



Big Country Youth Sports Basketball League

Big Country Youth Basketball League is a collection of local 1A youth sports organizations working together to offer youth basketball for the Big Country and surrounding areas.

Grade Levels

Teams will be separated per the below grade levels (with separate boys and girls divisions):

- 1st / 2nd
- 3rd / 4th
- 5th / 6th

Schedule

- The league will run from January 3rd through February 21st (ending Saturday before high school girls regional finals).
- Each team will have a 6 game guarantee (8 game max).
- The final Saturday (February 21st) will be a championship tournament involving the top 4 seeds from each division (possibility of two games: Semifinal and Final).
- Teams will be offered 1 'bye' week (no games that weekend) to accommodate Stock Show schedules.

Towns/Teams

- Last year: May, Cross Plains, Rising Star, Gorman, Gordon, Throckmorton, Newcastle, Woodson
- Last year we had a North and a South Division to cut down on travel. Will look to do the same this year, and, if needed, may add a third division.
- Each town will be provided opportunity to host 1 week of games to bring in money to their youth association (gate and concessions).

Fees

- \$320 per team. This is straight pass through costs to Refs (TASO certified) and for rings (1st place) and medals (2nd place) presented on Championship weekend.

Interested teams can contact Lyle Campbell at 940-452-1987 for information on registration.



General Rules

- Team Registration deadline is November 1st
- Player Registration (team roster) deadline is December 15th (teams are locked at that point and players cannot be added)
- Player cannot “play down” but can “play up” (decision by town youth association)
- Player can only be on 1 team roster (cannot be on roster of multiple teams/age levels)
- Cannot register team with less than 5 players. If team has fewer than 5 players available for a game, can have a player from a younger age level “play up” to make 5 players. (if team has 5 or more players available, cannot have a player from younger age level “play up”)
- Player must be enrolled in School District or be homeschooled in the School District for the team they are registered
- \$2 gate fee for entry to games (good for all day). Players and coaches admission is free

Any questions or potential concerns/exceptions to the above rules can be directed to the League.



**Big Country Youth Sports Basketball League
Basketball Rules 2025-26 Season
1 / 2 Grade Division (Boys and Girls)**

- 8' goals
- No zone defense. Must play man-to-man. Can play 'help' defense, but then have to get back to your man. Referees will monitor to ensure teams comply and instruct the kids where applicable.
- Defense must pick up at half court (no full court press)
- Players **can not steal on dribble** but CAN 'tie up' or steal a dead ball
- Each player has 5 fouls to give. Upon receiving their 5th foul, the player must sit out the remainder of the game.
- 4 - 6 Minute Quarters
- 2 - 1 Minute time outs per half
- Free throws will be shot from closest hash to the basket
- Free throws - 1 free throw on a shooting foul (shoot one free throw for 2 points)
- BONUS: On 7th foul of half, will shoot 1 free throw for 2 points
- Clock stops at time outs and free throws. At the two minute mark for each half the clock will stop on every whistle (normal basketball clock).
- Free substitutions
- In the event of a tie, 1 – 3 minute overtime will be played. If tied at conclusion of first overtime, the score will be recorded as a tie (unless postseason, in which overtime periods will continue until a winner is declared).
- Half time will be 3 minutes.
- Basketball Size 27.5



**Big Country Youth Sports Basketball League
Basketball Rules 2025-26 Season
3/4 Grade Division (Boys and Girls)**

- 10ft. Goals
- Man or Zone Defense allowed. Trapping is allowed.
- Full court defense is allowed ONLY in last 2 minutes of the game and last 2 minutes of any overtime period. If a team is up by 10 points, then no full court defense will be allowed by the team that is leading.
- Boys and girls shoot free throw at first hash mark (hash closest to free throw line)
- Free throws - 1 free throw on a shooting foul (shoot one free throw for 2 points)
- BONUS: On 7th foul of half, will shoot 1 free throw for 2 points
- Each player has 5 fouls to give. Upon receiving their 5th foul, the player must sit out the remainder of the game.
- Game will be 4 – 8 minute quarters
- 2 - 1 Minute time outs per half
- Clock stops at time outs and free throws. At the two minute mark for each half the clock will stop on every whistle (normal basketball clock)
- Free substitutions
- In the event of a tie, 1 – 3 minute overtime will be played. If tied at conclusion of first overtime, the score will be recorded as a tie (unless postseason, in which overtime periods will continue until a winner is declared).
- Half time will be 3 minutes
- Basketball size 28.5 for Girls and Boys (women's ball)



**Big Country Youth Sports Basketball League
Basketball Rules 2025-26 Season
5/6 Grade Division (Boys and Girls)**

- 10ft. Goals
- Man or Zone Defense. Trapping is allowed.
- Full court defense is allowed ONLY in last 2 minutes of the game and 2 minutes of any overtime period. If a team is up by 10 points, then no full court defense will be allowed by the leading team.
- Normal Free Throw distance
- Free throws - 1 free throw on a shooting foul (shoot one free throw for 2 points)
- BONUS: On 7th foul of half, will shoot 1 free throw for 2 points
- Each player has 5 fouls to give. Upon receiving their 5th foul, the player must sit out the remainder of the game.
- Game will be 4 – 8 minute quarters
- 2 - 1 Minute time outs per half
- Clock stops at time outs and free throws. At the two minute mark for each half the clock will stop on every whistle (normal basketball clock)
- In the event of a tie, 1 – 3 minute overtime will be played. If tied at conclusion of first overtime, the score will be recorded as a tie (unless postseason, in which overtime periods will continue until a winner is declared).
- Half time will be 3 minutes
- Basketball size 28.5 for Girls (women's ball) and 29.5 for Boys (men's ball)