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**[www.KnoxvilleAthletics.com](http://www.KnoxvilleAthletics.com)**

**Twitter: @knoxathletics**

**Game Status Info-Line: 215-4636 (updated by 4:00 pm daily)**

**ADULT BASKETBALL BY-LAWS  
LEAGUE & CITY TOURNAMENT  
(2016 changes highlighted in red)**

**I. LEAGUE RULES**

National Federation of State High School Association's (NFHS) rules will govern play with exceptions covered herein.

**II. PLAYER ELIGIBILITY**

- A.** All players must be eighteen (18) years old as of June 1, 2016, to participate in the Adult Recreational and/or Competitive League.
- B.** Players can play for only one team. No player can be borrowed from one team to play for another team.
- C.** Current professional, college, (including junior varsity, freshman team) Junior College, or Public/Private School players are not eligible for the recreational league.
- D.** Any player who has been proven ineligible will be suspended for the remainder of the season.

- E. Players in the Recreational Division must not have played collegiately in the last ten years and must not exceed 6' 6" in height.

### III. TEAM COMPOSITION & REGISTRATION

**A. Team Composition.** A minimum of eight (8) players must be under contract in order for a team to enter the league. If the coach is a player, he/she will be included in this limit and his/her name must be listed with the other players' names to be eligible to play.

1. **Moving Players.** In order for a player to move from one team to another, he/she must obtain a written release from his/her original team and that release must be delivered to the Athletics Office at least 24 hours prior to playing for the new team.

**B. Rosters and Contracts.** Player contracts will be used to assist in controlling players playing on more than one team. The coach will present the contracts for each player and the team roster to the league supervisor prior to the first scheduled league game. Players may be added to the roster at the gym.

1. No contracts will be accepted over the phone.
2. **Roster Freeze.** Team rosters will be frozen after July 15<sup>th</sup>. Teams must add players by contract on or before July 15<sup>th</sup>.

**C. Fees & Entry Deadlines.** League fees must be received by the KPRD Athletics Office. These fees cover the cost of officials, scorekeepers, and secondary insurance for each player.

## IV. SCHEDULES

- A. League Schedules.** Games will be played in accordance with schedules set up by the Knoxville Parks and Recreation Department with each team scheduled to play 8 games.
- B. Tournament Format.** The post season tournament will be double elimination. The tournament bracket and schedule will be available shortly after the final regular seasons games have concluded. There is a \$55 tournament fee. Rec Tournament will be played Sunday – Thursday. Competitive and Women’s tournaments will be played on Sundays.
- C. Make Up Games.** Up to two games postponed during league play may be made up prior to the tournament if at all possible.
- D. Inclement Weather Info-Line.** In case of inclement weather or cancellations due to unforeseen circumstances, please call 215-INFO (4636) after 4pm on the day of the game or check the Twitter page.
- E. League Updates on Website.** All league schedules, standings, and tournament brackets can be accessed at <http://basketball.KnoxvilleAthletics.com>
- F. Standings.** League standings are based on W/L Record, Points Allowed, Points Scored, Coin Flip. After all games have been played, a head-to-head result will be the first tiebreaker used if teams have the same W/L Record.

## V. GAME TIMING REGULATIONS

- A. Length of Game.** Each game will consist of two sixteen minute halves.

- B. Running Clock.** The game clock will only stop during time-outs, player injuries, or issues with game equipment until the final three minutes of the first and second halves unless a team leads by 25 or more points.
- C. Timeouts.** Each team is allotted 3-60 sec. timeouts and 2-30 sec. timeouts per game. Each team is allowed one additional timeout for each overtime period. Players must remain standing during 30 sec. timeouts.
- D. Overtime.** Overtime periods will be three minutes each with time stopping on dead balls during the last two minutes.
- E. Halftime.** There will be a maximum of five minutes between halves.
- F. Team Line-Ups.** Team line-ups are due to the official scorer fifteen minutes prior to the scheduled game time. If the line-up is not in place by game time, a forfeit will result. This is the responsibility of the coach. Team lineup shall have first name, last name, and jersey number of each player. Adding players to the official scorebook will result in a Technical Foul.
- G. Grace Period.** A grace period of fifteen (15) minutes will be given for the 6:00PM game each night, but NO grace period for any games following the first game. Teams that play games following the first game must be ready to play at their scheduled game times or forfeit.
- H. Team Forfeits.** A team must have four or more players before a game can start. If a team does not have four eligible and contracted players of its own at the end of the grace period, that team will have a loss recorded in the league standings. If

both teams do not have the minimum four players, both teams will receive a loss in league standings. A forfeit will be listed as 2-0 in league standings.

## **VI. GAME RULES**

**A. Dunking.** No dunking. Dunking is defined as “anything above the rim”.

**B. Free Throw Release.** Players may release to rebound after the ball has been released by the free throw shooter.

## **VII. OFFICIALS & GAME MANAGEMENT**

**A. Officials.** The Knoxville Parks and Recreation Department will schedule and pay for two officials per game. If only one official is present at game time, the game will be played as scheduled.

**B. Game Management.** The Knoxville Parks and Recreation Department will schedule and pay scorers and/or timers for each game. In the event either or both are absent at game time, league management will make the necessary adjustments.

## **VIII. EQUIPMENT**

**A. Game Ball.** The Knoxville Parks and Recreation Department will furnish the game ball.

**B. Team Jerseys.** In the interest of organization, players must wear jerseys alike in color, lettering, and trim. Jerseys must have numbers on the front and back (4”high front/6” high back and centered). Each team will be responsible for providing and wearing their own uniforms.

## IX. CONDUCT

- A. Sportsmanlike conduct is strongly emphasized and conduct other than that will be dealt with thoroughly by the Athletic Coordinator. Suspension of players, coaches, and teams are possible recourses in dealing with fighting and abuse of an official.
1. A player is ejected if assessed a second technical foul in a game.
  2. A team is forfeited and the game abandoned if a team is assessed a third technical foul in a game.
- B. Any player leaving the team bench to participate in any type of altercation, verbal or physical or ***“to break up a fight”*** will face suspensions of future games, the remainder of the season, or a longer period of time where the those involved could be suspended from all KRPD leagues.
- C. Please see the attached documents which include the KRPD Verbal and Physical Abuse policy and other documents.

## X. ARBITRATION BOARD

The Knoxville Parks and Recreation Department will rule on all protests and disputes regarding eligibility and misinterpretations of the rules. All decisions will be final. The protest must be filed with the League Supervisor. The issue may be resolved immediately. The protest must also be submitted in writing, along with a \$50.00 protest fee (check only, made out to The City of Knoxville) to the Office of the Athletic Coordinator by 1:00PM the next day or Monday if the problem occurs on a Friday or Saturday; otherwise, no action will be taken. Please note, eligibility protests must be presented prior to the end of the game and if upheld, forfeitures could result. Tournament protests must be ruled on at

the time of incident. The \$25 protest fee will be refunded if the protest is successful.

## **XI. TOURNAMENT ELIGIBILITY**

- A.** Tournament entry fee is \$55.
- B.** A player is eligible for post-season tournament play if he has played in 3 regular season games with his team.
- C.** Teams may not pick-up players for the city tournament.

**Knoxville Parks & Recreation Department  
Athletics Division  
5930 Lyons View Pike  
Knoxville, TN 37919**

**Office Hours: 8am-4:30pm Monday-Friday**

**(865) 215-1718**

**Athletics Coordinator  
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Jerry Dills  
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**For updated league information, please log on to [www.KnoxvilleAthletics.com](http://www.KnoxvilleAthletics.com) then click on “Adult Basketball”**

**Follow us on Twitter @knoxathletics**

**For game information, please call 215-4636 for status of games daily (updated by 4:00 pm)**

### **RULES OF CONDUCT**

Recreational sports are provided by the Knoxville Parks and Recreation Department for the enjoyment of Knoxville residents. Games are meant to be fun and played in a spirit of competition.

Actions that endanger, embarrass, or detract from the goals of recreational sports sponsored by the Knoxville Parks and Recreation Department will not be tolerated. These simple common-sense rules will be enforced:

**\*FANS:** Fans are urged to come to games and cheer for their teams. Encourage your players. Insulting or abusing players on other teams or game officials will not be allowed.

**\*PLAYERS:** Players can encourage and cheer for their teammates. Players will not be allowed to verbally abuse or physically threaten game officials.

**\*COACHES:** Coaches are the authority figures for their teams and they have a responsibility to help keep order among players and fans. Coaches are allowed to question an official's calls, but under no circumstances are coaches permitted to verbally abuse or threaten or physically strike an umpire.

**\*OFFICIALS:** An official's responsibility is to call games to the best of his or her ability and to maintain order at all times. An official is the final authority at the facility. Officials are not to use their authority to intimidate or treat players and coaches unfairly.

Any incident that violates any of these aforementioned rules is to be reported to the gym supervisor immediately. Players, coaches, and fans are not to verbally abuse or physically threaten officials before, during, or after a game. An official is instructed to report any incident immediately if he or she has been treated unfairly.

Any violation of these rules will result in ejection or suspension of the offending party from league participation. The goal of recreational sports is to have fun. People who conduct themselves in a disrespectful manner take the fun out of the program for everyone else.

Thank you for your help in making our program more enjoyable for everyone.



### **Conduct Violations and Penalties**

Be advised that the following description of violations and penalties will be enforced to the letter and will serve as guidelines for any violations that may not be covered herein.

Four game suspensions (next four games) will be the result of any actions that result in a player's/coach's/fan's ejection from a game. Upon ejection from the game, that player/coach/fan must leave the building and/or grounds and not return until the next scheduled game after the suspension is completed.

Players will be suspended for the remainder of the season as a result of illegal participation (i.e. playing in a game without having all necessary documents turned in, playing on more than one team in the league, playing under an assumed name, etc.). All games that player played in will be forfeited.

An indefinite suspension, with a minimum of two years, is the result of the following:

1. Fighting – both parties along with any member of either team who leaves the bench area. (See Physical/Verbal Abuse Policy)
2. Verbally or physically threatening in any form a player, coach, spectator, or any employee of the Knoxville Parks and Recreation Department (i.e. scorers/timers, league supervisors, game officials, center leaders, and administrative personnel, etc.).
3. Destruction of any part(s) of facilities used for our programs.
4. Refusing to leave the building and/or grounds after being ejected from a ballgame.

**\*Any person(s) ejected & suspended are to leave the facility and its premises immediately and not return until the suspension is completed.**



The City of Knoxville Parks and Recreation Division (KPRD) strives to promote the ideals of teamwork, physical conditioning, sportsmanship and acceptable social behavior at all sporting related events. It is imperative that participants and spectators alike ensure an environment that will provide these ideals. Therefore, any unsportsmanlike conduct, including, but not limited to, fighting, verbal abuse or racial and gender epithets involving fans, coaches, players will not be tolerated.

#### **1. Fighting**

A hostile encounter with another party or parties, resulting in a physical struggle or contact, will be defined as a “fight”. Fighting will not be tolerated on the part of any participant or spectator associated with the City of Knoxville Parks and Recreation sporting activity or sporting related event.

##### **A. Leaders**

It is the goal of the City of Knoxville Parks and Recreation to provide an environment where our participants can grow, not only physically, but also mentally. It is the responsibility of our leaders to provide an example of self-control and integrity in the hopes that others follow their example. A leader is an individual who holds any supervisory position, including but not limited to, program coaches, assistant coaches, program officials and program supervisors. Any leader who disrupts a game or challenges an official or supervisor after a game will be subject to the following measures. Any “leader” involved in a fight will be subject to the following disciplinary action:

##### **First Offense:**

A minimum of **2 years** suspension as a leader or participant in the City of Knoxville Parks and Recreation sporting activities and sports-related events from the date of incident.

Note: Sporting activities and sports-related events sponsored by the City Of Knoxville Parks and Recreation include, but not limited to, T-Ball, Baseball, Basketball, Football, Softball (*i.e., if one is suspended from baseball, they are also suspended from any other sport such as football, softball, etc.*).

**Second Offense:**

Lifetime suspension.

**B. Participants**

A participant is an individual, other than a leader or a fan/spectator, who takes an active part in the sporting activity or sporting related event that the City of Knoxville Parks and Recreation sponsors. Any participant involved in a fight will be subject to the following disciplinary actions:

**First Offense – (Adult: 18 & Over)**

A minimum of **2 years** suspension, from the date of offense, as a leader or participant in the City of Knoxville Parks and Recreation sporting activities and sporting related events.

**First Offense – (Youth: 17 & Under)**

A **1-year** suspension from the date of the offense, as a leader from the City of Knoxville Parks and Recreation sporting activities and sporting related event from the date of incident.

**Second Offense – (Youth: 17 & Under)**

A **2 years** minimum suspension, from the date of the offense, as a leader participant from all City of Knoxville Parks and Recreation sporting activities and sporting related events until the suspension has ended.

**C. Fans/Spectators**

A fan/spectator is an individual who participates in a sporting activity or sporting related event by demonstrating support without taking a leadership or participant role in that particular event. Any spectator who is involved in a fight with an official, supervisor or fan after a game will be subject to the following measures:

**First Offense**

A minimum of **2 years** suspension as a fan/spectator and participant from the City of Knoxville Parks and Recreation sporting activities and sporting related events from the date of the incident. A **2 years** suspension from a leadership role in the City of Knoxville Parks and Recreation sporting activities and sporting related events.

**Second Offense – Lifetime**

Lifetime suspension as a fan/sponsor, participant and leader from all related City of Knoxville Parks and Recreation sporting activities and sporting related events from the date of incident.

## **2. Verbal Abuse**

The City of Knoxville Parks and Recreation strives to create an environment that teaches individuals the art of good sportsmanship. Verbal abuse is defined as the intentional act of insulting another individual through oral measures with the aim of offending. If any abusive language or behavior including, but not limited to the use of the phrase “**you (that, etc.) suck(s)**” in any form is directed at others, those confrontational parties will be subject to the following disciplinary action:

### **A. Leaders and/or Participants – (Adults: 18 & Over)**

#### **First Offense**

A **4 game** suspension as a leader, participant or fan/spectator from the City of Knoxville Parks and Recreation sporting activities and related sporting events from the date of the incident.

#### **Second Offense**

A minimum of **2 years** suspension as a leader and/or participant for the Knoxville Parks and Recreation sporting activities and related sporting events. A minimum of **2 years** suspension as a fan of the City of Knoxville Parks and Recreation sporting activities and related sporting events from date of incident.

### **B. Leaders and/or Participants – (Youth: 17 & Under)**

#### **First Offense**

An immediate ejection and suspension for the next 4 games as a leader, participant and /or fan/spectator.

#### **Second Offense**

**One (1) year** suspension as a leader, participant and/or spectator from the City of Knoxville Parks and Recreation sporting activities and related sporting events from the date of incident.

#### **Third Offense**

**Two (2) years** suspension as a leader and/or participant from the City of Knoxville Parks and Recreation sporting activities and related sporting events. **One (1) year** suspension as a fan in the City of Knoxville Parks and Recreation sporting activities and sporting related events from date of incident.

## **3. Harassing Fans/Spectators**

Harassment is defined as, but not limited to, abusive language, tormenting of participants, and the baiting of individuals. The following set of actions will be implemented against harassing fans/spectators:

**First Offense**

Immediate ejection and next 4 games suspension.

**Second Offense**

**One (1) year** suspension as a participant and/or spectator from date of incident from the Knoxville Parks and Recreation sporting activities and related sporting events. Lifetime prohibition from a leadership role in the City of Knoxville Parks and Recreation sporting activities and sporting related events.

**Third Offense**

A **2 year** suspension as a leader, participant, and/or fan/spectator.

**4. Use of Racial and/or Gender Epithets**

The City of Knoxville Parks and Recreation has zero-tolerance for any use of racial and/or gender epithets used in reference to an individual's race, color, gender, or sexual orientation. Any person(s) found to have used such epithets will be subject to the following disciplinary actions:

**A. Leaders**

**First Offense**

A **1- year** suspension as a leader and/or participant from the City of Knoxville Parks and Recreation sporting activities and related sporting events. **One (1) year** suspension as a fan/spectator in the City of Knoxville Parks and Recreation sporting activities and sporting related events from date of incident.

**B. Participants**

**First Offense – (Adults: 18 & Over)**

A **4 games** suspension as a leader, participant and/or spectator from date of incident from the City of Knoxville Parks and Recreation sporting activities and related sporting events.

**Second Offense – (Adult: 18 & Over)**

Lifetime suspension as a leader and/or participant from all related City of Knoxville Parks and Recreation sporting activities and sporting related events. **One (1) year** suspension as a fan in the City of Knoxville Parks and Recreation sporting activities and sporting related events from date of incident.

**First Offense – (Youth: 17 & Under)**

A **Two (2) games** suspension, from date of incident from the City of Knoxville Parks and Recreation sporting activities and related sporting events.

**Second Offense – (Youth: 17 & Under)**

A **4 games** suspension as a leader, participant and/or fan/spectator from date of incident from the City of Knoxville Parks and Recreation sporting related activities and events.

**Third Offense – (Youth: 17 & Under)**

A **one (1) year** suspension as a leader, participant and/or fan/spectator from the City of Knoxville Parks and Recreation sporting activities and related sporting events until the age of eighteen (18) or for one (1) year, whichever is greater.

**5. Unsportsmanlike Conduct**

Sportsmanship is defined as conduct becoming to a sportsman, such as fairness, courteous relations and acceptance of results. The City of Knoxville Parks and Recreation is promoting these ideals in its sporting activities, programs and sports-related events. The items listed in the above sections constitute conduct, justifying the noted penalty and representing unsportsmanlike conduct. Should any unsportsmanlike conduct occur, not specifically addressed in its discretion, may institute penalties for such behavior consistent with this policy. In determining whether an incident or unsportsmanlike conduct has occurred, the rules of that particular sport may be considered.

**6. Procedures Following Incident**

When a person engages in unsportsmanlike behavior within the City of Knoxville Parks and Recreation's sporting activities and related sports events, recreation supervisors, recreation leaders, league supervisors and/or league officials will have the individuals involved in the dispute escorted from the park or facility at which the event is occurring. During such time, the sporting event or program will be stopped until those involved have left the park or facility property. If a person(s) refused to leave the premises, the law enforcement will be contacted and asked to enforce the ruling of the officials.

Individuals removed from the park or facility will be sent a notification letter or phone call stating their violation of the altercation policy. The individual will then have seven (7) days from the receipt date of the registered mail or phone call to respond with a written statement, explaining or defending their involvement and setting out their perception of the altercation as it occurred. The response must be received by the office of the Athletics Coordinator of the City of Knoxville Parks and Recreation; 917A E. 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue; Knoxville, TN 37917; on or before the seventh day from the receipt date of the registered mailed letter or phone call. **NO** written statement will be considered in the investigation after the seven (7) days. After the statements are received, an investigation will be conducted and the City of

Knoxville Parks and Recreation will render judgment of the altercation within ten (10) working days from the statement deadline. A panel consisting of the Athletic Coordinator, Athletic Officials Coordinator, Supervisor, and the Deputy Director of Athletics of that particular program in which the altercation occurred; will conduct the investigation. During this investigation, the individual(s) accused will be suspended from all sporting activities and/or sports related events. Those found in violation of this policy, or who are not content with the panel's decision may file an appeal with the Athletic Coordinator as noted above. In filing an appeal, an individual(s) will have five (5) business days to respond in writing from notification of the decision, and said appeal shall be received in the director's office, on or before the fifth day after notification of the decision. Individuals may be asked to appear before the appeal review committee. All appeal decisions are final and are not subject to review.

If the City of Knoxville Parks and Recreation deems a physical or verbal altercation as a flagrant and deliberate act of violence, the division reserves the right to enforce a more severe punishment within this established disciplinary code.

All actions will be shared with Parks and Recreation Departments in surrounding counties.