

## **Big 4 Playing Rules**

**Court:** All games are played half court

**Start of Game:** Game will begin with a jump ball at the free throw line. All held balls thereafter will be jumped by the two players that caused the held ball at the free throw line. The Big 4 does not use the alternating possession arrow.

- A. Teams shall have a minimum of four (4) players to start the game. A Five (5) minute grace period will be given if a team does not have four (4) players, after which a forfeit shall be declared if the team is not complete after the five (5) minute grace period.

**Clear Lines:** The clear lines are the lines designated for a team to cross (clear) with at least one (1) foot after ANY missed shot by the opposing team, including shots that DO NOT hit the rim (air balls).

- A. Steals and blocked shots DO NOT need to be cleared
- B. If the last free throw is unsuccessful, the ball shall be cleared if the defensive team rebounds the ball. An unsuccessful last free throw that is rebounded by the team shooting the free throw, does NOT have to be cleared.

**Timing:** Each team shall have a three (3) minute warm-up. Four (4) quarters of seven (7) minutes running clock until the last two (2) minutes of the fourth (4<sup>th</sup>) quarter and first (1<sup>st</sup>) overtime. If the game goes into a second overtime, it will be sudden death, first team to score a field goal or free throw shall be declared the winner.

- A. No player shall be in possession of the ball for more than five (5) seconds in the last minute of the fourth (4<sup>th</sup>) quarter and ANY overtime.

**Timeouts:** Each team is entitled to two (2) thirty (30) second timeouts per half. These timeouts shall not rollover to the second half.

- A. A team will gain one (1) thirty (30) second timeout in the first overtime period.

**Scoring:** Each field goal shall be worth two (2) points unless it's a three (3) point shot, in which case the field goal shall be worth three (3) points.

**Free Throws:** A player who is fouled in the act of shooting, shall receive two (2) shots if the try is unsuccessful, three (3) shots on an unsuccessful three (3) point shot attempt.

- A. If the field goal is successful, that player shall receive one (1) free throw.
- B. Once the free throw shooter has possession of the ball, that player shall have ten (10) seconds to release the ball for the free throw.
- C. ALL technical, flagrant and intentional fouls shall be two (2) free throws awarded to ANY player of the offended team this includes any bench personnel. After the free throws, the ball shall be awarded to the offended team at the clear line.

**Substitutions:** Substitutions shall be made while the ball is dead. On free throws, the substitution shall be allowed to enter the game BEFORE the first free throw attempt or after the second successful free throw.

- A. ALL substitutions shall be beckoned by the official.

**Fouls:** A player who receives a sixth (6<sup>th</sup>) foul, shall be disqualified from the game.

- A. Any player who receives two (2) technical fouls, one (1) flagrant foul or two intentional fouls shall be disqualified.

**Fights:** A player who uses a closed fist, or attempts to kick an opponent, shall be ejected from that game even if the fist or kick do not make contact with the opponent. The player who throws the first punch or kick (fight) shall be suspended for three (3) games. NO EXCEPTIONS!

- A. Any player using vulgar language, mentions a family member in a disrespectful manner or makes any threats towards an opponent, shall be ejected and subjected to a two (2) game suspension. NO EXCEPTIONS!
- B. Any player who makes contact with an official, shall be ejected and suspended for the remainder of the season at the discretion of the Big 4 commissioner (Kenny)
- C. Fighting or any disrespectful behavior SHALL NOT be tolerated

**Challenges:** Each team shall receive two (2) challenges for the entire game. All decisions made by the official after the challenge SHALL be final and no other opinion shall be made.

## **Violations:**

### **A. Throw-ins**

The thrower-in shall have eight (8) seconds to release the ball directly onto the playing courts

### **B. Free throws**

Players in the marked lane spaces, shall stay within their space and shall not cross the line until the free throw shooter has released the ball.

Players behind the three point line shall NOT cross the three (3) point line until the ball hits the rim. The free

throw shooter shall not cross the free throw line until the ball hits the rim.

**C. Free Throw Lane:** Any player shall NOT be allowed in the lane area for more than five (5) seconds.

**Uniforms:** Big 4 will provide team jerseys and warm up shirts that SHALL be worn by each team member. Any player that does not have their jersey shall not be allowed to play in the first half, NO EXCEPTIONS. If player does not have their warm up shirt, that player shall sit out for the first quarter, NO EXCEPTIONS.

A. If a player loses their game jersey or warm up, that player MUST pay forty (40) dollars within two weeks, if the money is not received by the BIG 4, that player will be suspended for the remainder of the season. NO EXCEPTIONS.

**Suspensions:** ALL suspensions are at the discretion of the BIG 4 commissioner (Kenny).

**Trades/Free Agents:** Deadline is July 31<sup>st</sup>. All teams MUST consist of six (6) players max, four (4) players minimum. Players DO NOT have the right to request a trade.

## The Big 4 League