

2026
CITY OF RIDGECREST
PARKS AND RECREATION YOUTH BASKETBALL



General

The youth program is intended to emphasize healthy recreation in an atmosphere where the youth are having fun while developing physical skills and emotional maturity. We will strive to provide an enjoyable experience for those participating. The youth participating will learn basketball skill, strategies and teamwork. All participants will have equal playing time.

League divisions:

The program is designed for participants age 5-15.

5-6 years of age Coed **Division 1** Cross Court

7-9 years of age Coed **Division 2** Cross Court

10-12 years of age Coed **Division 3** Cross Court

13-15 years of age Coed **Division 4** Cross Court

Team Placement:

- Players will be assigned to teams by the league coordinator. A player shall not be added without permission from the league coordinator.
- Once teams are selected, no changes will be made without the sports coordinator involvement.
- There are no special requests for team placement.
- Length of season: The season will be from January 12th thru March 28th.
- Practice and game times:
- All games will be played on Fridays or Saturdays. Playoff schedules will be posted after the 9th week of play.
- Only **One** practice will be allowed per week at the KMCC.

Player's uniforms:

- All players will wear jerseys provided by the City of Ridgecrest. Shirt numbers will be any **legal** whole number 1 or 2 digits. Numbers will be placed on back of jersey (no #6, 7, 8, and 9). If a player does not have a team shirt, a shirt of similar color must be worn and that team member will be considered 00 during play.
- All players will wear gym attire (i.e., shorts, under shirt, gym shoes). There will also be No belts allowed on the court. No casts or braces on elbow, forearm, wrist, hand, fingers, knee or legs (whether wrapped or not). Official has final say.
- A team provided jersey designed to be worn inside the pants/shorts shall be tucked in and the pants/shorts shall be above the hips and worn properly. A player not conforming to this uniform policy shall be warned and asked to correct. A team

2026
CITY OF RIDGECREST
PARKS AND RECREATION YOUTH BASKETBALL



member shall not remove the t-shirt in the visual confines of the playing area. The penalty is a technical foul, 2 points awarded to the opponents.

- No watches, plastic wrist bands or hard hair pieces (plastic or metal) are allowed.
- Any jewelry not able to be removed must be taped, Referee has final judgement.
- Youth who participate in interscholastic sports should check with their school's Sports Director concerning CIF or other rules which govern their eligibility to play in other sports programs.

Rules Governing Play

- All divisions will be governed by High School Federation (HSF) rules, except as amended by the City of Ridgecrest Parks & Recreation Rules and Regulations.

Points of Emphasis

These violations/fouls are enforced by the official with a warning, reset or change of possessions.

Examples:

- Two hands on the ball carrier.
- Illegal contact restricting the movement of a player.
- Keeping one hand on the ball carrier.
- Contacting the ball carrier more than once with the same hand or an alternate hand.
- Putting an arm bar (extended forearm) on the ball carrier.
- An extended arm in contact with an opponent by the offensive player in possession of the ball is a player-control foul.
- Wrapping up a player or holding arms encircling a player.
- Running into a player with force.

Officials are to use good judgement considering – the level of play- in enforcing this rule- equitably. At lower-level officials shall attempt to maintain equity- but allow the game to proceed. This can be a foul or a violation resulting in a **reset** of playing action after warning or giving possession to opponents as the level of play increases, the level of enforcement should increase as well.

Timing

- Division 1 (5-6): For first two weeks teams may play with coaches on court. An official will be present for rule interpretation.

2026
CITY OF RIDGECREST
PARKS AND RECREATION YOUTH BASKETBALL



- All divisions will play (4) 8-minute quarters cross court with a running clock. The clock will stop for injuries, time-outs, **4-minute substitutions** and regulation stoppage during the last 2 minutes of the 4th quarter only.
- No overtime will be played, except in tournament play for Div. 3 & 4. A score ending in a tie will be recorded as such.
- There will be one minute between the first and second quarter. Half-time will be three minutes between the second and third quarter.

General League Rules

- Divisions 1 & 2 will start each half's score at 0.
- A goal made from beyond the **gray** line counts as (3) points for divisions 1-4.
- The Court is defined by the red Line around the cross courts.
- **All participants will have equal playing time on the court.** Teams not abiding by this rule will forfeit the game.
- No back court press will be allowed in **Divisions 1-4** (Exception: Div. 3 & 4 in the Playoffs the last two minutes of the 4th quarter and any overtime period)
- All divisions allowed 10 seconds from back court to front court, meaning the ball **and** player must have front court status **over the division line**. Before the defense can play it.
- Division 1-4 if the score becomes a 15 or more-point difference, then the leading team will drop back on defense behind the **Gray** line (cross court) until the score is a 5 point or less difference. This includes the playoffs for Division 3 & 4.
- Late arriving players will be played equally from the time he/she arrives to the nearest quarter.

Free Throws

- Division 1 & 2 – No free throws.
 - a. At (6th) team foul – 1 point and ball to opponent
 - b. Shooting fouls not made- 2 points and ball to opponent
 - c. Shooting fouls made- 3 points and ball to opponent
- Division 3 & 4- Free throws on the white line.
 - a. Will shoot two shots on the sixth (6th) **team** foul
 - b. Shooting foul not made; 2 shots.
 - c. Shooting foul made, 1 shot.



2026
CITY OF RIDGECREST
PARKS AND RECREATION YOUTH BASKETBALL

- On a free throw, all players in marked lane space may enter the lane on the release of the ball by the shooter. The shooter and players beyond the three-point line and free throw line extended may enter when the ball hits the rim or backboard.
- Throw-in awarded to opponent for all team-control fouls. A new definition for a team-control foul has been established, and the penalty has been changed to a throw-in in all cases. The ball will be awarded to the offended team at a spot nearest to where the foul occurred.
- Double fouls- Point of interruption
- Double personal, double technical and simultaneous fouls- Point **of** interruption

Fouls/Violations

- The No Kicking Rule - means intentionally striking the ball with any part of the leg or foot and is penalized by awarding the opposing team possession of the ball to the nearest point where the violation occurred.
- A player with five personal fouls is out for the remainder of the game. During the 4th quarter, if there are subs available, the sub with the least amount of playing time must be the 1st player to sub in.
- A closely guarded violation occurs when an offensive player is closely guarded by a defender for five seconds or more without passing, shooting or dribbling. The penalty for this violation is a turnover. The opposing team is awarded possession of the ball.
- Divisions **1 thru 4** will be allowed five seconds in the key before a lane violation is called.
- **The bonus foul count (2 Shots at 6th) will be reset each quarter**
- Leaving the court for an unauthorized reason is a violation. Typically, this play is seen when an offensive player **intentionally** goes around a low screen, runs outside the end line and returns on the other side of the court free of their defender. The violation will be called **as soon as purpose is determined. Accidental out of bounds is ignored and is not call unless for a violation for a delay returning to the court afterwards.**

Special League Rules

- Teams are **listed** on the schedule as Home and Guest. Home will sit to the scorekeeper's right. Guest will sit the scorekeeper's left
- Each Teams basket for practice before the game shall be the one farthest from its team bench. Teams change baskets for second half.



2026
CITY OF RIDGECREST
PARKS AND RECREATION YOUTH BASKETBALL

- **No** outside balls allowed on courts. Staff will provide 2 warm up balls for each team before game and a designated gameball.
- Divisions 1 & 2 will use youth size 5 ball.
- Division 3 will use compact size 6 ball.
- Division 4 will use official size 7 balls.
- No dunking allowed in any division. Hanging on the net or rim will result in suspension from the program unless it is done to prevent injury during a game. No climbing or hanging on portable goals. Portable Goals to be moved or changed by Staff ONLY.
- A warm up period of five minutes will be allowed prior to scheduled games.
- If necessary, teams may start with four players but the opposing team would have to play down to four players as well. A player from the other court may also volunteer to bring the teams up to five players each.
- Only coaches (1), assistant coaches (1) and players will be allowed on the team bench. Only the Head coach is allowed to stand and he/she must remain in the coach's box, (stay within the red/black line) during playing time. (Only a water bottle (NO SPORTS DRINKS) will be allowed at the team bench). NO EXCEPTIONS
Coaches are responsible for cleaning their bench area after each game.
- Substitutions: Div 1-4 (Cross Court) Coaches may substitute as needed, as long as equal playing time is maintained for all players.
- Division's 1-4 start with a coin toss called by team captain listed second. Winning team of coin toss begins with ball, there after the alternating possession arrow will be set toward team's basket.
- Protests: The only protest allowed will be player's eligibility.
- There will be no warning for obscene language. It will be a technical foul. Two technical fouls from players or coaches results in automatic ejection from game and facility and faces suspension from the remainder of the season.

Un-Sportsmanlike Conduct:

- Defined: Un-sportsmanlike conduct can include, but is not limited to the following: Having a "bad attitude" (i.e., continually complaining or griping, open defiance, rebellious nature, back talk, disrespectfulness to any person (players, adults, officials and staff) intentional rudeness or crudeness. Taunting, baiting, questioning an official's judgement or showing disgust with decisions, profane or insulting language or gestures, using, possessing of drugs, alcohol, or tobacco, stealing, spitting on the court, any verbal or physical abuse of any person, or willful damage to the building or its fixtures **will be cause for suspension from the program**, either temporary or permanent and possibly for life from any Parks &



2026

CITY OF RIDGECREST

PARKS AND RECREATION YOUTH BASKETBALL

Recreation activity or facility, and possibly criminal or civil charges. ALL AT THE DISCRETION OF MANAGEMENT

- Un-sportsmanlike conduct will not be tolerated. **A coach receiving a technical foul for unsportsmanlike conduct will remain seated for the rest of the game. A player receiving a technical foul for Unsportsmanlike conduct will be subbed out for a minimum of 4 minutes. These 4 minutes are over and above his/her equal playing time minutes and will not be considered as equal playing time minutes.** A player or coach who receives two technical fouls will be ejected from the game and must leave the facility. If a player or coach is ejected from a 2nd game, that player or coach will be suspended for the rest of the season including playoffs and may be suspended for Life from any Parks and Recreation activities.
- Any person(s) in the spectator stands who intentionally uses foul language, or unsportsmanlike conduct directed to any player, official, coach, score keeper/timer, staff or other spectator during play of the game can be asked to leave the building for the remainder of the game. If the problem persists, a technical foul can be charged to the offending team. When a spectator continues to be unruly or interferes with the orderly progress of the game, the official or floor administrator can suspend the game until the situation is resolved and the game can proceed in an orderly manner.

END OF SEASON BASKETBALL PLAYOFF TOURNAMENT

- Division 3 & 4 only.
- Played during the last week of the season for Div. 3 and last week of the season for Div. 4.
- Tournament seeding will be based on season standings through the first 9 games of the season.
- Any tie at the end of regulation time will be resolved with a (2) minute overtime period.
- There will be a stop clock in all overtime periods.
- **Sudden Death:** After 2nd OT, sudden death rules will apply. The first team to score any point in sudden death **WINS** the game.
- **A coin flip will determine first possession in Sudden Death. At the Division Line.**
- For playoffs games only, the last two minutes of the 4th quarter and any overtime period a team may back court press. If the score at any time becomes a 15 or more-point difference, **then the back court is suspended and** the leading team will drop back on defense behind the **Gray** line (cross court) until the score is a 5 point or less difference. This includes the playoffs for Division 3 & 4.
- Awards will be given for 1st and 2nd place teams.

2026
CITY OF RIDGECREST
PARKS AND RECREATION YOUTH BASKETBALL



PLEASE REMEMBER THIS IS A RECREATIONAL LEAGUE!

Please refer to the below equal playing time sheet that will be available at the scorekeeper's table.

Equal Playing Time

<u># of Players</u>	<u>Minutes per player</u>
5	32 32 32 32 32
6	24 24 28 28 28 28
7	20 20 24 24 24 24 24
8	20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20
9	16 16 16 16 16 20 20 20 20
10	16 16 16 16 16 16 16 16 16 16
11	12 12 12 12 16 16 16 16 16 16