

BETHLEHEM TOWNSHIP YOUTH BASKETBALL LEAGUE K-2 GUIDELINES

1. During the season, games at this level will begin the first week of January and will be played at Conley gym beginning at **6pm on Monday nights**. Set-up time will be necessary to lower the baskets and arrange seating for parents along the side court and baseline for the teams.

2. Games played in the Conley gym require the lowering of the side baskets from the standard 10ft to **8ft**. The coaches will need to ask the custodian for the pole wrench to lower the basket and raise them at the conclusion of the game.

3. Please don't hand out any snacks after games or halftime like soccer...we need to keep things moving.

- Most of you have coached at this level previously but some general guidelines/suggestions/rules :
- Each team will practice at one end of court they are playing on that day, practicing for 30-minutes (dribbling, shooting, passing, etc...) Then the two teams play a game for the remainder of the 30 minutes until 7pm.
- Games should be 5 vs 5. All kids should play equal amount of time. If both coaches feel it's too crowded or chaotic on the court with 10 kids, use your judgment and make it 4 v 4. While many of the kids are certainly keeping score, coaches shouldn't. If one team has a light turnout that day, use judgment and play 4 v 4.
- Baskets are lowered to 8 ft at this level. In the main gym on the side baskets. There is a hand crank for you to use. If you can not find it a janitor should know where it is.
- One coach from each team should be on court to officiate the game.
- No stealing passes or the ball from dribbler and no blocking shots. If there is a steal or blocked shot, praise the defender for making a nice play but give the ball back to the offense. However, if the offense throws it directly or loses control of the ball to a defender, it's a turnover. Use your judgment.
- No back court defense.
- There are no shooting fouls leading to foul shots. (Foul shots take forever to set up at this level and really slow things down). Perhaps toward end of season if both teams agree. For now, just give the ball back to the offense.
- The majority of kids are going to travel with the ball or double dribble. Some will literally run all over the floor with it. Stop the game, explain to them that they need to dribble, give the ball back to them, and restart play. Coaches should collectively use their best judgment on how to officiate the games. Ultimately we are trying to teach them how to play the game of basketball. Use common sense.