

# Smithville Parks and Recreation

## Smithville Dribblers

### Youth Basketball League Rules and Information

Revised 12/12/2017

#### **Purpose:**

The purpose of the league is to create a healthy and safe environment that supports life lessons such as good sportsmanship, develop athletics, teach the fundamentals of basketball, and to intertwine competition and cooperation. We want everyone to remember the children are learning basketball and we want to help enrich their skills to the best of our ability.

#### **PARD Mission Statement:**

The Parks and Recreation Department provides leisure opportunities for all citizens of Smithville and surrounding communities. We are committed to establishing a safe, fun and relaxing environment for the public. Activities and programs within the department will promote community involvement and learning atmosphere. We encourage all citizens to be active and to pursue a higher quality of life.

#### **Registration and Consent:**

In order to participate in the league, each player must have a complete registration profile and the appropriate fee paid. By registering in and paying for the Smithville Dribblers League, parents/guardians are giving consent for their child(ren) to participate in said program. Parents/guardians are responsible for their own primary insurance; Smithville PARD will NOT be responsible for any accidents that happen during the league.

#### **Rules:**

Volunteer coaches MUST read and understand these rules prior to the start of the season. If there are any questions, please contact the Smithville PARD so we can try to clear up any questions you may have. Parents are strongly urged to read the packet as well to better understand how the season runs.

#### **Age Divisions:**

The league will be divided by grade. Divisions may change based on the number of registrations the Smithville PARD receives this season and in the future, below you will see the preferred divisions.

Pee-Wee:	4yrs-Kinder, Co-Ed
Junior:	1 <sup>st</sup> -2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade, Boys and Girls Divisions
Intermediate:	3 <sup>rd</sup> -4 <sup>th</sup> Grade, Boys and Girls Divisions
Senior:	5 <sup>th</sup> -6 <sup>th</sup> Grade, Boys and Girls Divisions

#### **Coaches, Parents and Volunteers:**

*We will NOT be able to start the season until we have enough volunteer coaches. If interested in volunteering other than coaching (ex. Officiating) please contact the Smithville Recreation Center.*

- Head coaches must be at least sixteen (16) years old or older.
- All other volunteers such as assistant coaches or officials must be at least twelve (12) years old or older.
- If the PARD chooses to pay officials they must be at least sixteen (16) years of age.
- A coach at least sixteen (16) or older must be with the team at all times. Coaches will be chosen by Rec. Center staff on a first come basis and consideration of past volunteer experiences with the department.
- Teams will only be allowed to have one (1) head coach and one (1) assistant coach. Head coaches shall submit their volunteer form to Smithville PARD forty-eight (48) hours before the registration deadline. Assistant coaches must also complete a volunteer form and be approved by Smithville PARD once chosen by a head coach following draft. Only head coaches will be guaranteed a team shirt.
- No one may oversee and be responsible for participants without a current volunteer form on file.

#### **Player Assignments:**

A protected player is a player assigned to a team because his/her parent is a head coach. The registered child(ren) of a head coach will be placed on the designated team when the appropriate age level is being drafted. Registration

forms have an area for each player to make specific scheduling requests, be it a sibling in the same division. We will do our best to honor such requests but are unable to guarantee each request. Names of the siblings requesting to be paired together for transportation purposes must have each other's names on their registration form (Example: Billy's name is on Joe's form, and Joe's name has Billy's name on it as well). Again, ONLY siblings in the same division will be allowed transportation requests, NO others will be granted. Once the form has been turned in there will be NO further requests allowed.

**Draft Procedures:**

Only coaches shall attend the draft (Absolutely NO parents or children). Following draft night, coaches will receive a team folder that will include a team roster, contact information, program information etc. and be responsible for calling each parent to inform them of their practice day and times. *Please Note:* There shall be NO changes made to team rosters after draft night.

*Parents will be ultimately responsible to get program information. The Recreation Center will use email addresses to contact parents while coaches are suggested to call. Please make sure all contact information on your profile is correct. If you do not receive any contact from the Rec. Center staff OR program coach, please contact the Rec. Center for program information.*

The first round of the draft will be determined by a draw and each round thereafter will alternate chronographically taking turns starting the drafting round. (Example: (Round 1) 1, 2, 3, 4 – (Round 2) 2, 3, 4, 1- (Round 3) 3, 4, 1, 2- and so on). There will be both girl and boy teams for each division other than Pee Wee.

Protected players are: (1) child(ren) of the head coach or (2) siblings in the same division that must be paired together for transportation purposes. In order to keep the rosters as equal as possible we will divide the ages of the players amongst the teams and protected players will be automatically assigned to teams when the appropriate age level is being drafted. (Example: if the Intermediate draft is in progress and if the coach's child is ten (10) years old, the coach will be assigned his/her child automatically when their first available ten (10) year old slot opens and it will count as that rounds pick). If a coach chooses a child that is paired with a transportation request, that coach will be skipped on the next age appropriate round (Example: Timmy is paired with Tom. Timmy is ten (10) and Tom is nine (9). Tom is picked so therefore the coach will continue drafting but then automatically be assigned Tommy at the first ten (10) year old slot).

Once all the participants from one age group have been picked we will do the same process for the next age group until all the players in that division have been drafted.

**Pee Wee Division:**

The Pee Wee Division will be co-ed and the draft will NOT consider skill level. Players will be categorized by age and gender. Four (4) year old girls will be chosen first, following by four (4) year old boys. Then all five (5) year olds will be chosen, and the process will continue until all are drafted.

**Junior, Intermediate, and Senior Divisions:**

These divisions will be divided based on age and number of years played. This will be for both boys and girls divisions.

**Minimum Player Requirements and Playing Time:**

Smithville PARD will limit rosters to a maximum of ten (10) players. A game is played between two (2) teams consisting of five (5) players on the court at a time. A minimum of four (4) legal uniformed players are needed to start and continue a game. If a team does NOT meet the minimum number of players, that team will forfeit the game. Only players on the official team roster are eligible to play. **If both coaches agree, games may be played 3v3.**

**Playing Time:**

- During the first quarter of every game there will be NO substitutions allowed. The five (5) players who start this quarter will be the same five (5) players who finish the quarter.
- During the second quarter any remaining players who did NOT start the first quarter will be required to start the second quarter and play the entire quarter without substitutions.
- During the second quarter, if a team has less than 10 players on their roster then the coach may substitute only for those players who have already played the entire first quarter.

- In the case of an injury to a player who is playing their required full quarter a medical substitution will be allowed. However, if a player is NOT able to finish their quarter during the first half then that player shall play a full quarter with no substitutions allowed in the second half.

Participants will need to be played equal amounts of time or to the best ability (ex. If you have 10 players of your team, each of them should be able to play half of the game/two quarters). However, if players miss two (2) consecutive practices or more, then the coach will have the decision to play the participant for only the one quarter. However, if a coach chooses to discipline a child for missing practice they MUST contact the parents ahead of time (before the game day) to notify parents that their child will be playing significantly less on game day. Then on game day coaches MUST let the scorekeeper know so it can be noted in the scorebook beside the players name as to why they played significantly less. This will be up to you as a coach and ONLY after two consecutive practices (the count starts over if the player shows up to practice). If a coach chooses to implement this rule, it must be consistent and applied to all team members fairly.

### **Length of Games:**

All games are complete upon expiration of regulation time. NO overtime allowed. Half time takes place between the second and third quarter of each game.

**Pee Wee:** 2 games consisting of 2.5 minute quarters, 2 minute breaks between, and a 5 minute half time.

**Juniors:** 1 game consisting of 6 minute quarters, 2 minute breaks between, and a 5 minute half time.

**Intermediate:** 1 game consisting of 8 minute quarters, 2 minute breaks between, and a 5 minute half time.

**Senior:** 1 game consisting of 8 minute quarters, 2 minute breaks between, and a 5 minute half time.

### **Ball Sizes:**

<b>Pee Wee:</b>	Rookie Ball (25.5")
<b>Juniors:</b>	Junior's Ball (27.5")
<b>Intermediate:</b>	Boys - Women's Ball (28.5") Girls – Junior's Ball (27.5")
<b>Senior Girls:</b>	Women's Ball (28.5")
<b>Senior Boys:</b>	Men's Ball (29.5")

### **Rim Height:**

<b>Pee Wee:</b>	8 ft. 6 in.
<b>Juniors:</b>	8 ft. 6 in.
<b>Intermediate:</b>	10 ft.
<b>Senior:</b>	10 ft.

### **Free Throw Distance:**

<b>Pee Wee:</b>	13 ft. 6 in. (Approx. one step in front of standard line)
<b>Juniors:</b>	13 ft. 6 in. (Approx. one step in front of standard line)
<b>Intermediate:</b>	15 ft.
<b>Senior:</b>	15 ft.

### **Equipment:**

**Games Days:** Game day equipment will be provided by Smithville PARD. Smithville PARD will also supply the scorebook and materials for keeping game day records.

**Practices:** A utility tub with practice balls, scrimmage jerseys (if needed), cones, first aid kit, etc. will be placed at all gyms outside of the Rec. Center. Coaches will be responsible for the use of this equipment and securing it when finished. If items are missing, please report the missing item(s) to the Smithville PARD immediately. This will help us keep track of equipment as coaches are responsible for making sure everything that was in the tub prior to practice is securely locked back in the tub after practice. Teams practicing at the Rec. Center may check out practice equipment from the front desk staff and shall return it when practice is over.

Everyone must respect all property and equipment used for the league. Failing to follow this policy can result in immediate removal from the premises and/or league participation. **NO hanging on the rim(s) or net(s) at anytime.** Coaches and parents are responsible for overseeing player's behaviors. Parents and coaches can be financially responsible for equipment damages due to improper usage such as hanging on the equipment.

### **Practice and Games:**

Practice days and times will be determined by the coaches and gym availability. Practices will start the week of **January 8, 2018**. Coaches will be responsible to inform parents of their practice day/time and location immediately after the draft and receiving their team roster from the Smithville PARD. Practice times and locations will be discussed with the coaches on draft night. COACHES: If you are unable to contact a parent after several tries, contact the Rec. Center so we can try other ways to contact the parent.

**Teams will only be allowed to practice and/or scrimmage for one (1) hour per week at the designated time and gym location assigned for the season.** Smithville PARD allows parents to choose one (1) day a week that is absolutely awful for their child to attend practice at the time of registration. During draft, we will do our best to get the child on a team which the practice time does not conflict their other schedule. However, these are only requests and are NOT guaranteed. Changes to practice schedules are strictly prohibited unless coaches receive prior approval or notification by the Smithville PARD Recreation Supervisor and/or Director.

**Games will be held on Saturday's beginning in January.** A game schedule should be available soon after drafts. The league will last approximately six (6) weeks; however, post season tournament options may follow if time allows.

Coaches/parents of teams/players that arrive while games are in progress are responsible for keeping their team/child together and under control. Please DO NOT let your child(ren) run around the gyms, under the bleachers or in the foyer or hallways. Please keep a diligent eye on all children to ensure that they are always supervised and safe. Siblings of participants MUST remain in direct and constant supervision of their parents or legal guardian and remain seated in, NOT UNDER, the bleachers for the entire game.

### **Sportsmanship, Conduct, and Discipline:**

A goal of Smithville PARD sports is to develop good sportsmanship within the program. **Coaches must display the highest level of sportsmanship at all times.** Players and parents tend to emulate the example set by the coaching staff. Coaches should address the team's sportsmanship standards at the first player/parent meeting and/or practice.

All games are in the hands of the officials. Each coach, player, parent, and team is required to respect the official's authority. Un-sportsmanlike conduct, including but NOT limited to profanity, threatening language, disrespect, gestures, apparent indulgence in alcoholic beverages before or during the game, verbally abusing, roughing up, or fighting with anyone will NOT be tolerated.

If an official witnesses any acts of elbowing or un-sportsmanlike act, the game may be stopped and the offending player will be ejected from the game. Any un-sportsmanlike conduct by coaches, parents or spectators will result in automatic removal from the facility and may be subject to additional sanctions for any conduct detrimental to the recreation program, which will be appropriately imposed by the Smithville PARD. Sanctions range from verbal warnings to termination from the league.

### **Uniforms and Appropriate Attire:**

- Only Smithville PARD provided team shirts may be worn during games & must remain tucked in during play.
- Players must wear non-marking athletic shoes.
- Jewelry may NOT be worn by any uniformed players.
- Eye wear must be attached to the wearer by means of non-dangling elastic/rubber eye ware strap.
- Medical alert devices are an exception but MUST be taped down with NO metal showing.
- NO hard casts are allowed.
- Hard plastic or metal containing devices such as pins, barrettes, clips, etc. will NOT be permitted. ONLY soft, non-abrasive, elastic, cloth or rubber hair restraining devices sweat and head bands are permitted.

Any business, organization, or individual desiring to sponsor a team should contact the Smithville PARD and submit a sponsorship form. Names of the sponsoring party will be placed on the back of the selected team ONLY if forms are submitted prior to shirt orders.

### **Video Photography, Picture Taking, and Closing Ceremonies:**

The Smithville PARD, parent and coach concerns for participant privacy dictate the following: Video photography may only be taken by those directly associated (parent, guardian, relative, etc.) with the team(s) participating in the practice or match at hand. Video recording participant activities for use by distant relatives or as a parent keepsake is encouraged. Coaches, being most familiar with persons having valid reasons for recording their team's basketball events, should address anyone unfamiliar to them and if appropriate, request that person to stop recording. As with any incident, please notify Smithville PARD as soon as possible (512) 237.3282 x 7 and/or contact the local police department.

Team photos may be scheduled during the league. Coaches will provide schedules and further information during the season. Participants will be responsible for purchasing their own photos.

An informal award ceremony will be held at the end of the season. Ceremony information will be given out shortly after game schedules are finished.

### **Petitions:**

Petitions must be submitted by a coach or team manager. Any contested rulings or incidents that are NOT handled by the officials (s) or Recreation Staff immediately or correctly can be communicated to the Recreation Director or Recreation Supervisor by filling out a petition form. In order to submit a petition, the form must be turned in with a \$10.00 petition deposit which will be forfeited if the petition is NOT approved. A petition form can be picked up at the Smithville Recreation Center. The petition fee along with a completed form must be turned into the Recreation Center within 24 hours, or the next business day (Monday-Friday/8AM-5PM) from when the contested issue occurred.

**The Smithville PARD staff will have the final say over any appeal of the rules and has the ability to make decision on any rules that are NOT covered.**

### **Coaches:**

- The Head Coach is only allowed in the scorekeeper area to identify substitutions or to prevent possession errors. Penalty: One (1) warning, then technical foul.
- NO coaching at or below the free throw line. Penalty: One (1) warning, then technical foul.
- Coaches may enter the court only after being signaled by an official for a player injury.
- Coaches must stay within the "box" while the clock is running. Penalty: coach will sit while clock is running.
- Coaches are NOT permitted to dispute officials calls. Penalty: Technical foul.

After receiving one (1) technical foul, coaches must remain seated for the remainder of the game. If any other rule is broken, technical foul is obtained, or unsportsmanlike conduct is displayed the coach will be asked to leave the premises and may be suspended.

### **General League Rules (Additional division rules apply for each age division):**

1. Scheduled game start time is forfeit time; NO grace period.
2. Teams should show up 10-15 minutes prior to scheduled game start time.
3. If the schedule allows, teams may have up to a five (5) minute warm up prior to game.
4. Only coaches and players listed on the team's roster are allowed on the court and or in the player bench area.
5. Coaches, officials, and team captains should meet briefly, prior to start of each game for any instructions, questions, or ground rules.
6. Each team is required to have parents available to assist the league. Teams may be responsible for providing scorekeepers and/or scoreboard operators for each game, if needed.
7. Prior to the game, coaches are responsible to make sure each player is wearing the appropriate attire and they have the minimum number of players required to start a game.
8. Designated game day officials are assigned for all divisions except Pee Wee. If an official is NOT assigned to the game, the game will be postponed or rescheduled (Smithville PARD uses volunteers, coaches, or paid officials that may NOT be certified).
9. Late players can still play after the game has started; however, the official scorekeeper should be notified that a player is arriving late. (Late players do NOT account as a player for minimum requirements at game start time). Late players should be substituted in the same way.

10. If, once a game has started, a team CANNOT maintain the minimum number of legal uniformed players, coaches are suggested to play 4v4 or 3v3 in order to keep the kids playing. The officials may call the game if there are still not enough players and if so, that team will need to forfeit.
11. All divisions will perform a jump ball at the beginning of each game to determine initial possession.
12. **GAME CLOCK:** All games will have a running clock; the clock will stop only on timeouts and free throws. The game officials may use their discretion to stop the clock for injury, ball retrieval, etc.
13. **TIMEOUTS:** Each team shall be allowed four (4) one-minute timeouts per game. Timeouts may be made when the ball is in possession or there is a dead ball.
14. **SUBSTITUTIONS:** See 'Minimum Player Requirements and Playing Time'.
15. **MINIMUM PLAYING TIME:** Please see 'Minimum Player Requirements and Playing Time'.
16. **POINT SPREAD RULE:** If one team is ahead by fifteen (15) or more points during the last two (2) minutes of each half, the clock will remain a running clock, except for timeouts and free throws. Smithville PARD will record all points and game records in the official scorebook; however, only a twenty (20) point difference should be displayed on the scoreboard.
17. **FOULS:** Both team and individual fouls will be kept for all divisions except Pee Wee. Players will foul out of the game after incurring five (5) individual fouls or two (2) technical fouls. After, seven (7) team fouls the game will be played 1 and 1, allowing the other team free throw opportunities.
18. **OVERTIME:** NO overtime will be played.
19. **THROW INS:** A player will have five (5) seconds to throw the ball in.
20. **FULL COURT DEFENSE VIOLATION:** Each team shall be issued one warning per half, in which the whistle is blown and the offended team brings the ball in play on their offensive front court at the mid-court opposite the scorer's table and team benches. Additional violations shall result in technical fouls. The Pee Wee division is exempt from this rule as full court defense is NOT permitted.

### **Additional Division Rules:**

#### **Pee Wee Division Specific Rules:**

1. The game score and books will NOT be kept.
2. Game day officials are NOT required; coaches should supervise and direct the game.
3. Wristbands of different colors will be worn by each player. Players will guard other players on the opposite team with the same color wristband.
4. LANE VIOLATIONS: None.
5. FULL COURT DEFENSE (PRESS): Not permitted; after a defensive player re-bounds the ball, the offense must clear the basket area and set up at the opposite end of the court.
6. FOULS: Both individual and team fouls will NOT be kept.
7. Each player on the team should be allowed the opportunity to play in all positions at some point during games.

#### **Junior Division Specific Rules:**

1. LANE VIOLATIONS: None.
2. FULL COURT DEFENSE (PRESS): Teams may play full court defense during the last minute (1) of the fourth quarter only.
3. Each player on the team should be allowed the opportunity to play in all positions at some point during games.
4. No offensive plays will be taught during practice and/or used during games. Teaching defensive positions will be allowed.

#### **Intermediate Division Specific Rules:**

1. LANE VIOLATIONS: Five (5) second lane violations.
2. FULL COURT DEFENSE (PRESS): Teams may play full court defense during the last two (2) minutes of the second quarter and fourth quarter. Full court defense will NOT be allowed if any team is 15 points or more ahead.

#### **Senior Division Specific Rules:**

1. LANE VIOLATIONS: Three (3) second lane violations.
2. FULL COURT DEFENSE (PRESS): Teams may play full court defense at any time. If any team is 20 points or more ahead, no full court defense will be allowed.