

TOWN OF HUDSON
PARK COMMISSION
Division of Recreation
78 Main Street
Hudson, MA 01749
978-568-9642

Hudson Recreation Youth Basketball League Policies

- Our goal for the program is to **teach children the fundamentals of Basketball. This should be your focus as a coach.** Winning or Losing is not our priority. We hope that every participant has fun and learns and improves on the fundamentals of basketball each year.
- It is our policy to **CORI** all of our staff and coaches
- **NO CHANGES** are to be made to these rosters by either coaches or parents. If children have a conflict that prevents them from coming to a practice, he/she will not be penalized for missing practice and will still play in the weekend game and more importantly not play any less due to a missed practice. It is not feasible for us to take requests from those that participate in the programs (over 200 children) specific to practice days and times or to be placed with specific coaches. If your child does have a conflict with his or her practice time, we encourage them to attend whenever possible. He or she will still play in the games despite missing a practice. We enforce substitutions and fair playing time at all levels. If you decide to request a refund and pull your child from the program you **MUST** notify the Hudson Recreation prior to the 1st game/clinic of the season.
- **Winter Weather Policy** – We typically wait until Saturday mornings before making decisions about snow cancellations on game days. If we cancel due to inclement weather, we ask that the coaches contact players to notify them of any cancellations. **Notices regarding cancellations will be posted on our Facebook page first and then we will update our website (www.hudsonrecreation.org) as soon as the decision to cancel any games or practices has been made.**
Note: There will be no practices during the week if there is a cancellation or an early release from school, due to inclement weather.
- All players should dress appropriately for both practices and games. All shirts are to be tucked in during games.
- Players and Parents should not arrive more than 5-10 minutes prior to their practice or game, unless otherwise directed by coaches. Players should not be dropped off for either games or practices and be left alone, prior to staff or coaches arriving.
- Parents should promptly pick up their children at the end of games and practices. Coaches must wait for parents to pick up their players before leaving.
- During weekly practices, **only registered players, coaches, staff, and immediate family members are to be in the gyms and schools.** Parents are responsible for supervising any children in the gym, who are not on the team roster. At no point should anyone be roaming around other areas of the school outside the gym. **Use of any other part of the school building is NOT permitted under any circumstance.**

- Hudson Public Schools has a Policy in place that “Prohibits Food and Drinks” in the gyms. No food or drinks should be brought into the gyms however players will be permitted to bring WATER ONLY to practices and games. Parents and other spectators must adhere to this rule as well.
- **Uniforms** - Each child will be given a team t-shirt to wear during the games and/or clinics. We recommend that all players also wear dark colored shorts, with no pockets. This will help create uniformity within the programs. Baggy pants, pajama bottoms, jeans, etc... are highly discouraged and could be potential hazards during games and clinics.
- **Jewelry** - No jewelry will be allowed during any basketball game and it is also recommended that all jewelry be removed for practices as well.
- **Sneaker Recommendation** – As winter weather begins to set in the struggle to keep courts clean, dry and in a safe playable condition becomes more difficult for our staff. Players should wear a different pair of sneakers into the school. Once they arrive, they should immediately remove their sneakers and put on their “game” sneakers. If everyone adheres to the policy, it will greatly reduce the amount of sand, salt and snow/water that is carried onto the court by the players throughout the season.
- **Team rosters** may be altered at any point during the season at the discretion Recreation Staff. Such changes will ONLY take place if Hudson Recreation deems it necessary to "level the playing field" and better distribute both stronger and weaker players, all in an effort to provide the best and most competitive games for all participants.
- **Playing Time** – Hudson Recreation reminds all coaches that this is an Instructional league and all players should receive equal playing time. Exact equal playing time may not be possible due to the number of players that arrive for each game, but all effort should be made to give all players as close to equal playing time as possible.
- **Player, Parent and Coach - Code of Conduct and Expectations**
 - Foster good sportsmanship, through competitive play, teamwork and a positive attitude;
 - Encourage respect for the rights and abilities of others;
 - Improve skills and confidence;
 - Develop character, team spirit and a sense of fair play.

Unacceptable Behavior at Games and Practices:

- yelling or chanting at opponents;
- derogatory yells, chants, songs or gestures;
- booing or heckling a referee's decision;
- criticizing officials in any way; displays of temper with an referee's call;
- blaming loss of game on officials, coaches or players;
- laughing or name calling to distract an opponent;
- use of profanity or display of anger that draw attention away from the contest;
- displays of disrespect towards another player, coach, parent, official or spectator.

In other words, inappropriate behavior of any type will not be tolerated!!