

**MRPMSSAA
GRADE 8 BASKETBALL RULES**

1. Playing time for the first **THREE** quarters of the game must be equal. For example, substitutions could be made at the four-minute mark of each quarter with five new players entering the game. If teams have more than ten players on their roster, it is the coach and/or teacher sponsor's responsibility to ensure that playing time is still evenly divided. If teams have less than ten players present, coaches and teacher sponsors are still responsible for ensuring equal playing time and rotating players.
2. **NO** zone defenses of any kind in either the half-court or full court. Emphasis should be placed on teaching basic man-to-man principles, in conjunction with suggestions from Canada Basketball and Basketball BC, at this age of play. No zone defenses are to be played in regular or post-season play.
3. Teams must stop engaging in full court pressure defense when leading by **20** plus points. Teams may still pick up at half-court.
4. Teacher sponsors for volunteer coaches must be present at **all** games and make themselves available to game directors, referees, or coaches should any issues arise.
5. In instances where FVBOA officials are not available to referee, games **must** be refereed by **at least** one adult or SD42 employee. A senior (grade 11 or 12) student, with training, may assist the adult in charge when a second adult referee is not available. Under no circumstances should games take place without one adult referee present.

Failure to Adhere:

1. Teams failing to adhere to either equal-playing time or zone-defense rules should be warned at the time of infraction by opposing coaches or teacher sponsors. Repeated offenses should be reported to league coordinators.
2. In instances of repeated offenses or failure to adhere to rules after being warned, league coordinators may choose to forfeit games in question after speaking with coaches and teacher sponsors that were present.

** Fair-play rules, such as equal playing time are for regular season play. In MRPM playoffs, it is the coach's discretion as to how to divide playing time.