



# ***MOUNTAIN CHRISTIAN LEAGUE***

## **GUIDELINES FOR BASKETBALL**

Updated 11-10-21

### **Article 1: NFHS rules govern play**

The NFHS basketball rules book will be followed.

### **Article 2: Court and game information**

The home team will provide a regulation court for all games. Game length will be 32 minutes (four 8-minute quarters with a 10-minute halftime). Overtime periods will be 4 minutes. No 30-second shot clock will be used. When a team gains a lead of 30 points or more at the beginning of or any time during the fourth quarter, the clock will remain running, unless the team that is behind requests the continuance of normal timing procedures. Once this mercy rule is enacted, the running clock will not return to normal timing procedures unless the point differential diminishes to fewer than 10 points.

### **Article 3: Officials**

Due to safety concerns, certified officials are required for varsity competition. If certified officials are unavailable, the host team must communicate before the competition in a timely manner so both teams can come to a mutually acceptable solution. If certified officials are not provided by the host team, the game shall not be played in an official capacity, and shall be forfeited by the host team or rescheduled if possible, unless both athletic directors decide to waive this rule and come to a mutually acceptable solution.

### **Article 4: League standings and season-ending tournament**

The standings for the end of the season will be determined by overall record in league play. If there is a tie for any position, tie-breaking procedures are sequential as follows: 1) Head-to-head contests. 2) Point spread in head-to-head contests between the tied teams. 3) Teams records against the highest ranked teams in the league will be compared, in descending order of rank, until the tie is broken. 4) Point spread against the other teams in the league will be compared, in descending order of rank, until the tie is broken.

The season-ending league standings will determine seeding in the season-ending tournament. Only the top eight teams at the end of the season will qualify for the season-ending tournament. The tournament will be single-elimination format with a consolation bracket.

### **Article 5: Admission for spectators**

It is up to each MCL member to determine whether or not to charge admission for league games. Admission for spectators will not be charged for MCL season-ending tournament games. Team entry fees may be charged to cover costs for tournaments.

### **Article 6: League scores and schedules**

Overall schedules and scores for each varsity game must be reported to the MCL website.