NORTHWEST CATHOLIC CONFERENCE

BASKETBALL "A" & "AA" LEAGUE RULES

Current IESA/ IHSA rules apply, except as noted BELOW.
(Updated 11-2025)
All NWCC By-Laws will be observed.

2025/26 ref fees: $35 per ref per game. $53 per ref if a single game, or if there is a single ref.

1. Time - Quarter Length
   a. 8th grade – (4) 7-minute quarters
      i. Stop Clock
      ii. 4th Quarter – 20+ Point or greater lead, Running Clock
   b. 7th grade – (4) 6-minute quarters
      i. Stop Clock
      ii. 4th Quarter – 20+ Point or greater lead, Running Clock
   c. 6th grade – (4) 10-minute quarters – Running Clock
      i. 2nd Quarter – Stop Clock at 1-minute mark.
      ii. 4th Quarter – Stop Clock at 2-minute mark
      iii. 4th Quarter – 15+ or greater lead, Running Clock

In all 3 levels, once the clock becomes a running clock it remains a running clock regardless of score!

2. (4) Four timeouts per game. Each (1) one-minute. (1) One timeout in overtime "No carry over".

3. Overtime - (1) minute, with the clock stopping on all whistles. The game will end at the completion of the (1) minute even if it's a tie. A (2) minute overtime period will be played during the "playoffs" until there is a winner.

4. (5) Five Minute Halftime

5. 6th Grade – must play man to man defense all year – No Zone in frontcourt.

6. Full Court Press – **A Level**

   a. 8th Grade – Press entire game until a 15 point or greater lead
   b. 7th Grade – Press entire game until a 15 point or greater lead
   c. 6th Grade – Press entire game until a 10 point or greater lead boys start date 12/15 and girls 1/15

   AA Level – No press in first half and then rules below are applied:

   a. 8th Grade – Press 2nd half of game until a 12-point or greater lead
   b. 7th Grade – Press 2nd half of game until a 12-point or greater lead
   c. 6th Grade – Press 2nd half of game until a 10-point or greater lead boys start date 12/15 and girls 1/15

7. Bonus – IHSA Rules apply - Two shots awarded after 5th foul per quarter.

8. IHSA Rules apply - Players may enter the lane on a free throw once the ball is released by the shooter.

9. Every player dressed on the bench must play in a league game. If a team does not play all their players, they will forfeit the game **(playoff games included**). At 6th grade all players should have equal play time. At 7th and 8th grade play time should be reflection of ability, effort, attendance at practices and commitment to the team.

10. **All players are limited to playing in (6) Six Quarters a day.**

11. Regulation size (29.5) ball will be used in Boys games. 28.5 size ball will be used in the Girls game.

12. Players may enter the lane on a free throw once the ball is released by the shooter.

13. Mercy Rule: **MUST** play man-to-man defense within the arc.

    a. 8th Grade – reach a 20+ or greater lead
    b. 7th Grade – reach a 20+ or greater lead
    c. 6th Grade – reach a 15+ or greater lead

    The penalty for not following the mercy rule above is as follows: a warning from the referee, the second and every time thereafter the referee will stop the clock and award a team technical foul to the defensive team. The losing team will be awarded 2 points and the ball at half court.

14. **REPORTING OF SCORES**: Home team must report scores within 48hrs of the games completion. Failure to report scores **will result** in a forfeit for the home team.