**2023 Shamrock Tournament Rules of Play**

The tournament will follow the guidelines of the North Carolina High School Athletic Association with the following changes and additions:

1. We will play four 9-minute quarters with a running clock.  The clock will stop only on timeouts and free throws during play. The clock will stop on all dead balls in the last minute of play in the 1st, 2nd & 3rd quarters and the last two minutes of play in the 4th quarter. Overtime will be 3-minute periods with a running clock until the last minute of each overtime period, continuing until one team wins.
2. The last two games of each bracket will plan 7- minute quarters with the standard clock.
3. Each team gets three full timeouts and two 30-second timeouts. Each gets one additional full in each overtime period.
4. There is **NO** “must play” rule.  Some leagues use this rule, but it will not be in effect during this tournament.
5. Boys play with a full-sized ball.  Girls play with a “28.5 compact” ball.
6. There is no press allowed after the lead is 20 points.  The leading team will be given one warning. If a press is applied after the warning, a technical foul will be assessed to the bench.
7. If a team leads by 30 points, the starters of the leading team must be taken out of game.  The obvious exception being teams with less than 10 players.
8. Each team can keep a book if they choose. However, the tournament staff will maintain the official book.  Your book will **NEVER** be used in the tournament.  Your bookkeeper **CANNOT** sit at the Scorer’s table.  Your bookkeeper **CANNOT** approach the Scorer’s table. Only the coach is allowed to discuss questions with the Referee present at the bench.
9. There is no protesting of games.  The outcome of the game made by the Referees and Tournament Officials is final.

**RULES OF CONDUCT**

We must remember that the tournament is for the KIDS.  Also remember that it is an **INIVITATIONAL TOURNAMENT**.  Sometimes the passion, rivalry and cheering turns beyond spirited competition and turns what is meant to be fun, into something much less.  It our responsibility as **PARENTS** and **COACHES** to ensure this does not happen this weekend.  All attendees must understand the following:

1. The referees are human.  They will make some mistakes, some more than others. It’s part of the game.
2. The clock/scorekeepers are off-limits to anyone other than coaches and referees.  Coaches are expected to treat them with respect.   In many cases these are kids volunteering to be a part of the weekend.
3. We have a wide mixture of talent in the tournament.  This means there will be occasions when the games are very one-sided.  The tournament directors expect teams to show respect for the losing team by playing down the bench.  This is difficult for us to enforce during the tournament.  However, if this abuse is evident, your team may not get invited back in following years.
4. If parents and kids in the stands turn cheering into a ruckus, they will be escorted from the premises.  ZERO TOLERANCE.
5. If a parent/fan comes onto the court during or after play in a threatening manner toward anyone, the tournament official will have the option to call the game and award the win to the other team.
6. It is the responsibility of the participating school’s Athletic Director and/or Coach to advise everyone in his or her party of the rules above.