

TRI-CITY AREA WELS/ELS MEN'S BASKETBALL LEAGUE RULES

1. PURPOSE:

- a. To foster Christian fellowship among our sister congregations.
- b. To offer an atmosphere to play in which fun and enjoyment are emphasized over competition and intensity.

2. ELIGIBILITY:

- a. Member of WELS or ELS
- b. Players shall not be playing or have played on a college or high school basketball team during the current season.
- c. Must be a church member in good standing with the church or potential member enrolled in adult confirmation class to become a member of the church as indicated on the team roster by the pastor of the congregation. Potential members must be enrolled by the first game.
- d. Any individual that would like to play in the league but his church does not participate may play. This individual must contact the league chairman for placement on a team.
- e. Players shall play on one team only.
- f. Players shall only play on their home church team only unless approved by the league.
- g. The church pastor must approve rosters. No additions to the rosters after the 5th game.

3. SIZE OF TEAMS & TEAM INFORMATION:

- a. The league has no limit on the number of players on one team with the exception of line (d) below.
- b. A church may have more than one team. Each team must have its own official roster.
- c. Two smaller churches' that wish to combine so that they are able to form a team are allowed to do so. However, each player must have his pastor sign a registration form.
- d. Larger churches are allowed to pick up players from other churches only in the event that they can't fill the roster with players from their church. In this case, a roster of eight players is the maximum.
- e. Larger churches of 800 + members are encouraged to recruit from within their congregation.
- f. Each team must have a designated "Team Leader" on the roster. This individual must be a minimum of 18 years old and will be the primary team contact.
- g. No stacking of teams with players from other congregations will be permitted.

4. RULES:

a. A prayer (Lord's Prayer) must be said between the two teams before the game starts at center court! NO EXCEPTIONS!

- b. There shall be two twenty-minute halves.
- c. Half-time shall be five minutes. The clock shall run for half-time.
- d. The clock shall only stop for free throws and time-outs with the exception of the last two minutes of each half in which the clock shall stop for any whistle.
- e. Substitution may take place at any stop of play. Substitutes must be buzzed in from the scorer's table.
- f. Seven team fouls for bonus, ten for double bonus.
- g. In the situation that you have a player or players foul out of a game and it would put your team at less than 5 eligible players you have two options: 1. Play with only 4 players. 2. Insert one of your players who fouled out. If option one is chosen, play continues as normal. If option 2 is chosen, whenever the player with 5 fouls commits a foul the team will be penalized by the opposing team receiving 2 freethrows and then possession of the ball out of bounds. A team must make a decision of what they want to do at the time they go below 5 players.
- h. Technical fouls for habitual language or for unsportsmanlike conduct toward players, coaches, or any referee will not be tolerated! If a player receives a third technical anytime during the season that player must sit the game following the third technical. If a fourth technical is ever issued then the player must sit out the rest of the year.
- i. Technical fouls may be protested to a league committee in writing by the Wednesday following the game, which it was received. *mdpriebe@sbcglobal.net*
- j. Four (4) time-outs per game. One additional timeout in overtime. Time-outs shall be one minute each.
- k. Games can be played with a minimum of four players. The game shall be forfeited when a team has less than four players at game time.
- l. The first game shall begin at 5:30 p.m. and the second game shall start at 6:45 p.m. or 10 minutes after the first game. When a third game is to be played, it shall begin at 8:00 p.m. or 10 minutes after the second game is over.
- m. Tie games will be decided by a five-minute overtime.
- n. All players must have a shirt of the same color with a legal number that can be read by the referees.
- o. On a free throw, play shall continue on the release of the ball from the shooter's hands.
- p. ALL OTHER RULES WILL BE THE SAME AS HIGH SCHOOL.**
- q. Should two teams tie for the final league standings, the team that won the game between the two will be the higher seed in the tournament.