## 2024 SUSBL Rules \& General Information



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## 1-Committee

## Head of the League and Tournament Director

## John Mansour

The Head of Basketball League and Tournament Director is responsible for overseeing all aspects of the basketball league, including the organization, administration, and management of tournaments within the league. This involves setting rules and regulations, coordinating schedules, managing registration and participant communication, securing venues, arranging officiating, handling logistics, and ensuring the smooth operation of all league activities. The Tournament Director specifically focuses on the planning and execution of tournaments, including team registration, bracketing, game scheduling, officiating assignments, and overall tournament logistics.

## Assistant Tournament Directors

Jonah Nakhnoukh - overall operations
Mena Zakhari - registration \& treasury
Mina Rizkalla - staff $\&$ scoring
Kero Lotfy - IT, website \& social media
The Assistant Tournament Directors supports the Tournament Director in organizing and managing basketball tournaments. This involves assisting with various aspects of tournament planning and execution, including team registration, scheduling games, coordinating venue logistics, communicating with teams and officials, and addressing any issues that arise during the tournament. The Assistant Tournament Directors will work closely with the Tournament Director to ensure that all tournament activities run smoothly and efficiently.

Registration:

- Manage the organization of enrolling teams for the tournament. Confirming eligibility and collecting of payments.

Treasury:

- Collection of all monies for registration, deposits, and food sales.


## Staff:

- Management and organization of all volunteers needed for the daily operations.

Scoring:

- Collection and verification of all final scoring logs along with updating site live will all numbers submitted.

Basketball Game Decisions (Advisory)

- Assistance with all basketball game influences. Will advise on the planning of the schedule, clock, referees and any requests from the other directors.


## Clergy Advisory

## Father Daoud Tawadrous

The Clergy Advisor will assist the Tournament Directors with the overall setup and execution of the basketball league and tournament. The Clergy advisor will not be involved in any decisions during the day(s) of the tournament.

## Clergy Auspice

## His Eminence Metropolitan Youssef His Grace Bishop Basil

The Clergy Auspice will assist the Clergy Advisor and the Head of the League with the overall setup and execution of the basketball league and tournament. The Clergy Auspice will not be involved in any decisions during the day(s) of the tournament.

## $\underline{2-\text { League Contact, Social Media \& Tournament Applications }}$

website: www.susbl.com
Facebook group: "SUSBL" | Instagram: "susbl_copticbasketballleague" |
Tourney Machine App: "SUSBL-2024"

## 3-General

A. All rules are discussed and approved by the Directors each year. The rules are subject to change at any time, as it may relate to unforeseen circumstances. If this occurs, the updated rules will be made public and/or will be available on site at the tournament.
B. Tampering with league property (such as computers, equipment, $t$-shirts, trophies, etc.) is not allowed and will result in consequences determined by the committee (i.e. suspension from daily activities or removal from facility).
C. On the premises of any game, tournament directors are granted permission to make any necessary modifications to the organization, set-up, or operation of any game event for the purpose of ensuring fair play and good sportsmanship.
D. Tournament directors have the authority to terminate any game that results in escalating tempers, unnecessary confrontation, taunting or any "Non-Christian" engagements.
E. Bottled Water is permitted inside the gym/court areas. Coolers, food, and other beverages are not permitted inside the gym; but permitted in the cafeteria/lobby area only. Any waste brought into the gym that is not disposed of appropriately will result in consequences determined by the committee (i.e. church deposit forfeiture).
F. There will be video surveillance throughout the gym. Videos will be reviewed by the tournament directors ONLY, if any issues arise to determine the most appropriate course of action. Video review and video sharing will not take place under any circumstance.

## 4 - Complaints and Requests

A. We welcome ALL requests and complaints for the tournament, if any issues arise.
B. To submit a request or complaint, you may submit your report via email to your Church Representatives. The directors will receive all submissions through your Church Representative ONLY. Each submission will be triaged and handled accordingly. There should be no expectation for a resolution during the tournament.
C. Depending on the nature of the complaint/request, the issue may be discussed amongst the tournament directors ONLY. After discussion, a ruling will be made to resolve each case and a written response will be given to the person(s) submitting.
D. The tournament directors are not required to discuss the "reason(s)" for these rulings/decisions during the tournament. An explanation is not required for each decision made, as per His Eminence Metropolitan Youssef

## 5-Representatives

A. The representative is one whom is appointed and by his/her church's priest and, approved by the tournament directors, to assume the responsibility to be the primary contact for his/her church with regards to: any incoming and outgoing email communications with the tournament directors regarding any updates, deadlines, due dates and answers to requests or concerns that may arise from any church. $\mathrm{He} /$ she will be required to communicate with the tournament directors for a period of time before/after the tournament; and is one who is representing the church and its priest on the day of the tournament.
B. $\mathrm{He} /$ she is responsible on the church level to make sure each player, coach, spectator or any participant on any level is aware of the rules of the tournament, accuracy of the church registration, assurance of the payments, and requests of any waivers (the tournament directors have the final decision of accepting or rejecting any waiver request).
C. The representative is required to be present on all the days of the tournament that their church's teams are participating in, and must wear lanyard/credentials (received at check in) at all times.
D. Must have the ability to utilize electronic communication of any kind, and ability to function online, and is required to be prompt in his/her responses with the tournament directors. They are the liaison between the tournament directors and the church they represent.
E. The representative should assist their teams and coaches, and ensure teams have everything they need for the tournament (jerseys, travel arrangements, coach, practices, etc)
F. Must be appointed each year by the church priest and announced to the congregation.
G. Is charged with assuring the proper Christian behavior and adherence of all rules by their congregation.
H. Will have direct involvement/communication with the tournament directors regarding any off court issues that may arise as well as any foul behavior from their church members. This encompasses all spectators, coaches, players, or any congregation member of that church during the tournament.
I. The representative will be provided with a written explanation (at an appropriate time) of any major decisions made during the tournament with regard to off-court changes in format or rules for the tournament. These major decisions need to be passed along to their church priest if there is any misconduct with the above situations.
J. Must be of adult age, emotion, and understanding with good problem solving qualities and no bias. Must be mature and in good control of his/her emotions. It is recommended that the representative be well known, respected and has the ability to be obeyed by the church congregation.
K. Must have an understanding of good sportsmanship, such as sportsmanlike manners of cheering, respectful reactions after winning or losing, and the meaning of the unbiased Christian fellowship of all churches as one, even in a competitive setting of different churches.
L. Most importantly, we are ALL one church. Therefore, bias against other churches will NOT be tolerated. Any violation of the rules in this section will result in a penalty decided by the tournament directors, including the possible termination of the representative. If the representative is terminated, the tournament directors will vote and reassign a new representative.

## 6-Spectators

A. It is the responsibility of the church Representatives to monitor/chaperone the spectators from their church.
B. Spectators are ABSOLUTELY NOT PERMITTED to speak to the referees or staff regarding games.
C. Spectators are ABSOLUTELY NOT PERMITTED to sit, stand, or walk near the gym floor, team benches, center aisles, or score tables; spectators must be seated in the gym bleachers or in the cafeteria/lobby area. Only the teams that are in session, referees, staff, and committee are allowed on the gym floor.
D. Cameras/tripods are permitted to be set up only on the outer court sidelines, but not permitted in the center aisles or by the team benches unless otherwise approved.
E. Fighting, foul behavior (verbal or physical), taunting, non-Christian behavior, unsportsmanlike conduct, violation of any rules, or any other type of disruptive behavior will not be tolerated and will result in the following consequences:

1. The first violation/disruption of any form caused by a spectator(s) will result in a verbal warning.
2. If a second violation/disruption is caused by a spectator, he/she will be removed from the game or the gym where the violation/disruption occurred.
3. If a third violation/disruption is committed by a spectator, he/she will be removed from the premises (gym and parking lot).
4. Disruptions/violations caused by spectators will be discussed with the tournament directors posttournament and additional action may be taken, such as banning from future tournaments. The spectator, spectator's priest, and representative will be notified of the tournament director's decision.
a. The timing for the decision post-tournament is not guaranteed, but once delivered is final. There is no appeal process unless new information or new evidence is presented to the directors of the tournament

## 7 - Referees \& Staff

## A. THERE WILL BE NO ARGUING WITH THE REFEREE OR STAFF.

1. Only the Team Captain that is identified before each game and The Head Coach are permitted to speak to the referees or staff. The captain will be identified by an arm band provided by the league;
2. Only The Head Coach is permitted to speak to staff in any situation other than for the reasons listed in sections 7.A. 3 below (i.e. assistant coaches, statisticians, or any player are not allowed to talk to the referees).
3. If tension arises, the Head Coach, assigned or identified Captain or Referee may approach the score table, stop the game, and request a director to report to the court to resolve any issue; If a player wishes to stop the game, he/she may call a time-out and get their head coach or assigned captain to approach the score table, and request a director to report to the court to resolve an issue. The staff members will immediately call tournament directors to assist.
B. The staff and tournament directors have the right to assist the referee in calling any extreme fouls especially those unseen by the referee (i.e. aggressive hit, foul language, bench interference, or spectator disruption). The use of any and all resources will be applied (i.e. Staff or Video Review, etc...)
C. Scores table staff is considered a part of the referee staff.

## 8 - Coaches

A. Prior to the tournament, coaches are approved/appointed by their priest and are responsible for preparing their teams before and during the tournament. They may communicate with their Church Representative before and during the tournament for assistance with setting up teams (ex: ordering jerseys, age ranges of players, etc.). They are required to communicate with the representative prior to the start of the tournament to help set up practices, ensure proper registration and payment of their players.
B. During the tournament, along with the team captain, the coach is responsible for making any decisions required during conflicts. During game-play, coaches along with the team captain only, are allowed to speak with the tournament directors or the referees during any conflict.
C. A maximum of 2 coaches are allowed per team- Head Coach (required) and Assistant Coach (optional).
D. The head coach must be present at all games and dressed in proper coach attire (see dress code below). Failure to follow dress code will result in a two (2) shot technical foul and ball to the opposing team per game, and possible disqualification if not corrected.
E. The assistant coach is not required to be present at all games. The assistant coach may also play on a different team, but must dress according to the dress code. If the assistant coach is not also a
registered player, he/she must be dressed in coach attire (see dress code below). Failure to follow dress code will result in a two (2) shot technical foul per game and the ball to the opposing team.
F. At all games, there must be a coach or an assistant coach present. If the coach or the assistant coach are not present, the game will be forfeited without rescheduling. The result will be a loss.
G. If a coach is ejected from a game and he/she is the only coach present, in compliance with the rule above, the game will be terminated and forfeited to the opposing team regardless of the score. Exceptions can be made if a team captain can take the coach's place or if there is an Assistant Coach present. The team captain or assistant coach must then act as the head coach until the end of the game.
H. Coaches, you are the role models of this league, and therefore have the most stringent rules with no exceptions. Fighting, foul behavior (verbal or physical), taunting, non-Christian behavior, unsportsmanlike conduct, violation of any rules, or any other type of disruptive behavior will not be tolerated and will result in the following consequences:

1. The first violation by a coach will result in a two (2) shot technical foul, ball to the opposing team
2. The second violation by a coach will result in a two (2) shot technical foul, ball to the opposing team and ejection of the coach for the remainder of the game.
3. If a third violation/disruption (in two or more games) is caused by a coach, he/she will be disqualified for the remainder of the tournament. The coach, he/she may be asked to leave the premises (gym and parking lot). If the coach refuses to leave, SUSBL Directors have the right to have him/her removed from the premises by law enforcement.
4. Disruptions/violations caused by coaches will be discussed with the tournament directors post-tournament and additional action may be taken, such as banning from future tournaments. The coach, coach's priest, and representative will be notified of the tournament director's decision.

## 9-Plavers

A. Players are only permitted to register and play on one team; playing on multiple teams is not permitted. If this violation is identified the player and the teams the player is playing for will be removed for the rest of the tournament.
B. All bench players must be seated at all times during the game. Failure to do so will result in a warning issued by the referees or staff. The second time will result in a two (2) shot technical foul and the ball to the opposing team.
C. Fighting, foul behavior (verbal or physical), taunting, non-Christian behavior, unsportsmanlike conduct, violation of any rules, or any other type of disruptive behavior will not be tolerated and will result in the following consequences:

1. The first violation by a player will result in a two (2) shot technical foul, ball to the opposing team
2. The second violation will result in a two (2) shot technical foul, ball to the opposing team and with ejection of the player for the remainder of the day.
3. Disruptions/violations caused by players will be discussed with the tournament directors post-tournament and additional action may be taken, such as banning from future tournaments. The player, player's priest, and representative will be notified of the tournament director's decisions .

## 10 - Player Eligibility

## A. Men's League:

- College/Graduate Men Division
- 17+ years old - Must be born on or before July 7, 2007
- High School Boys Division
- 14-18 years old - Must be born between July 8, 2005 - July 5, 2010
- Middle School Boys Division
- 10-14 years old - Must be born between July 8, 2009 - July 7, 2014


## Men's league age gap options:

- 18 years old - Born between July 8, 2005 - July 7, 2006
- May choose either High School or College/Grad Division
- 14 years old- Born between July 7, 2010 - July 8, 2009
- May choose either Middle School or High School Division


## B. Girl's League:

- 11-17 years old- Must be born between July 8, 2006 - July 7, 2014


## C. Other Eligibility Requirements:

1. Players must be within the age limit described above.
A. A valid government/school issued photo ID with date of birth must be turned upon request. If ID is not provided, a forfeit will occur and potential ban for tournament and future tournaments can apply.
2. Must be baptized Coptic Orthodox or otherwise approved by their Church's priest(s) and/or tournament directors.
B. Any exception must be brought to the Directors' attention prior to the registration deadline.
3. Players are not permitted to register and/or play for more than one team. Switching teams after the registration deadline is not permitted. Will result in disqualification of player and team for the tournament.
4. Each player must play for the church they are associated with. In the event that the church of an individual does not have a team, then he/she must submit a request to the committee to join another team. The committee will assist and deal with any discrepancies.
5. Each player must be approved by the church priest for which you will be representing and signature from the priest to be able to play.

## 11 - Registration Instructions

A. Registration: Registration will be open from May 15, 2024 until June 16, 2024. All representatives must register all the teams from their church at www.susbl.com. Representatives will receive an email with detailed instructions.
B. Registration approval will require a direct (wet) signature from the priest of the church.

1. Payments are now to be mailed in by the deadlines below for registration to be completed.
2. No payments will be accepted at the gym.
C. Fees:
3. $\$ 150$ until June 16, 2024 at $11: 59 \mathrm{pm}$ (Received in the mail by this date)
4. $\$ 250$ June 17-23, 2024 - EXTENDED REGISTRATION CLOSES JUNE 23 at 11:59pm. (Received in the mail by this date)
A. If a player has any financial hardships he/she should contact the tournament directors or their priest directly for solutions or financial assistance. Late fees will not be waived. Online registration does not include payment. Representatives should consult with their priest to determine the best method of collecting payment from each player. Once all teams are registered, the representatives will receive an invoice with the total balance due for all players from their church.

## D. Damage Deposit

1. There will be a $\$ 500$ refundable deposit due for each church. The use of the deposit will be to ensure a monetary hold will be in place for any incidents/damages caused by the church's members that incur an extra/increased cost to the league. If no incidents/ damage, the check will be shredded at the end of the tournament. If damage occurs, a partial refund may be possible, once the damage is assessed.

## E. Cleanliness Deposit

1. There will be a $\$ 250$ refundable deposit due for each church. The use of the deposit will be to ensure the bench for each team will be kept clean during and immediately after the game. A monetary hold will be in place for any incidents/damages caused by the church's members that incur an extra/increased cost to the league. If no incidents/ damage, the check will be shredded at the end of the tournament.
F. Submitting payment: Representatives must submit three separate checks issued by their church prior to the final deadline above: 1 check for total player fees, 1 check for
damage deposit and 1 check for cleanliness deposit. If payment is not submitted on time, you will not play and all teams from that church will be disqualified. The only accepted form of payment will be a check issued by the church. Please make checks payable to: "St. Anthony Coptic Orthodox Church", and write your team's city on the "For" line in the lower left corner. Send payments via a trackable method only - USPS Priority, FedEx or UPS only.

## 12 - Registration \& Changes/Cancellations

A. Registration deadline listed above is a hard deadline and will not be adjusted for any reason. If deadline is missed, team will be dropped automatically and a team from the waiting list will be added.
B. Changes/Cancellations

1. Limited to add/drop 3 players total up to 7 days prior to tournament start date. All additions will have same registration rules apply.

## 13 - Dress Code

A. Spectators: Please remember this is a Christian event, so dress according to church dress code.

## B. Players:

1. Males
A. Shorts must be at waist high and knee length.
B. Jerseys are required to be worn with an undershirt of some sort.
2. Females
3. Jerseys must be short-sleeved or cap-sleeved women's jerseys. No cut-offs or tank tops allowed. If jerseys are cut-off, a short-sleeved shirt may be worn underneath.
4. Shorts cannot be shorter than knee length.

## C. General

1. Jerseys must be tucked in at all times.
2. All teams must have team jerseys (or shirts) for each player and each with their own number on front and back. Players without a jersey may not play.
3. If a church brings more than one team in the same division, the teams must have different jersey colors.
4. Any violation of dress code will receive a two (2) shot technical foul.

## D. Coaches:

1. All coaches are required to be professionally dressed at the tournament and must wear their lanyard at all times. Failure to follow dress code will result in a two (2) shot technical foul per game. The required dress code is as follows.

## A. Men

1. Top - Collared, dress or polo shirt also a $1 / 4$ zip top may be allowed
2. Slacks (no jeans or shorts allowed)
3. Dress shoes or comfortable shoes/sneakers are allowed
4. Hair must be done in a professional manner
B. Women
5. Dress or Collared shirt (no sleeveless tops) with slacks, skirt, or dress at or below the knees
6. Dress shoes or comfortable shoes/sneakers are allowed
7. Hair must be done in a professional manner

## 14 - Game Rules

## A. Statisticians:

1. During each game, there can only be two (2) statisticians - One (1) statistician from each team taking stats \& timekeeping. It is up to the coach/church to ensure that their team comes prepared for any event (each team should come with a stats book and a stop watch).
2. If a statistician is NOT provided, then teams CANNOT dispute the clock time, points, number of fouls, or any other stat that is kept at the table.
B. Game Ball:
3. At all games you must use a regulation ball for each age group. The specific ball will be provided by the league. The game ball provided MUST be used.
C. Clock:
4. Will consist of 2 halves at 10 minutes for the Girls and Middle-School Leagues and 2 halves at 15 minutes for the High School and College Leagues
5. Players are given only 8 seconds to get the ball and both feet across the half court line.
6. The Clock will be running. The clock will stop only for the below:
7. Free throws
8. Time-outs
9. The Clock, during the last 2-minutes of the Second Half Only will stop for the following (except if at any time the point difference is 10 points or more.):
10. Regular, Flagrant or Technical Fouls
11. Free throws
12. Time-outs
13. Out of bounds

## D. Overtime:

1. Will be 5 minutes running clock with the clock stoping in the last 2-minutes. Clock will not stop if at any time the point difference is 10 points or more. Each team will have two (2) 15 second timeouts. No timeouts will carry over from the previous periods.
2. Double or more overtimes will be 3 minutes running Clock. Clock will not stop if at any time the point difference is 10 points or more. Each team will have one (1) 15 second time-out. No timeouts will carry over.

## E. Championship Game:

1. Will consist of 2 halves at 10 minutes for the Girls and Middle-School Leagues and 2 halves at 15 minutes for the High School and College Leagues

## F. Time-outs:

1. There are two 30 -second timeouts per half. In the case of overtime see rules above.
2. After calling a timeout in the last two (2) minutes of the second half or in overtime will result the ball advancing to half court.

## G. Fouls:

1. Technical foul: There will be (2) two shots awarded and possession of the ball.
A. Two technical fouls results in the player in question to be disqualified from the remainder of the game.
B. Two technical fouls in two games on the same day will result in a one-game suspension.
2. Flagrant foul: There will be (2) two shots awarded.
A. Flagrant "1" (FFP1) - unnecessary contact committed by a player against an opponent. The opposing team is awarded two (2) free throws and possession.
B. Flagrant "2" (FFP2) - unnecessary and excessive contact committed by a player against an opponent. The opposing team is awarded two (2) free throws and possession and the player committing the foul is automatically ejected.
c. Any player who commits two Flagrant " 1 " Fouls in the same game will be automatically ejected from that game.
D. Any player who commits two Flagrant "1" or "2" Fouls in two games on the same day will be suspended for one game
3. Teams are awarded one-and-one situation when the opposing team reaches the Sixth (6) team foul in a half, and double bonus for Eight (8) fouls in a half. If overtime occurs, the team fouls will carry over.

## H. Free Throws:

1. During free-throw shooting, all players including the ones that are not lined up along the key are allowed to enter the key when the ball is released from the hand of the shooter, except for the shooter who must wait for the ball to hit the rim.
2. During free throw shooting, the shooter is allowed 10 -seconds to shoot each free throw.
3. When a player receives his 5th foul, they are to be removed from the game immediately.

## I. Rosters:

1. Foul sheets must be completely filled out by team before each game and given to the score table staff.
2. Each team may consist of a minimum of five (5) players and there is no maximum to the number of players on each team.
3. Players to play on the team, time of play and or rotation will be decided by the church's own appointed coach. Please make sure to discuss this with your leaders ahead of time, as this is not a league responsibility.
4. Churches may have more than one (1) team represent a certain age group (i.e. Two (2) college teams from Miami), if this does occur, the Jersey standards stated above must be followed.

## J. General:

1. Each team will have a 5-minute grace period before the start of each game. If a team does not arrive to the court in this allotted time, they will forfeit the game. This will result in a loss, no exceptions. Including and not limited to "We are Egyptian man", "Come on you know how it is" or "This is a church function". Please don't be late and put the Tournament Directors in a position to enforce this rule.
2. All benches must be kept clean. If a team leaves a bench area dirty with any equipment, food, drinks etc, this will result in a forfeit of the Cleanliness deposit.
3. All committee members, players, coaches, and spectators must ensure that the gym is clean before leaving. This includes, and is not limited to: restrooms, spectator's seating area, player's/coach's area, the main court, and the parking lot.
4. Each coach and representative must have their credentials (lanyard with identification) around their neck at all times. Players must have their wristbands on at all times.
5. Only the teams that are in session are allowed on the gym floor along with the referees and scorekeepers/staff/directors. All others are ABSOLUTELY NOT ALLOWED on the gym floor and must be outside, in the lobby/cafeteria or sitting in the gym bleachers. Teams are required to help with implementing this rule and will be addressed a penalty if not followed.

## 15 - Injuries

A. Trainers are available onsite for any injuries; injuries may be reported to the tournament directors. The league has event insurance which may cover any and all injuries that occur on site. Please discuss with your representative and tournament directors in order to review if your injury can be covered.

1. If you have an injury of any type be sure to discuss with the on site trainer/medical staff in order to be cleared to continue playing.
2. All injuries should be documented by team or player in which incident occurred by using our "incident form"
3. Injuries that occur to anyone other than a player will need to fill out an "incident form as well"
4. If medical expenses incur as result of an injury that occurred during the tournament, you will need to submit a form to the insurance company through your representative and tournament directors.

## 16 - Disciplinary \& Appeal Processes

A. Disciplinary actions are in two categories

1. Day-of
A. Any disciplinary actions taken on the day of the tournament will be based on the above rules and will be enforced in order to correct any actions taken place and to keep the order of the tournament for the day.
в. The discipline given will be documented and taken into account for any discipline needed to be given after the tournament. The day-of discipline does not negate any discipline to be given post tournament.
2. Post Tournament
A. Discipline needed to be applied post tournament will be detailed and emailed to each representative and church priest to be shared with included person(s) regarding the issue(s) being addressed.
