

## **Basketball Tournament Guidelines**

- First round games are single elimination, all other rounds are double elimination. Championship round is winner take all single elimination.
- All games will consist of four 6-minute quarters. Championship games will be four 8-minute quarters.
- For all games, except the championship games, teams will have 2 full timeouts and one 30-second timeout for the game. Championship games will have the normal 3 full timeouts and two 30-second timeouts.
- There is a 25 point lead mercy rule for all 6 minute quarter games. 35 point lead mercy rule for 8 minute championship games. Mercy Rule: Automatic running clock; clock only stops on timeouts.
- Home team throughout the tournament will be determined by seeding. The higher seed is always home. If teams meet with equal seeding, representatives from the schools along with a league director shall flip a coin to determine home team. In the championship games, the team that has won all their games will automatically be the home team regardless of seeding.
- In order for the games to continue without delay, teams should be present by the beginning of the game prior to theirs. Teams will receive a forfeit if they are not present within 10 minutes of their game's official start time, unless an allowance is made by the SCL board of directors.
- Teams will need to warm up during half-time of the game prior to their game. Teams will also receive a (minimum) 5 minute warm-up before their games.
- Home team will be the official book unless the referees specifically state otherwise.
- Home and Visiting team's locker rooms will be determined at the facility. Teams will be able to use locker rooms from the beginning of the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of the preceding game to the end of the half-time of their game. All items must be removed from the locker rooms as you leave your half-time.
- Teams must be properly attired to participate at the state tournament. Any violation will result in the disqualification of a player from the tournament. Home teams should be in their home (white) jersey. If there is a conflict in jersey colors, teams should meet and work out the issue prior to game time.
- Both Away and Home books need to be filled out prior the 5-minute warm-up. Bookkeepers should get with the other team to have this done in advance to keep the tournament moving forward.
- At the end of each game, please make sure your team cleans up their bench area promptly for the next teams to be able to participate.
- Make sure all liquids remain off the playing court during timeouts and dead ball situations. Any wet spots should be wiped up immediately.
- On the court, the referees are the authority and teams, individual players, coaches, and fans will be expected to respect and honor their authority (even if they don't agree with the referee or the call).