PE Primary MSG Basketball Girls - Official Guidelines
Age Category (Year5 & 6)

Please read these rules carefully to ensure everyone has a wonderful and safe event.

General Principles:

- **Sportsmanship is Key:** Treat everyone – teammates, opponents, coaches, referees, officials, volunteers, and spectators – with respect and kindness. Applaud good play from all teams and participants.
- **Safety First:** Always listen to event officials and referees. Follow their instructions carefully. Your safety is our most important consideration.
- **Fair Play:** Compete honestly, follow the rules of the game and the spirit of fair play, and always give your best effort for your team. Respect the referee's decisions. Disagreements may happen, but schools are expected to promote fair play and manage any reactions that may trigger poor conduct from students. Adults must model respectful behaviour at all times.
- **Have Fun!** Enjoy the game, playing with your team on court and the spirit of participation.
- **Respectful Behaviour:** This is a school event for children. Unacceptable behaviour (e.g., arguing, aggression, disrespect) from any adult (educator, parent, staff, spectator) or player will not be tolerated.

Team & Player Eligibility:

- **Date of Birth:** Players must be born in **2015 & 2016**
- **Age Category:** All participating players must meet the age requirements for the category they are playing in, as specified for this event.
- **School Enrollment:** All players must be officially enrolled students at the school/college they are representing.
- **Player Line-up:** Only those registered for the event with the MEYR Centre for PE & Sport for this event may participate. Last minute changes will not be allowed.
- **Coaches:** Teams may have up to two designated educators as coaches, who must be from the participating school.

Rules for Participants (Players):

- **Team Kit & Equipment:**
  - Wear the designated team kit or bibs provided.

Footwear: Players must wear appropriate indoor court shoes (basketball shoes or trainers with non-marking soles).

  - No jewellery/wrist watches are allowed.
- **The Court / Field of Play:**
  - Stay within the marked boundaries of the basketball court.
  - Note that lowered rings will be used for this age group.
- **Before the Match:**
  - Be ready with your team at the designated time.
  - Listen carefully to the referee's instructions.
- **Match Format:**
  - Team Size: 5 players per team are allowed on the court at any one time.
  - Game Duration: Matches will consist of 4 quarters of 5 minutes each. The clock typically runs continuously except for specific situations like free throws or timeouts, as directed by the referee/organisers.

- **Key Rules:**
  - **Starting the Game & Possession:** The game will start with a jump ball at the centre circle. Possession for starting subsequent quarters or for jump ball situations will alternate between teams, as directed by the referee.
  - **Scoring:**
    - 2 points are awarded for a basket made from inside the three-point zone.
    - 3 points are awarded for a basket made from beyond the three-point zone (note: the three-point line may not be heavily emphasized or used for scoring at this age level – follow referee guidance).
    - 1 point is awarded for each successful free throw.
  - **Movement & Dribbling:**
    - Players must dribble the ball (bounce it) continuously while moving.
    - Walking or running with the ball without dribbling is considered as travelling and results in loss of possession.

- Stopping your dribble and then starting to dribble again (double dribble) is not allowed and results in loss of possession.
- Stepping on or outside the court boundary lines while holding or dribbling the ball results in loss of possession (out-of-bounds).
- A ball is not considered as 'out' if it crosses the boundary line while in possession.

- **Fouls & Free Throws:**

- Personal fouls occur due to illegal contact (e.g., pushing, holding, hitting, blocking improperly).
- Free throws are typically awarded to a player who is fouled while in the act of shooting. The number of free throws depends on the situation (e.g., 2 throws if a 2 pointer shot was missed, 3 throws if a 3 pointer is missed, 1 shot less will be awarded if the point is scored).
- Excessive fouling or rough play is discouraged. In cases of persistent infringements or rough fouls, the referee may ask the coach to substitute the player involved. An exclusion may apply in severe cases.

- **Stealing and Blocking:**

- Players can legally try to steal the ball by intercepting passes or tapping the ball away from a dribbler, but must avoid illegal contact (fouling).
- Players can attempt to block shots, but must do so without fouling the shooter (e.g., hitting their arm). Play should remain safe and fair.

- **Substitutions:** Unlimited substitutions are allowed, but they must be made correctly during stoppages in play when permitted by the referee/officials (not "flying" subs like in futsal/beach soccer).

- **After the Match:**
- Thank the opposing team and the referee.
- Listen to your coach for post-match instructions/cool-down.
- Leave the court promptly.

- **Other:**
- Benches will not be changed during half-time
- Reserve players cannot stand up while on the bench.
- A 1 minute time-out can be called during a match.

Rules for Parents & Guardians:

1. **Be Positive Role Models:** Cheer positively for *all* children. Focus on effort, teamwork, and sportsmanship. Avoid criticising players, coaches, or referees. Model respectful behaviour.
2. **Spectator Zones:** Parents and supporters must stay in designated viewing areas (e.g., stands or marked sideline areas). You are strictly not permitted to approach or enter the court, technical areas (team benches), or the official's table during matches.
3. **No Sideline Coaching or Interference:** Do not shout instructions to players. Do not interfere with the game. Crucially, do not approach the referee or officials during or after the game to question decisions. Disputes are not tolerated.
4. **Respect Officials:** Treat all event staff with courtesy. Address significant concerns to the designated event information point away from active matches. Remember, referee and table officials' decisions are final.
5. **Keep it Fun:** Maintain a positive, encouraging atmosphere. Let the children play and enjoy the basketball experience.
6. **Preparation:** Ensure your child has their kit, appropriate non-marking court shoes, and plenty of water/drinks. Indoor venues can still get warm.

Rules for Coaches / Educators:

1. **Coaching Staff Limit:** Each team may be coached and supervised by no more than two designated educators from their school/college. No other adults (including non-designated coaches or parents) are permitted on or near the team bench/technical area.
2. **Uphold Sportsmanship:** Instil and model fair play, respect for opponents and officials, and gracious conduct. You are a key role model. Promote fair play and manage any student reactions to disagreements with respect.
3. **Technical Area Conduct:** Remain within your designated technical area (team bench area). Only one coach should stand to give instructions at a time, if permitted.
4. **Court Access:** Do not enter the court during playing time without the referee's permission (usually only for serious injuries).
5. **Appropriate Coaching:** Provide positive, constructive instructions. Communicate respectfully. Avoid excessive shouting or criticism. Do not incite players against opponents or officials.
6. **Respect Officials & Procedures:** Respect the referee's authority and decisions as final. Communicate necessary clarifications calmly and respectfully only at appropriate times (e.g.,

timeouts, between quarters) or through official channels. Do not engage in arguments or disputes.

7. **Team Management:** Ensure players understand the basketball rules and event regulations. Manage substitutions correctly during stoppages. Keep team areas tidy.
8. **Player Welfare & Conduct:** Prioritise player safety (hydration, appropriate play). Ensure players adhere to conduct rules. Be prepared to substitute players if requested by the referee due to rough play.
9. **Team Responsibility:** Each school is responsible for the behaviour of its players, designated educators, and supporters.

Important Event Information:

- **Safety & First Aid:** A qualified first aid team will be present. Coaches should alert event staff or first aid immediately if a player is injured, distressed, or requires medical attention. Note the First Aid station location.
- **Awards/Recognition:** Details provided by organisers.

Photography During MSG Events
Important Information:

- Photos will be taken in a general manner, and we regret to inform you that we will not be able to remove or edit any images upon request.
- It is essential that every student participating in any MSG event has a signed consent form from their parent or guardian.
- It is the responsibility of each school to ensure that consent forms are collected and properly managed.

Commitment & Scheduling

- Schools must fully commit to participation.
- Withdrawals after preparations are unfair and discouraged.
- Schools are responsible for their own transport arrangements and costs.
- No individual emails requesting date changes or indicating unavailability will be accepted.
- Event dates cannot be altered.
- Postponements will only occur in cases of severe weather or uncontrollable circumstances.

- Events will proceed in case of isolated showers.
- Schools will be notified via email about any postponements or cancellations.
- Late registrations will not be accepted.

Consequences:

- **Players:** Failure to comply may result in warnings, fouls called, free throws awarded to the opponent, loss of possession, temporary substitution requested by the referee, or in serious cases, disqualification from the game.
- **Adults (Coaches, Parents, Spectators):** Unacceptable behaviour or failure to follow rules (especially regarding referee respect and spectator zones) will not be tolerated and may result in warnings or removal from the event venue.
- **Team Responsibility:** Persistent inappropriate behaviour by a school's players, educators, or supporters may result in forfeiture of games, removal from the current event, or disqualification from future participation.
- **Final Authority:** The decisions of the referee regarding incidents on the court during play are final. The decisions of the head event official or Event Director regarding overall rule enforcement and event management are final.

Access to Events:

Parents will only be permitted to attend the final stage of the event. Attendance during preliminary stages is not allowed. Kindly adhere to this guideline as part of the event's structure and safety protocols.

Registration & Further Details

A Microsoft Form will be sent to all schools that express interest in participating in the event. This form will be used to: Confirm participation and Submit Players details.
Further event details, including schedules, grouping, and final instructions, will be shared with registered schools following confirmation.

Late registrations will not be Accepted.

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