

2026 TOURNAMENT RULES



1. Tournament brackets will be set up in a double elimination arrangement, depending on the number of entries for that division. Each team is guaranteed at least two games.
2. Divisions include: 3rd Grade, 4th Grade, 5th Grade, 6th Grade, 7th Grade and 8th Grade. Teams may play in a division above their player's grade level but not below.
3. Teams will generally compete by grade level, though some grades may be combined into a bracket. Teams composed of players in mixed grades will compete in the higher grade bracket.
4. Games will be played using regulation height baskets.
5. All games will be played with a 15-minute running clock. The team that is ahead at the end of the period wins. If a foul resulting in a free throw was called prior to the end of the period, the player is allowed to shoot the free throw. In case of a tie at the end of regulation, the game will continue; the first team to score wins.
6. Game time is either the scheduled time or as soon as practical after the previous game has finished, if behind schedule.
7. Teams should have the entire team ready to play and at the court 5 minutes prior to the scheduled game.
8. A coin flip will determine who will have the first possession. The alternate possession rule for jump balls will then take effect. The referee will settle any disagreements.
9. All dead balls and after made baskets the player must check the ball to begin play. The ball must be passed to begin play. In Bound Violations will receive a warning only, no loss of possession.
10. All baskets on or inside the three-point line will be awarded 1 point and a shot behind the three-point line will be worth 2 points.
11. The ball shall be taken back anywhere past the three-point line on each change of possession. "Taken back" means at least one foot of the person in possession of the ball must be on the floor entirely past the three-point line.
12. Fouls and turnovers will be called by the referee (not the parents or spectators).
13. A foul will be called when it occurs.
 - a. Any player fouled in the act of shooting inside the three-point line that makes the basket gets 1 point for the basket and 1 free throw for a chance at an additional point. If the free throw for the additional point chance is missed, the ball goes to the defensive team.
 - b. Any player fouled in the act of shooting behind the three-point line that makes the basket gets 2 points for the basket and 1 free throw for a chance at an additional point. If the free throw for the additional point chance is missed, the ball goes to the defensive team.
 - c. Any player fouled in the act of shooting that misses the shot, free throw(s) are awarded to that player. If the free throw(s) is made, then it counts as a point(s) and the ball goes to the defensive team. If the free throw is missed, the offensive team retains possession as an out-of-bounds play from the top of the court.

14. A basket will not count if an offensive charge is called on the play.
15. Starting with the seventh foul against a team (as called by the referee and recorded by the scorekeeper), a free throw is awarded to the player who was fouled whether or not the foul occurred in the act of shooting. The same rules for missed/made free throws as those described for shooting fouls apply.
16. A substitution can be made during any dead ball. No substitutions are allowed during live play.
17. A 3 second lane violation can be enforced.
18. If a closely guarded player (within 6 feet of a defender) holds the ball for longer than 5 seconds without passing, shooting or dribbling, possession is awarded to the opposing team.
19. Each team is allowed one 30 second timeout per contest, but the clock doesn't stop. This timeout is not allowed to be taken with less than 2 minutes on the clock. If a timeout is called between 2:30 and 2:00 on the clock, play will resume at 2:00.
20. Parental advisors are encouraged to assist and encourage children. Please help to remind parents to encourage the players and not to critique referees.
21. Tournament directors have the right to shorten games due to time constraints, if necessary.
22. Tournament director will declare the winner in each bracket.
23. Awards will only be presented to players who physically participate in the tournament.
24. Hudsonville Christian Schools and tournament officials are not responsible for any injuries, illnesses, or loss of personal goods.
25. Possible consequences that can be issued by referees or official court monitors for excessively rough play or other inappropriate actions include warnings to team(s); taking out involved player(s) until the next dead ball; ejection of player(s); ending the game; and/or removing team(s) from the tournament.
26. No refunds will be given if a team is removed from the tournament for any reason.
27. Girls will play with 28.5 size. Boys 7th 8th grade will play with a regulation size basketball. 3rd-6th grade boys will play with a 28.5 Size.