Updated**: November 8, 2026**

Notre Dame Don Bosco Basketball League

LEAGUE SPECIFIC RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. **Rules:** The NOTRE DAME DON BOSCO BASKETBALL LEAGUE is governed by the Archdiocese of Milwaukee, and the guidelines outlined in the specific Athletics Policy Manual published by the Archdiocese (6145). This document can be found on their website (https://schools.archmil.org/Schools-home.htm). Scroll down on the page to find the link for the Elementary School Athletics Policy Manual.

a. Playing Rules

NDDB League follows the basketball playing rules as published by the National Federation of State High School Associations as modified by the Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association and the League. (See specific league modifications within these rules.) Every effort will be made to have two certified officials assigned to games, but due to the drastic shortage of officials, the League may use retired officials or officials who have not kept up certification but are known to the League.

1. Each league member (parish or school) is responsible to educate all coaches and administrators to **understand & comply with these rules** and regulations, (Both from the Archdiocese and the League). By entering teams in the league, the league presumes all rules will be followed and enforced.
2. Time Outs. There are only four time-outs. There are four-4- 60 second time-outs, and game officials will enforce the time out rule. Be ready to play and on the floor when the 2nd horn sounds. The ball will be put into play with or without warnings – so be on the floor ready to play.
3. No dunking is allowed during warmups prior to the game or at half-time.
4. Games will begin at scheduled times unless both coaches are in agreement to start their game early. The referees do not have the right to dictate an early start of the game.
    - Minimum of 5 minute warm up between games.
    - Quarters are six minutes and there is a 5 minute half time.
    - Bonus free throws will be awarded for fouls 7-9 committed in one half, and beginning with the 10th foul, double bonus will be in effect.
5. Teams must have five (5) players to start the game.
    - There is a TEN MINUTE grace period if teams do not have 5 players at the start of the game.
    - Play will begin at the end of the grace period with NO PENALTY accessed to the late team. If a team does not have five players after TEN MINUTES, a forfeit will be recorded.
    - Due to unexpected illnesses, a team with only less than five players may borrow a player from a lower or same grade team provided authorization is received from

League Director or Board Member prior to the game. This is to prevent a forfeit. **SEE SPECIAL SITUTATIONS FOR MORE DETAILS ON BORROWING A PLAYER.**

6. NOTE LATE RULE: If the 4th quarter starts after scheduled start time of the next game, game officials and gym supervision may agree to have a running clock during that quarter.

2. Special Situations:

a. If there is only one official at the start of the game, and that official is willing to referee the game alone, both head coaches must agree and sign the scorebook prior to the start of the game to acknowledge the acceptance by both coaches to play the game with one official. If coaches do not sign the scorebook, the game will not be played. If the game is not played, the league will only reschedule the game if the game affects the determination of 1st or 2nd place.

b. If the score is tied at the end of the fourth quarter, two-minute overtimes will be played until a winner is determined. There is a one-minute intermission before each overtime period. One additional 60 second time out per team is allowed for each overtime period.

c. If the margin is **16** points or more in the fourth quarter, there shall be a continuous clock for the remainder of the game. The clock stops only for free throws and time outs. If the margin becomes less than 10 points during the 4th quarter, the clock will return to the normal format.

d. If the score differential is 16 points or more, there is no pressure of any kind allowed including: rebounds (Out-let pass) and inbounded balls, or half court traps. Allow the offense to engage.

e. The preferred minimum number of players required to enter a team is 7 players. On rare occasions, reserved for 7th and 8th grade, League Director may allow a team to enter with less than 7 players.

f. Teams may borrow players from another team at the same school or parish to avoid a forfeit under the following conditions:

1. The borrowed player must meet these requirements:
    a. Must be from a team at the same school/parish
    b. Must be at the same or lower grade level and gender.
    c. Must be listed on the roster of the team the player is being borrowed from, that was submitted to the league at the start of the season

d. Should NOT be the BEST player from the borrowed team
e. If a team must borrow a player multiple times during the season, the player being borrowed may not be the same player.
f. The team can only move players to make a team of up to six players and this number may not be exceeded.
g. The players that are borrowed should not play more than two league games on a single day nor more than four league games in a weekend.

2. The AD/Coach for the school that is borrowing players must submit the completed "Borrow a Player" form to the league director prior to and no later than the day before the game. This form can be found on the NDDBBB website on the "FORMS" page.

3. This provision to borrow a player to prevent a forfeit applies only to league games, and not tournaments or the Padre Serra Tournament.

4. The league director has the authority to make exceptions to these guidelines as warranted in unique individual circumstances.

3. Conduct of Player, Coaches, Bench Personnel and Spectators:

a. A maximum of four non-players are allowed on a team's bench.

b. Coaches, adult bench personnel and adult spectators are expected and <u>required</u> to set a good example by showing respect for game officials and their decisions. Any objectionable language, gestures, facial expressions, actions or conduct directed or implied toward a game official is subject to an immediate issuance of a technical foul or bench technical ***with or without any warning.***

c. <u>One</u> coach may stand **directly in front of the team's bench area** to issue instructions to the team.
   - THIS MEANS STANDING IN FRONT OF THE SEATED PLAYERS AND DOES NOT MEAN WALKING FROM THE END LINE TO THE HALF COURT LINE OR BEYOND.
   - **Game official(s) may instruct the coach to sit down at any time and revoke the policy that allows the coach to stand in front of the bench**.

d. Players, coaches, or bench personnel who use profanity during a game shall be charged with a flagrant technical foul. In addition, any coach who receives a technical must report this to AD and or Basketball coordinator.
   - **THE TECHNICAL FOUL PENALTY IS *<u>AUTOMATIC TWO POINTS</u>* AND POSSESSION OF BALL TO OPPOSING TEAM.**

e. PLEASE BE AWARE!!! Coaches or adult bench personnel disqualified from a game must leave the gym immediately. A team parent must assume coaching duties if the coach is disqualified, and no assistant coach is present.

f. Coaches who are ejected from a game will receive an automatic two game suspension per the **Archdiocese Athletic Policy** - 9612: Coach Ejections.
   - Whenever coaches, players, or adult bench personnel are disqualified - Gym Supervision must advise League Director via email or phone call.

g. Spectators are invited guests of the league and the host parish-school program. Spectators, like coaches, are expected to set an example for the children playing the basketball game. Cheering is encouraged. Shouting instructions to players who are participating in the game, booing opposing players or calls, making boorish, caustic, of inflammatory remarks of any kind to game officials, other officials, or opposing players is not conducive to good sportsmanship and will not be tolerated. Referees may assign bench technical fouls to fans, parents or friends in the stands, and the league is encouraging and supporting game officials to make these calls against spectators who cannot control their emotions. **This means an automatic two points and loss of the ball.** Here is the process that will be followed:

   1. Referee will talk to the Coaches and ask as to who's spectator is being disruptive and instruct the team coach to speak to the spectator.

   2. If disruption continues, the Gym Supervisor has the authority and will ask the person(s) to leave the Gym.

   3. If they do not leave the gym, the Game will be called by the referee and team with the spectator disrupting the game will forfeit the game.

   4. **Spectators who verbally or physically attack any person prior to, during or after the game will be ejected from the site. In addition – the school Principal will be contacted by the league requesting immediate action. Additional problems with parents may result in the forfeit of all that team's remaining games and removal from the League.**

4. Duties of Athletic Director

a. The Athletic Director is responsible to maintain copies of all Archdiocese Forms required for

players, coaches and includes insurance forms, coaches and parent agreements. Schools may be subject to an "audit" by the League Director and if contacted for an audit, the Athletic Director will have one week to gather the data for a review by the League. These forms can be found on the NDDBBB website on the "FORMS" page.

b. The Athletic Director is responsible to inform all spectators, players, and coaches of these rules and regulations of the Notre Dame Don Bosco Basketball League. There should be mandatory parent meeting for all teams participating in the league.

c. The Athletic Director is responsible to have a designated gym supervisor on site for all games and to welcome visiting teams. The Athletic Director is also required to post the Archdiocese Sportsmanship Pledge and standings at the gym site.

d. **All players must be covered by a personal injury policy.** Athletic Directors are responsible to see that parents indicate this on their consent forms. The league is a voluntary, non-profit operation, and does not have funds to pay for insurance.

5. Special Rules for 4th grade boys and girls

a. No Zone Defenses
b. No Pressing
c. No Double Teaming

The 4th grade is considered a developmental division. Coaches and parents need to be aware that all violations may not be called to keep the game flowing, so they need to back off on complaining to the game officials.

6. Backcourt Pressure: 4th and 5th grade boys and girls

For All 4th Grade Teams

a. No back-court pressure of any kind is allowed during the game
b. Pressure is allowed in the last 60 seconds of any game or overtime period which the lead is 15 points or less. But the press must be MAN to MAN, any sort of multiple player traps on one player is not allowed.

For All 5th Grade Teams

a. No back-court pressure of any kind is allowed during the game
b. Pressure is allowed in the last two minutes of the game, which includes overtime.

For All Other Grades

a. If the score differential is 16 points or more, there is no pressure of any kind allowed including: rebounds (Out-let pass) and inbounded balls, or half court traps. Allow the offense to engage.

7. Uniforms:

No technical fouls shall be issued for wearing illegal team shirts or pants, or illegal numbers.
HOWEVER: Under shirts must be the basic color of the uniform.
In regards to a team that has reversible jersey's and only one color undershirt. It is acceptable to wear the same color undershirt if a team needs to reverse their jersey. Example – Team A is wearing green undershirts but needed to switch to their white side jersey to avoid a color conflict with opponent.

8. Game Ball:

4th, 5th and 6th grade boys will use a women's ball. (Circumference between 28.3 and 29 inches; weight between 18 and 20 ounces).

9. Free Throw Line:

a. **For 4th, 5th & 6th grade girls and 4th grade boys**: the free throw line may be moved 18 inches closer to the basket.
b. **For 5th grade boys**: Use normal free throw line. However as long as the shooter starts behind the free throw line, his momentum or jump may carry him on or over the free throw line - without penalty. But the free throw shooter cannot be the first player to touch or catch his own free throw.

10. Protests:

The League will not recognize any protest unless it relates to player eligibility. The Athletic Director must submit protests regarding player eligibility in writing to the League Director. The League Director must receive protests within the league's season.

11. Forfeit Fee and Re-Scheduling Fees:

Forfeit fees may be imposed for those teams that fail to show up for a game. Forfeit fees are $90.00 and will be issued after a review by the league. No parish or school teams will be accepted into the league if forfeit fees remain open.

12. Parishes entering multiple teams in one grade:

a. Teams are encouraged to enter multiple teams. In general, a team should have a minimum of 7 players on a team.

b. League format is to have a competitive division and recreational division in 7th and 8th grade.

c. Multiple teams in 4th, 5th and 6th grade from the same school should be divided as evenly as possible.

d. In rare instances, the League may ask teams to rebalance teams and or move teams to different divisions. If required normally happens during Christmas Vacation period.

13. Host Parish / School Gym /Scoring Table

a. **The host gym is responsible for making all visiting teams and spectators feel welcome at their** facility and should make sure teams are aware of the location of dressing rooms and restrooms.

b. Host Gym will furnish competent scorekeeper and timer; both the scorekeeper and timer must understand their responsibility, understand the requirements of their respective jobs, and be willing to give their undivided attention to those jobs. The score table must be kept clear of potential distractions such as televisions, tape players, compact disc players, cell phones, and friends, wallets, purses, and school IDs.

c. Host Gym will have an adult supervisor (considered a site official) to assist in game management, including crowd control. This person should greet game officials and visiting coaches. Site Manager must be 21 or over. Site supervisor must check for:

- A correct timer clock for 60 second time outs.
- Appropriate game ball and warm up balls.
- Scoresheet: Each scoresheet entry must have player's name and number. In addition, the team name, team number, and gender should be clearly entered on the title page of the scoresheet for each team.
- Alternate colored jerseys if needed. It is recommended that each gym have available two sets of at least 12 mesh jerseys. The two sets should be of contrasting colors. Original uniform numbers should be clearly visible through the jersey, making it unnecessary to put numbers on these jerseys.
- Ice packs, bandages and protective gloves to address sprains, cuts and other injuries.
    - It is recommended that the team coaches also consider having a few Ice Packs, Ace Bandage, extra shoe lace(s), and extra jersey.
- A copy of the League Rules and the Archdiocese Rules and Regulations. **Please Post.**
- A secure area for game officials to change and or rest between games.

14. Tournaments

a. The League does not sponsor tournaments. The Archdiocese Athletic Policy limits the number of tournaments a team may enter during the season. It is different for each grade level so make sure you are in compliance.

b. Tournaments sponsored by NDDB School/Parish Members may allow for their tournament to allow NDDB member teams to combine for a specific tournament. This is strictly at the Tournament Director's decision. However, if school parish team combines players from a second team, they must have the tournament's permission and they must then count the tournament as an authorized tournament for BOTH TEAMS PROVIDING PLAYERS for the combined team entered in the tournament. Please notify the League Director if tournament permission is granted for confirmation and documentation to the Archdiocese.

c. Tournaments may use a "running clock" – See Arch Rules for time length.

15. Miscellaneous:

a. **Gyms will have some practice balls for warm-ups, but it is recommended that coaches have one or two balls for warm-up. Just in case –**

b. All games will be played. **If there is a weather problem or cancellation, please check the web page.** Cancellations will be posted on the website by 6:15 AM the day of the game. It is possible that morning games may be canceled but afternoon games may be played. The web site will have the information. The official web site is www.nddbbb.org. Cancelled games will only be played if 1) Gyms are available and 2) League Standing and awards are affected. However, the League will determine what games, if any, will be re-scheduled.

c. **Awards: The league will provide awards for 1st place teams only. Ties in final standings will be resolved by the outcome of head to head play of the teams involved during the season.**

16. Schedules/ Standings/Coaches responsibilities:

a. The Notre Dame Don Bosco Basketball League Web Site, www.nddbbb.org, hosts the official schedule for each team.
b. **Coaches must check the web site** on a weekly basis for any changes to games or game locations. Maximum effort will be made to publicize any schedule changes. The schedules are date coded and depending upon the number of changes, will usually have changes highlighted in yellow within the schedule. Efforts will be made to post revised schedule on the web site by **Thursday evening preceding** the game.
c. **Locations of all gyms** are listed on the official web site. Attempts will be made to contact coaches should there be changes, but it is the coach's responsibility to check the site and know the latest changes.

d. If you see an error in the standings or score of a game– send Gary a note with the correct information and Gary will update as quickly as possible.

17. Problem resolution:

- **Referee not showing up or other referee issues:** call Craig Meyer at 414-828-5714, email: **haw752000@gmail.com**
- **Other League issues:** call the Cheri Romanowich (League Director) at 414-430-1915 or email:**cheriromanowich@gmail.com**

Communicate issues right away by phone call and follow up with an email with details to ensure that facts are properly recorded in writing.

League Director:	**Cheri Romanowich, Cell 414-430-1915 or email cheriromanowich@gmail.com**
League Treasurer:	**Tom Collopy**
Head of Officials:	**Jack Fleming**
Referee Coordinator:	**Craig Meyer, 414-828-5718**
Website Coordinator:	**Gary Romanowich, gromanowich@gmail.com**
Schedulers:	**Gary Romanowich & Cheri Romanowich**