

# PEEWEE BASKETBALL AT ST. ALOYSIUS RULES

**At each grade level we stop the clock every 3 minutes to sub players.**

## **Pre K and Kindergarten - 7ft rim height**

This is very basic basketball. Players should be learning how to pass and shoot. Dribbling at this age doesn't usually happen, but is encouraged. No stealing the ball!!! Hands straight up defense is the way to go with this grade level. The game should move quickly to keep the kids interested. We stop the clock every 3 minutes for substitutions. No expectations at this level except having fun (coaches and players) and learning the basics! We play cross court at this level with 2 games playing at once. Typically, we will place the home team on the east side of the gym (score table side) and away team on the west (concession stand side). Teams should always shoot at the basket closest to their families. We do not switch sides at the quarter/half. (This is much more fun for everyone)

## **1st and 2nd Grade – 8ft rim height**

1st and 2nd graders will play on the full court. Man to man defense only. Players will be assigned an opposing player to guard and stick with that person until the next time stoppage. No stealing the ball on the dribble! No shot blocking. (The ball getting blocked because your hands are straight up is fine). Passes may be stolen, but not directly taken from the offensive players hands. Coaches should communicate with each other and enforce this rule. Defense may not start until the offensive team has reached the first yellow line past half court. No full court defense. We do keep score for these games, but we usually reset after each quarter. Coaches, make sure to police your own team. If they are reaching, grabbing, slapping, or blocking shots you can call a foul and give the ball to the other team. If both coaches do this we will have a much smoother, more controlled game.

## **3rd and 4th Grade - 9ft rim height**

This age group will be allowed to run plays and set screens if desired. Defense may only pick up the offensive player once they reach the yellow line past half court. The space between half court and the yellow line is not a safe zone. Once you've entered the offensive zone, the defence can now follow you back out there and guard. Man to man defense only. If a screen is set, players may switch who they are guarding, but then must stay guarding that new person. Help defense is allowed in the lane only. No double teaming anywhere else on the floor. Stealing and blocking shots is allowed. Sometimes we will have teams that are much better than others. It just happens. Coaches should use their discretion, and should limit their teams stealing and shot blocking if the game is obviously one sided, and have their kids pass more and look for open shots.

Winning and losing are not our concerns at all. Ultimately, we want these kids to have fun playing basketball. There are other leagues in town that play competitive basketball at all age levels. And we understand that our league is not a good fit for every team and/or player. Our rules are set in a way that we feel is best for us.