



**BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS
OF LAREDO**

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2025-2026 BASKETBALL LEAGUE RULES

1. **Coach's Responsibilities**
 - 1.1 All coaches and team managers must complete Child Sexual Abuse Prevention training on BGCA.net. Instructions may be found on bgcsports.com/downloads.
 - 1.2 All coaches and team managers must complete a background check on bgcsports.com by being added to a roster and completing the process online.
 - 1.3 All coaches must be registered as volunteers at the campus they coach for.
 - 1.4 All coaches must complete their roster on bgcsports.com (Team Sideline) and all parents must register their children on bgcsports.com (Team Sideline).
 - 1.5 All players must be registered by their parents as members of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Laredo. To register, visit bgclareado.com and complete the registration process under Program Registration.
 - 1.6 All coaches must submit photo during registration.
 - 1.7 Open Roster-Players may be added up until the last game of the season. Once the last game of the season begins, your playoff roster is locked. Players must be added to the roster and register during the registration period. Opening the roster to add players will come with a \$25 charge for 3 hours.
 - 1.8 Membership cards for teams and coaches will be digital. Cards may be found on the Team Sideline app or by logging in to your profile on bgcsports.com.
2. **Playing Time**
 - 2.1 Coaches are responsible for managing playing time.
3. **Number of Players**
 - 3.1 5 players are allowed on the court at one time. If a team has more than 5 on the court at one time, a technical foul will be issued to the team's bench.
 - 3.2 A team must have a minimum of 4 players to start a game. A five-minute grace period will be granted. If the team is unable to field 4 players, the game will be forfeited.
 - a) If at any time the number of players on a team drops to three, the game must be forfeited.
 - b) If the above incident occurs, the participating coaches may conduct a practice game during the remaining time.
4. **Game Length**
 - 4.1 Kinder-6th grade game will consist of four (4) six (6) minute quarters.
 - a) The first 3 quarters will have a running clock that will only stop for called time-outs, injuries, and special circumstances controlled by the referees.
 - b) The fourth quarter will also have a running clock for the first four (4) minutes. The last two (2) minutes of the fourth quarter will stop on the referee's whistle. If the point differential is 12 or more, the game will revert to a running clock.
 - 4.2 PreK4 games will consist of four (4) five (5) minute quarters.
 - a) The first 3 quarters will have a running clock that will only stop for called time-outs, injuries, and special circumstances controlled by the referees.

- b) The fourth quarter will also have a running clock for the first three (3) minutes. The last two (2) minutes of the fourth quarter will stop on the referee's whistle. If the point differential is 12 or more, the game will revert to a running clock.
5. Overtime
- 5.1 If the score is tied at the end of regulation for 2nd-6th grade, there will be one (1) overtime period that will be two (2) minutes. Time will be kept the same as the last two minutes of the fourth quarter. Kinder-1st grade will have up to two (2) overtime periods. No overtime for PreK4.
 - 5.2 If the score is tied at the end of the first overtime for 2nd-6th grade, the game will end in a tie. If the score is tied at the end of the second overtime for Kinder-1st, the game will end in a tie. If the score is tied at the end of regulation for PreK4, the game will end in a tie.
 - 5.3 In the playoffs, overtime periods will continue until a winner is declared.
6. Time Outs
- 6.1 Each team is allowed three (3) time outs per game (1 in the first half, 2 in the second half). Coach or player can call a time out. Time outs do not carry over to the next half or overtime.
 - 6.2 In overtime, each team will have one (1) time out. In the playoffs, each team will receive one (1) time out per overtime. Time outs do not carry over.
7. Playing Rules
- 7.1 The current Texas UIL rules govern all play with the following exceptions:
 - a) All rules previously stated in sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5.
 - b) No 3 point shot in PreK4 division. In all other divisions, 3 point shots count. Satellite gyms that do not have a 3 point line will not have 3 point shots.
 - c) Defensive rebounding and defensive line
 - 1) During the whole game for PreK4-1st grade, first 3 quarters for 2nd & 3rd, and first half for 4th & 5th if a defensive player grabs a rebound, the player has the option to hug or cover the ball. This action will denote that the player does not intend to fast break and the referee will thus have all players return to the opposite side of the court.
 - 2) If a defensive player grabs a rebound and begins to advance, this will denote the intention to fast break and the full length of the court will be playable.
 - 3) A full court press is only allowed in the last minute for PreK4-1st grade, 4th quarter for 2nd & 3rd grade and 2nd half for 4th and 5th grade. Pressing is allowed all game in the 6th grade. Press must be called off in all grades if the pressing team is leading by more than 12 points.
 - 4) Defensive line will be 5' above the three point line. The area from the defensive line to the baseline will be known as the shooting area. Defense must set up in this area. Freezing the ball can be done only within the shooting area.
 - d) In PreK4-1st grade, a player taking four or more steps without dribbling will be called a violation.
 - e) In PreK-1st grade, no back court violation will be called.
8. Fouls
- 8.1 Individual
 - a) A player is disqualified on the fifth foul against said player.
 - b) Both Personal and technical fouls are applied to a player's foul count.
 - 8.2 Team
 - a) Teams will reach the bonus when their opponent commits five fouls in each quarter and team fouls will reset at the end of each quarter. (Previously, teams were awarded the one-and-one bonus when their opponents committed seven fouls in a half and two foul shots when 10 fouls were committed each half.)
 - 8.3 Two technical fouls expel a player/coach.
 - a) If a coach is expelled, he/she must leave the gym. If the expelled coach does not leave, the game will be a forfeit. If a coach is expelled twice during the season, said coach will not coach the remaining season and will not be eligible to coach any Boys and Girls Club of Laredo organized league the following year.

9. Scoring and Timekeeping

9.1 In the event of a discrepancy between the scorebook and scoreboard, the scorebook will take precedence as being correct.

9.2 The league will provide a score keeper/ clock operator. Coaches must complete scorebook with players' first name, last name, and number before the start of the game. A player that is missing from the scorebook and is played will result in a technical foul against the team's bench.

9.3 Parents and spectators **are not allowed** to approach the scorer's table or officials (score keepers and referees) before, during or after a game. Violation of this rule could lead to a technical foul to the related team's bench and/or ejection from the gym of the parent in question. The Boys and Girls Club will review every case and may issue further actions.

10. Substitutions

10.1 Players must report to the scoring table for substitutions. The referee will signal for players to come in.

11. Warm up and Start Time

11.1 Teams must warm up prior to listed game time. Teams must be ready to play when referee signals for the game to start. The clock will start upon referee's direction but no sooner than the beginning of the hour unless agreed upon by both teams.

12. Bench Etiquette

11.1 Only two coaches per team may be coaching on the bench during a game.

11.2 Coaches and players must remain seated during the game. The only time a coach may stand is during a time out or at the end of the period. Coaches will not be allowed to talk to the officials during playing time. A technical foul will be called on a coach if they do not abide by this rule. ONE warning will be given to the coach.

11.3 Coach is responsible for his players conduct and the conduct of the team's fans.

13. Equipment and Court Guidelines

12.1

<u>Divisions</u>	<u>Goal Height</u>	<u>Free Throw Line</u>	<u>Ball Size</u>
PreK4	5'6"	Shorter Distance	27.5
Kinder-1 st	8'	Shorter distance	27.5
2 nd -6 th	10'	15' (normal line)	28.5

12.2 PreK4 court will be smaller in length. The volleyball back line will serve as the baseline. Normal court width will be enforced.

12.3 Kinder-6th Grade will have a normal size court. (*Due to gym sizes, some courts will vary in dimensions.)

14. Playoffs

14.1 End of the season playoff tournament

A) All teams make the playoffs. Each division will be broken in up in to Gold and Silver brackets for the playoffs.

B) Tie breakers will be determined by Team Sideline (bgcsports.com's program). A list of tie breakers may be found in each individual divisions on the top right of the standings page.

15. Conduct

15.1 All parents, spectators, and coaches must read and abide by The Boys and Girls Club of Laredo Code of Conduct. The Boys and Girls Club of Laredo Code of Conduct may be found on bgcsports.com

15.2 Spectators and coaches who are ejected from a game may be subject to further suspension.

16. Eligibility of Players

16.1 Players must be from the same school. Players may play at their grade or above but only for one team.

a) Exceptions:

1) Any player that exhibits the skill to move up a grade level may be allowed to do so, ONLY under these circumstances:

- Coach must notify the Boys and Girls Club of Laredo of the situation.
- The Boys and Girls Club of Laredo must verify that player is playing for the correct feeder school if the move up is to a middle school

• ALL FINAL DECISIONS are made by the Boys and Girls Club of Laredo.

2) Special Needs Provision (see #16)

16.2 Player can play in one grade division. He/she cannot change to another age division once the season starts. If a player transfers to another school during the season, he/she has the option to play for either school, but must pick which school.

16.3 To be eligible, players must fall under the age range for their grade.

PreK4- May not be 6 years old on 09/01/2025.

Kinder- May not be 7 years old on 09/01/2025.

1st Grade- May not be 8 years old on 09/01/2025.

2nd Grade- May not be 9 years old on 09/01/2025.

3rd Grade- May not be 10 years old on 09/01/2025.

4th Grade- May not be 11 years old on 09/01/2025.

5th Grade- May not be 12 years old on 09/01/2025.

6th Grade- May not be 13 years old on 09/01/2025.

16.4 Using an INELIGABLE player will cause team to forfeit all games said player played in and coach is subject to suspension.

16.5 If any coach feels an opposing team has an ineligible player, please call/text the Boys and Girls Club Sports Department at (956) 722-7549 or email sportsdirector@bgcsports.com . We will then conduct an investigation. To avoid hard feelings, coach requesting verification of age will be kept confidential.

16.6 Player can only play for one team. Once team is eliminated, players cannot transfer to another team.

16.7 All coaches must verify roster.

17. Student Special Needs Provisions: As a service to the growing number of special needs students that want to participate in our sports leagues, the Boys & Girls Clubs of Laredo would like to provide all special needs students with options to play when deemed safe & enjoyable for the student. These conditions are put in place for the student to feel comfortable & part of a competitive team and in no way should be used to gain an edge over other teams within the league. When these conditions can be satisfied the student will be allowed to play:

a. Permission from the school sponsoring the student must obtain prior approval from the principal

b. Student must be qualified special needs

c. Students must be able to play the sport in a safe manner where he/she will not injure themselves or others

d. Student attends school that has no participating teams in his/her grade level for a sport that they are asking for the transfer

e. Student must play in his/her grade level at sponsoring school provided the school is within his/her school district "LISD & UISD"

- f. A student may also play for a school they intend on transferring to, or is a feeder school to the middle school they intend on transferring to as long as the principal of the sponsoring school has given approval.
- g. All final approval for students requesting team transfers remain at the discretion of the Boys & Girls Club of Laredo.

18. School Principal

18.1 The Boys & Girls Clubs of Laredo will work closely with the schools' principal. The principal has the ability to hold a player(s) and/ or a team out from participating in any BGC league due to conflict with grades, disciplinary violations, etc.

19. Facility Conduct

19.1 No outside food or drinks are allowed at any of our gyms.

19.2 Coaches are responsible for team benches to be clean after a game (i.e. all trash must be disposed of). Sports bottles are not the responsibility of the Boys and Girls Club of Laredo and will be thrown out after the 2nd day.

19.3 Spectators are asked to be sure to dispose of trash properly and to leave a clean area after the game.

19.4 Snacks must be distributed outside BGC facilities or gyms. Please dispose of trash properly.

19.5 Satellite gyms (i.e. school gyms) may have their own rules that are expected to be followed.

Policy for Homeschooled Student Participation on School-Designated Teams

I. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to establish clear eligibility requirements and procedures for homeschooled students seeking to participate on a school-designated team within the Boys & Girls Clubs of Laredo (BGCL) sports leagues, while maintaining fairness, integrity, and compliance within league competition.

II. Eligibility Requirements

A homeschooled student may participate on a school-designated team in BGCL sports leagues only if all the following conditions are met:

Residential Requirement

The student must reside within the official attendance boundary of the school for which they intend to participate.

- Proof of residency may be required (e.g., utility bill, lease agreement, or other approved documentation).

Written School Permission

The student's parent or legal guardian must obtain written authorization from the appropriate school official (e.g., principal or athletic director) granting permission for the student to participate on that specific school team.

- Permission must be submitted to the league prior to participation in any practice or game.
- Approval is valid only for the designated sport and season.

League Registration Compliance

The student must complete all BGCL registration requirements and adhere to all league rules, policies, and deadlines applicable to other participants.

III. Verification Process

- Written school authorization must be submitted to the Boys & Girls Clubs of Laredo league administrator before the student is added to the official team roster.
- The student may not participate in games until eligibility has been formally approved.
- Coaches are responsible for ensuring all players on their roster meet eligibility requirements prior to competition.

IV. Penalties for Non-Compliance

To preserve competitive fairness and program integrity, violations of this policy will result in the following consequences:

Falsification of Permission or Residency

- Any falsified documentation or misrepresentation of eligibility will result in immediate disqualification of the student.
- All games in which the ineligible player participated may be declared forfeits.
- Additional disciplinary action may be taken at the discretion of BGCL administration.

Coach Responsibility

•If a coach knowingly permits an ineligible player to participate, the coach may face disciplinary action, including suspension from league activities.

•Repeated or intentional violations may result in removal from coaching within BGCL leagues.

V. Final Authority

The Boys & Girls Clubs of Laredo reserves the right to:

•Request additional documentation to verify eligibility.

•Investigate any eligibility concerns.

•Issue rulings on disputes related to this policy.

•All decisions made by BGCL administration regarding eligibility and enforcement are final.