

2. BASKETBALL — BOYS AND GIRLS

A. GENERAL REGULATIONS

1) Interscholastic Participation

1.1) Mandatory practice may begin:

1.1.1) Girls – October 25

1.1.2) Boys – November 1

1.2) Grades 9-12 are allowed 5 scrimmages plus 1 preview (See 1.13 for Foundation Games).

1.3) PREVIEW/SCRIMMAGE — A preview may be scheduled and played only starting with the first day after the official start date of coaching and ending with the date of the first regular season game of the teams involved. Each team may schedule one preview and no player may participate in more than one preview. Previews must be played according to National Federation Basketball Rules and shall meet all definitions in Sports Regulation 23.

1.4) SPECIAL WAIVER — A scrimmage or preview scheduled against a Special Olympics team, or a team of similar designation, may be approved by the OHSAA to be played in addition to the maximum allowable number of scrimmages or previews. A waiver for approval of such contests can be found on the “Basketball” section of the OHSAA website. This waiver must be submitted to, and approved by, the OHSAA Basketball Administrator prior to the contest taking place.

1.5) Any scheduled regular season basketball game which is not started due to unforeseen circumstances such as failure of team to arrive, strikes or school closings is considered “No Contest.” Games not played are not included in won-lost statistics and cannot be considered “Forfeits.”

1.6) A student athlete in grades 9-12 may play in a maximum of 132 quarters plus OHSAA sponsored tournament. (Penalty — See General Sports Regulation 20.)

1.7) A student-athlete in grades 7-8 may play in a maximum of 96 quarters plus one postseason or league/conference tournament not to exceed four games by one team. (Penalty — See General Sports Regulation 20.)

1.8) A student shall not be permitted to participate in more than six quarters during any one day. Any part of a quarter is to be considered as a full quarter. In an overtime game, the extended time shall be considered an extension of the fourth quarter.

1.9) Penalty for participation in more than six (6) quarters per day:

- When discovered during a contest, the student shall be disqualified from the game and the game shall continue to completion. The contest will result in a forfeiture by the offending team. All quarters played by the individual shall count toward the maximum permitted. The OHSAA Basketball administrator shall be notified.
- When discovered after a contest is completed, the contest will result in a forfeiture by the offending team. Additionally, all quarters played by the individual shall count toward the maximum permitted for the player in a season. The OHSAA Basketball administrator shall be notified.

1.10) Length of quarters:

- a. Varsity — 8 minute quarters.
- b. Freshman, reserve or junior varsity — 6 minutes recommended, maximum of 7 minutes.
- c. Grades 7 & 8 — 6 minutes maximum.
- d. Overtime — 8 minute quarters – 4 minute overtime; 6 or 7 minute quarters – 3 minute overtime.

1.11) Member schools electing to participate in the *Basketball Service Week Foundation Game* are permitted to use one of their five allotted scrimmages to play a regulation game under all normal game conditions. Foundation games do not count against a team’s won-lost record and may be played any time between November 9 and the first Sectional tournament contest (Girls) and November 16 and the first Sectional tournament contest (Boys). ~~Each participating school is required to make a \$250 contribution to the OHSAA Foundation.~~

1.12) Game Ball: The official game ball adopted by the OHSAA is the Rawlings CompOhioCB (boys) and the Rawlings CompOhio28.5CB (girls) and is required to be used for all regular season and tournament contests in grades 7-12.

Note: If a school is under a current contract (a contract executed before May 1, 2013, and still in “term”) for its use of a ball other than Rawlings, that school may continue with said ball in honor of its current contract.

1.13) Rule 5, Section 5, Article 3 - Note in the NFHS Rule Book states: A state association, by adoption, may institute a running clock when a specified point differential is reached at a specific time in the game.” Ohio has adopted this rule and is defined as follows: Any time a score differential reaches 35 points **during the second half**, a running clock will be utilized. After the 35-point differential has been met but the score drops below 30 points, the clock reverts to regular timing. Should a game reach the 35-point differential in the second half, the clock shall only be stopped for an injured player on the court, team timeouts or when there is an unusual delay deemed necessary by the contest officials.

2) Out-of-State Travel

A basketball team may travel out of state to compete in contest scrimmages, previews and games in states or provinces in Canada that are contiguous to Ohio regardless of distance to travel. The states include Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Pennsylvania and West Virginia. The province includes Ontario. Additionally, a basketball team may travel out of state one time per interscholastic season (Bylaw 9-2-1). Schools must complete the form from the following link when they are participating in a non-contiguous state: <https://ohsaaweb.blob.core.windows.net/files/Eligibility/forms/NonBorderingStateApproval.pdf>

Penalty for violation: The school shall be ineligible for the OHSAA postseason tournament in the sport in which the out-of-state travel was involved and could be subject to additional penalties as referenced in Bylaw 11.

~~Note: A basketball team may not travel out of state to practice only. However, teams may practice out of state while there to compete in contests.~~

3) Ejection for Unsporting Conduct

See *Ejection Policies for Players and Coaches* under Sections 13 and 14 of the General Sports Regulations.

4) Transfer Bylaw

Due to the many questions regarding this bylaw and its application to students wishing to play basketball please go to this link <http://www.ohsaa.org/Eligibility/Transfer> to assist in understanding this bylaw. Note that students who transfer and do not meet an exception to this bylaw are ineligible for all varsity regular season contests and including the OHSAA tournament beginning with varsity regular season game #12.

5) Non-Interscholastic Participation

5.1) Basketball Players Who Have Not Competed for Their School This Season: A sports regulation identified as the Individual Non-Interscholastic Competition Date stipulates that a basketball athlete who has not participated for the school team in basketball that season must cease non-interscholastic basketball participation by the first allowable competition date in basketball in order to be eligible for OHSAA Tournament competition provided all other applicable bylaws and regulations have been followed.

In addition, an athlete who has participated for the school in basketball who violates this non-interscholastic competition date by participating in a non-interscholastic contest in basketball shall be ineligible for OHSAA tournament competition in basketball in addition to any other penalties that may be prescribed.

Girls: November 22, 2024 – No non-interscholastic competition permitted on or after this date

Boys: November 27, 2024 – No non-interscholastic competition permitted on or after this date

5.2) A member of an interscholastic basketball squad (any student who has played in a scrimmage, preview or regular season/tournament game as a substitute or starter) sponsored by the Board of Education shall not participate in a non-interscholastic program (tryouts, practice or contest) as an individual or a member of a team in the sport of basketball during the school's season (Sports Regulation 7.2).

5.3) A member of an interscholastic basketball squad (any student who has played in a scrimmage, preview or regular season/tournament game as a substitute or starter) sponsored by the Board of Education may participate in non-interscholastic basketball prior to and after the school season under the conditions of General Sports Regulation 7.3 and 7.5.

5.4) All-Star Games — “All-Star” events are non-interscholastic events by rule. Student-athletes in team sports who wish to participate in one of these “all-star” competitions outside the school basketball season may do so without jeopardy to eligibility provided the students maintain compliance with General Sports Regulations 7.3 and 7.6 that address Non-School Team Competition.

The purpose of this special “All-Star” regulation is to provide an opportunity for the interscholastic team sport coach to coach players from his or her school. Coaches are permitted to coach in “All-Star” contests if they meet all the provisions of General Sports Regulation 7.6.

Participation during the no-contact period for coaches is permitted.

6) Instructional Programs

See *Regulations for Instructional Programs* under Section 7 of the General Sports Regulations.

7) No Contact Period — Coaches

See *Regulations for No Contact Period — Coaches* under Section 11 of the General Sports Regulations.

8) Penalties

8.1) The maximum penalty for violation of Sports Regulation 7.2 (participation with a non-interscholastic basketball squad while a member of the school's interscholastic basketball squad) or any OHSAA regulations for any member of the school squad, EXCEPT a senior, is ineligibility for the remainder of the interscholastic basketball season or the ensuing basketball season. For a senior, the maximum penalty shall be ineligibility for the remainder of the school year.

8.2) The penalty for a coach for violation of Sports Regulation 7 (non-interscholastic teams) may include suspension, probation, public censure, fine not to exceed \$1,000 per occurrence or such other penalty as the Executive Director may deem appropriate.

B. SPECIFIC REGULATIONS — GRADES 9-12

- 1) **Tryouts, coaching, instruction may begin — Girls: October 25, 2024
Boys: November 1, 2024**

**First game — Girls: November 22, 2024
Boys: November 27, 2024**
- 2) **Deadline date for OHSAA Tournament — Girls: January 20, 2025
Boys: January 27, 2025**
- 3) **Tournament draw/seeding meeting — Girls: February 2, 2025, 2:00 p.m.
Boys: February 9, 2025, 2:00 p.m.**
- 4) **Coaching and Regular Season end — Girls: March 15, 2025
Boys: March 22, 2025**
- 5) **Scrimmage or Previews — Maximum of five scrimmages plus one preview
(Note: An approved OHSAA Foundation Game may replace one scrimmage)**
- 6) **Regular season games — Maximum of 22 games**
- 7) **Rules — National Federation Basketball (NFHS)**
- 8) **Officials:**
 - 8.1) Varsity — Class 1 Basketball Only. In the event only one OHSAA registered basketball official arrives to officiate the game, the game may be played provided the participating coaches agree
 - 8.2) Reserve/Junior Varsity — Class 1 or Class 2 Basketball Only. In the event only one OHSAA registered basketball official arrives to officiate the game, the game may be played provided the participating coaches agree
 - 8.3) Freshman — Minimum of one OHSAA Class 1, Class 2 or Class 3 basketball official required. All other officials are required to be OHSAA Class 1, 2 or 3 or basketball official in training

C. SPECIFIC REGULATIONS — GRADES 7 & 8

- 1) **Tryouts, coaching and instruction may begin — Girls: October 25, 2024
Boys: November 1, 2024**
- 2) **First game — Girls: November 22, 2024
Boys: November 27, 2024**
- 3) **Coaching and Season end — Girls: February 24, 2025
Boys: March 3, 2025**
- 4) **Scrimmages or Previews — Maximum of two scrimmages plus one preview**
- 5) **Regular season games — Maximum of 16 games**
- 6) **Postseason games — 1 league/conference tournament or 1 postseason tournament not to exceed 4 game-
Maximum of two (2) contests can be played in one calendar day**
- 7) **Rules — National Federation Basketball (NFHS)**
- 8) **Basketball — The approved ball shall have a circumference minimum of 28 1/2 inches to a maximum of 29
inches for 7th & 8th grade competition**
- 9) **Officials — One OHSAA Class 1, Class 2 or Class 3 basketball official required. All other officials required
to be an OHSAA Class 1, 2 or 3 or basketball official in training**

BASKETBALL CALENDAR

Girls Basketball	2024-25	2025-26
Coaching and Tryouts Begin	10/25	10/24
Season Begins	11/22	11/21
Tournament Draw	2/2	2/1
Sectional (Divisions III-VII)	2/10-2/15	2/9-2/14
District	2/17-2/22	2/16-2/21
Regional	2/24-3/2	2/23-2/28
State Semifinal	3/3-3/9	3/2-3/8
State Final	3/14-3/15	3/13-3/14
Season Ends	3/15	3/14

Boys Basketball	2024-25	2025-26
Coaching and Tryouts Begin	11/1	10/31
Season Begins	11/27	11/26
Tournament Draw	2/9	2/8
Sectional (Divisions III-VII)	2/17-2/22	2/26-3/1
District	2/24-3/1	2/23-2/28
Regional	3/3-3/9	3/4-3/8
State Semifinal	3/10-3/16	3/9-3/15
State Final	3/21-3/23	3/20-3/21
Season Ends	3/23	3/22

BASKETBALL — STATE TOURNAMENT ROTATION

The chart below reflects DI playing the last game, DII playing the late game on Friday and a rotation of the other five divisions.

2025-2028-2031	2026-2029-2032	2027-2030-2033
III	IV	V
IV	V	VI
II	II	II
V	VI	VII
VI	VII	III
VII	III	IV
I	I	I