

# HAMPSHIRE TOWNSHIP PARK DISTRICT

## BITTY BASKETBALL RULES 2025

1. Playing time will consist of four, 6 minute quarters with a running clock.
2. Substitutions will be made at the end of each quarter.
3. No more than 2 coaches from each team are allowed on the court at one time.
4. Play will be 4 on 4 or 5 on 5 depending upon the number of players that show up for the program on any given Saturday or weekday game.
5. If a team doesn't have 4 players at game time the opposing coach has the option of each team playing shorthanded or "giving up some players" so each team has relatively the same amount. The important thing is to make sure that the children play.
6. Players about to enter the game at the beginning of a quarter will line up in the middle of the court and coaches will assign their player a colored wrist band to match up against another player on the other team. If coaches don't agree on a match up, a decision will be made by the referee or HTPD employee.
7. The team wearing purple will always start with the ball at the beginning of the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter. The ball will be inbounded from half court. The team wearing White or Silver will start with the ball out of bounds to start the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> quarter.
8. Any "jump" ball will be given back to the team who had possession of the ball prior to the jump ball. The ball will be inbounded from the nearest out-of-bounds line.
9. Half-court defense only is permitted. Additionally we recommend to the coaches that the children don't play defense past the free throw line to allow ball handlers some room to pass.
10. If the defense grabs a rebound or picks up a loose ball the referee should announce the possession of that team, and everyone else should run to the other side of the court.
11. No traveling or double dribbling will be called. However, coaches and referee's need to encourage that player to "stop" and either pass or shoot after committing either violation.
12. Man-to-man defense only. No stealing or blocking shots. If a ball comes to a child they may take it and go. Defensive players may not "jump" in front of their player that they are guarding to steal a pass. The referee will only stop the game if he/she thinks the intentions were to steal or block the ball. Any intentionally stolen or blocked shot will result with the ball given back to the offense underneath the opposing team's basket. We are trying to encourage the children to move their feet while **staying in between the person they are assigned to guard and the basket**. Stay on your feet, NO DIVING at any time.
13. No score will be kept. Note, coaches may ask their teams to have 1 or 2 passes before a shot is taken.
14. No time outs are allowed unless for injuries or unforeseen instances.
15. All players should get equal playing time. We understand that if your team has more or less than 10 players, there may be times where a child plays more or less than others. We ask coaches to please do their best to balance this time throughout the season.
16. No fouls will be recorded, any foul, regardless if it is shooting or not, will result to the ball being inbounded from underneath the opposing team's basket.