

2026 2nd & 3rd Grade Basketball Rules

1. The score will be kept. Mercy rule: If a team is 25 points ahead, score becomes locked; rest of game shall continue without addition of any further points.
2. Equipment: Ball size is 28.5 inches; hoop height is 9 feet.
3. Teams may play 3v3 or 4v4 with both coaches' agreement before game time, on a 35' x 65' court (mini-courts running North-South).
4. Each team receives one (60-second) time-out per half.
5. The game shall consist of four 8 minute quarters. The clock is continuous and is kept by the scorekeeper. Half-time will be 3 minutes long. There will be no overtime if the game is tied at the end of game regulation. **Games will end in a tie.**
6. Substitutions are made on time-outs, at the 4 minute mark (or closes dead ball to the 4 minute mark) of each quarter, and at the end of the 1st & 3rd quarters; at which time the official scorekeeper will signal coaches for substitutions when a stoppage point is reached. The clock will stop during substitutions and will resume once the ball is back in play. Each player shall play approximately 50% of each game. **There will be a minimum of 3 players on the court.** If one team is shorthanded and playing with 3, it is okay to barrow players; or the opposing team **WILL** play shorthanded with 3 as well. This helps with equalizing touches for equal playing time.
7. Defense may only be played after the opposing team crosses half court. Defense must retreat 10ft past the half court line once possession has changed. **"Double-teaming** the offensive player with the ball may only occur inside the three point arc." In an attempt to help kids learn basic, man-to-man defense, coaches may have players line up at center court at the beginning of each quarter to allow coaches to match up players of similar abilities (as perceived by the coach). Although playing man-to-man defense is not required in this league, it is encouraged as it is a fundamental skill at the higher levels.
8. All fouls are non-shooting fouls. Team free-throws will be shot at the end of each game. Every child will be allowed to shoot one or two free-throws depending on the amount of time available.
9. A jump ball will be used to start the game. Alternating possession will be used from then on.
10. The black/white reversible jersey must be worn during the game.

Emphases at the 2nd & 3rd Grade Level: Fundamental skills, teaching rules and consistent rule enforcement. Brief instruction will be provided to the player by the official regarding fouls and game procedures. Fouls will be called when they are "plain to see" by the official.

Infraction/Foul emphases: traveling, double dribbling, jump ball, 3 second violation, reaching, hacking, pushing, backcourt, and illegal screening. Please note the rule about double-teaming.

Flagrant fouls and other misconduct: Officials have the discretion to sub-out offending player(s).

Alamosa Family Recreation Center Rules:

Non-members of the AFRC have restricted access to the facility; they will only be allowed into the gymnasiums for spectating and have use of the restrooms on game and practice days. Non-members are welcome to pay the appropriate daily use fee to enjoy full access to the facility. Children not participating in Parks & Recreation basketball programs must be under the close supervision of an adult at all times, not disrupt practices and must be seated next to their parents at all times. Children 15 years old and under are not allowed on the upper track unsupervised. Also, the upper track is members only who are there to walk/jog for their workout. Basketball spectators are not allowed to stand on the upper track to watch games as it is a safety hazard.