and ball handler) to cross the half court line. Failure to do so will result in a warning followed by fouls being called.
10. The offense has 10 seconds to cross half court and five seconds to put the ball in play across the top of the foul shot arc. Failure to do so will result in a warning by the official on the first offense and a change of possession on the second offense.
11. Fouls are called, players will be disqualified when 7 fouls are committed. Any player fouling with unnecessary aggression will be warned the first time by the referee and will sit out the rest of the game if the aggressive play continues.
12. On the seventh team foul of the half, teams will shoot one and one free throws. On the tenth team foul of the half the other team will be allowed two free throws.
13. No overtime.
14. Backcourt violations will not be called.
15. If a player is called for a violation such as traveling (taking more than two steps after they have stopped dribbling), the referee will explain the call to the player and the same team will retain possession by passing in-bounds. As season progresses, the referees will inform teams when basketball rules will be more strictly applied.
16. Clock does not start until the ball crosses half court during the last 30 seconds of the game (unless a team has a 10 point or more lead).
17. SC High School Athletic Association of Basketball rules apply in all other cases.
18. Once a team has a lead of 10 points, all players on the leading team must keep one foot in the lane on defense. When the lead drops below 10 points, players can play defense as normal.

General Rules:

1. Spectators are not allowed on the court while the game is in progress.
2. Official decisions are final. There are no protests. Any complaints should be submitted in writing to the Director of the basketball league within 48 hours.
3. There will be at least one official per game.

Ebenezer Basketball Rules and Policies for 10U

Revised - November 2019

Objectives:

- To honor Christ in all of our actions and words and develop a Christian environment where fellowship recreation, and ministry can occur.
- To use the league as a tool to spread the gospel of Jesus and reach people for Christ.
- To develop within each participant patience, self-control, courage, good sportsmanship, team work and a Christian outlook toward competition.

Game Rules

1. Teams gather on the gym floor to say a prayer before each game and a prayer after each game. The home team coach is responsible for the prayer before the game and the visiting team coach is responsible for the prayer after the game.
2. The teams are to form lines to shake hands after each game.
3. Games will consist of four six minute quarters. The clock will stop only for shooting fouls, time outs, substitutions, and injuries.
4. There will be a one-minute intermission after the first and third quarters and a five- minute intermission between halves.
5. Each team will be allowed five time outs per game (max. of three per half) for no longer than sixty seconds.
6. Five second lane violation.
7. Zone or man to man defense will be played at the coach's discretion. If a team has a 10 or more point lead, the leading team must play a zone defense until the lead is less than 10.
8. Double teaming is allowed unless your team has a ten point lead.
9. No guarding in the backcourt. The defense can play the ball after the offense has crossed the half court line.
10. The offense has 10 seconds to cross half court. Failure to do so will result in a change of possession.
11. Backcourt will be called.
12. Fouls are called. Players will foul out of the game after the fifth foul.
13. On the seventh team foul of the half, teams will shoot one and one free throws. On the tenth team foul of the half the other team will be allowed two free throws.
14. Overtime will consist of two minutes, if the game is still tied after two minutes, it remains a tie. Free substitution is allowed. Each team is awarded a timeout. Any timeouts not used in the second half can carry over into overtime.
15. Basketball size is 28.5 and basket height is 9 feet.
16. Clock does not start until the ball crosses half court during the last 30 seconds of the game (unless a team has a 10 point or more lead).
17. SC High School Athletic Association of Basketball rules apply in all other cases.

General Rules:

1. Spectators are not allowed on the court while the game is in progress.
2. Official decisions are final. There are no protests. Any complaints should be submitted in writing to the Director of the league within 48 hours.
3. There will be at least one official per game.