



Basketball Ireland

Post Primary Schools

COMPETITIONS HANDBOOK

2023/2024 SEASON

This handbook includes:

- Calendar for 2023/24
- Rules and Regulations for 2023/24
- PPSC Regional Organisers - contact information
- Basketball Ireland Schools Officer - contact information
- Registration Information



INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL SPORT FEDERATION

Organising the biggest worldwide competitions for 13-18 years old students

TABLE OF CONTENTS

<i>Overview & Summary of General Competition Rules</i>	2
<i>Schools Basketball Calendar</i>	3
1. Management of School Competition	5
2. Registration	8
3. Game Procedures	10
4. League Fixtures	13
5. Schools Cup	15
6. Appeals	17
7. Grading	18
8. League and Cup Playing Rules	20
9. PPSC Classification Procedure	23
10. Court Markings	24
11. PPSC Inter-Regional Rules and Regulations	24
12. Hosting Playoff Tournaments	26
13. ISF International Schools Federation World Schools Championships	27
14. ESSF European Open Schools Championships	28
15. Covid 19 Guidelines	28

PPSC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CONTACTS PAGE 29

A copy of this BIPPS Handbook can also be downloaded from the Basketball Ireland website
www.basketballireland.ie

OVERVIEW & SUMMARY OF GENERAL COMPETITIONS RULES

Competition 2023/24	<u>U-19</u>	<u>U-16</u>	<u>U-15 CUP</u>	<u>U-14 CUP</u>	<u>JUNIOR</u> <u>2ndYear/YR10</u>	<u>MINOR</u> <u>1st Year/YR9</u>
Age Limits	2005 or later (PLCs are ineligible)	2008 or later	2009 or later	2010 or later	2 nd Year or Year 10 student and born in 2009 or later	1 st Year or Year 9 student and born in 2010 or later
Player eligibility for League Competitions <i>N.B. Teams must implement Rule 3.8 (i) and its various requirements to indicate player(s) details on each scoresheet.</i>	All players Under-19. Maximum of three Under-16 players can play up No Minor or Junior Players can play in the U19 League	All players Under-16. Maximum of three Junior Players can play up No Minor Players can play in the U16 League			All eligible players in 2 nd Year or YR 10. Maximum of two age appropriate YR 11's (NI) can play down. No 3 rd Years (ROI) can play in this competition. Maximum of three Minor Players can play up. All eligible players can only play in this competition for a maximum of two seasons.	All eligible players in 1 st Year (ROI) or YR 9 (NI) can play. No YR 8 (NI) can play in this competition. All eligible Players can only play in this competition for one season.
Player eligibility for Cup Competitions	All players U19. Any number of Under-16 players can play up. No Minor or Junior Players can play in the U19 cup	All players U16. Any number of Junior Players can play up. No Minor Players can play in the U16 Cup	All players Under-15 can play.	All players Under-14 can play		
Player Rotation <i>N.B. Infringement of player rotation rules by a team will result in an automatic award of the points for that game to the other team playing by the rotation rules.</i>	Any five players can play at any time. No restrictions.	Any five players can play at any time. No restrictions	Five players play the first quarter A different five players must play in the second quarter. Any five players may play in the third and fourth quarters. Substitutes may only play first quarter and second half or second quarter and second half.	Five players play the first quarter A different five players must play in the second quarter. Any five players may play in the third and fourth quarters. Substitutes may only play first quarter and second half or second quarter and second half.	Five players play the first quarter A different five players must play in the second quarter. Any five players may play in the third and fourth quarters. Substitutes may only play first quarter and second half or second quarter and second half.	Five players play the first quarter. A different five players must play in the second quarter. Any five players may play in the third and fourth quarters. Substitutes may only play first quarter and second half or second quarter and second half.
Timing: League	4 X 8 Min. quarters Overtime period(s): 3 Min.	4 X 8 Min. quarters Overtime period(s): 3 Min.	4 X 7 Min. quarters Overtime period(s): 3 Min.	4 X 7 Min. quarters Overtime period(s): 3 Min.	4 X 7 Min. quarters Overtime period(s): 3 Min.	4 X 7 Min. quarters Overtime period(s): 3 Min. NB All Ireland 'A' Finals in UL (4 X 6 Min. quarters)
Timing: Cup	4 X 8 Min. quarters Overtime period(s): 3 Min.	4 X 8 Min. quarters Overtime period(s): 3 Min.	4 X 7 Min. quarters Overtime period(s): 3 Min.	4 X 7 Min. quarters Overtime period(s): 3 Min.		
Time Outs <i>N.B. Time Outs can be reduced by PPSC to 2 in the 2nd half for tournaments and regional finals.</i>	2 timeouts in the 1 st half. 3 in the second half with max 2 used in the last 2 minutes of 4 th quarter.	2 timeouts in the 1 st half. 3 in the second half with max 2 used in the last 2 minutes of 4 th quarter.	2 timeouts in the 1 st half. 3 in the second half with max 2 used in the last 2 minutes of 4 th quarter.	2 timeouts in the 1 st half. 3 in the second half with max 2 used in the last 2 minutes of 4 th quarter.	2 timeouts in the 1 st half. 3 in the second half with max 2 used in the last 2 minutes of 4 th quarter.	2 timeouts in the 1 st half. 3 in the second half with max 2 used in the last 2 minutes of 4 th quarter.
Min. Court Size	24m X 13m	24m X 13m	24m X 13m	24m X 13m	24m X 13m	24m X 13m
Defence & Full Court Press	Any defence allowed & team may press at any time.	Any defence allowed & team may press at any time.	Any defence allowed & team may press at any time.	Any defence allowed & team may press at any time.	Any defence allowed & team may press at any time.	Any defence allowed & team may press at any time.
Ball Size	Girls: 6 Boys: 7	Girls: 6 Boys: 7	Girls: 6 Boys: 7	Girls: 6 Boys: 6	Girls: 6 Boys: 7	Girls: 6 Boys: 6

SCHOOLS BASKETBALL CALENDAR 2023/24

August 2023

Wednesday 30th Closing date for School Cup at 12:00pm (noon)

September 2023

Friday 1st Closing date for PPSC Early Bird Registration at 12:00pm (noon). *(Note: Registration includes online forms and receipt of full early bird payment which must be received by the PPSC by 15th September.)*

Monday 4th Closing Date for late School Cup Entry at 12:00pm (noon) - *Late fee apply*

Tuesday 5th School Cup Draw (Under-16 and Under-19)

Friday 8th Closing Date for PPSC late online registration at 12:00pm (noon) – *(Note: Registration includes online forms and receipt of full payment which must be received by the PPSC by 6th October.)*

Saturday 9th PPSC Meeting

Friday 15th School Cup (U16 and U19) Preliminary Round Deadline

18th – 22nd Schools Cup (U16 and U19) Round 1 (Deadline for Round 1, Friday 22nd)

October 2023

Friday 6th Final date for payment of late registration fee [Unpaid schools will be removed from all competitions on this date]

9th – 13th Schools Cup (U16 and U19) Round 2 (Deadline for Round 2, Friday 13th)

21st– 22nd BIPPS ‘Tom Collins’ U15 Inter-Regional Tournament (UL Arena)

(ROI) Mid-Term Break: Mon 30th - Fri 3rd Nov & (NI) Autumn Half-Term Mon 30th – Thurs 2nd Nov

November 2023

6th – 10th Schools Cup (U16 and U19) Quarter Finals (Deadline for QF Friday 10th)

December 2023

Friday 1st Regional Competition Deadline for Under-16 and Under-19 Leagues

Saturday 2nd PPSC Meeting

4th-8th Schools Cup (U16 and U19) Semi Finals [Neutral Venues]

12th – 15th U16/U19 League Preliminary games (If required by PPSC - Host venues)

Christmas Holidays: (ROI) Fri 22nd Dec – Mon 8th Jan & (NI) Fri 22nd Dec – Wed 3rd Jan

January 2024

Monday 8th Jan U14 Girls Pools Schools Cup Finals Playoffs (Host Venues)

Tuesday 9th Jan U14 Boys Pools Schools Cup Finals Playoffs (Host Venues)

Wednesday 10th Jan U15 Boys Pools Schools Cup Finals Playoffs (Host Venues)

Thursday 11th Jan U15 Girls Pools Schools Cup Finals Playoffs (Host Venues)

Saturday 13th Under-19 Girls A/B/C ‘Round of 16’ (Host Venues)

Sunday 14th Under-19 Boys A/B/C ‘Round of 16’ (Host Venues)

15th – 19th Schools Cup (U16 and U19) Finals [NBA] Main Court

Saturday 20th Under-16 Girls A/B/C ‘Round of 16’ (Host Venues)

Sunday 21st Under-16 Boys A/B/C ‘Round of 16’ (Host Venues)

Monday 22nd U19 Girls C League Quarter & Semi Finals [NBA & Oblate] Main Court

Tuesday 23rd U19 Girls B League Quarter & Semi Finals [NBA & Oblate] Main Court

Wednesday 24th U19 Boys A League Quarter & Semi Finals [NBA & Oblate] Main Court

Thursday 25th U19 Boys B League Quarter & Semi Finals [NBA & Oblate] Main Court

Friday 26th Leinster D Finals Boys & Girls [NBA & Oblate] Main Court

Monday 29th U16 Boys A League Quarter & Semi Finals [NBA & Oblate] Main Court

Tuesday 30th U19 Girls A League Quarter & Semi Finals [NBA & Oblate] Main Court

Wednesday 31st U19 Boys C League Quarter & Semi Finals [NBA & Oblate] Main Court

SCHOOLS BASKETBALL CALENDAR 2023/24

February 2024

Thursday 1st U16 Girls C League Quarter & Semi Finals [NBA & Oblate] Main Court
Friday 2nd U16 Boys B League Quarter & Semi Finals [NBA & Oblate] Main Court
Monday 5th U16 Girls B League Quarter & Semi Finals [NBA & Oblate] Main Court
Tuesday 6th U16 Boys C League Quarter & Semi Finals [NBA & Oblate] Main Court
Wednesday 7th U16 Girls A League Quarter & Semi Finals [NBA & Oblate] Main Court
(ROI) Mid-Term Break: 12th – 16th Feb & (NI) Spring Half-Term 15th/16th Feb (NI)
Monday 19th Feb – 23rd Under-16 and Under-19 A/B/C League Finals [NBA] Main Court

March 2024

(ROI) Easter Hols: Friday 22nd -8th April & (NI) Spring Hols 28th -8th April
Wednesday 20th March Regional Competition Deadline for Minor and Junior Leagues
Thursday 21st Fixture will be emailed to school contacts for Minor & Junior Playoffs

April 2024

Sunday 14th PPSC Meeting
Monday 15th U14 & U15 Schools Cup All Ireland SF & Finals [NBA]
Tuesday 16th U14 & U15 Schools Cup All Ireland SF & Finals [NBA]
Wednesday 17th Minor & Junior League Preliminary games (If required by PPSC - Host venues)
Thursday 18th U14 & U15 Schools Cup All Ireland SF & Finals [NBA]
Thursday 18. Minor B Girls & Minor C Girls League Playoff (Host Venues)
Friday 19th Minor B Boys & Minor C Boys League Playoff (Host Venues)
Tues 23 Junior A B & C Girls League Playoff (Host Venues)
Wed 24 Junior A, B & C Boys League Playoff (Host Venues)
Thurs 25 Minor B Girls & Minor C Girls League SF & Final [NBA] Cross Court
Monday 29th Minor B Boys & Minor C Boys League SF & Final [NBA] Cross Court
Tuesday 30th 2nd Junior B Girls & Junior C Girls League SF & Final [NBA] Cross Court

May 2024

Wednesday 1st Junior B Boys & Junior C Boys League SF & Final [NBA] Cross Court
Thurs 2nd Junior A Girls League SF & Final [NBA] Main Court
Fri 3rd Junior A Boys League SF & Final [NBA] Main Court
Mon 6th May Bank Holiday
Sat/Sun 11th/12th Minor A Tournament Boys and Girls (UL Arena)
Saturday 11th PPSC Meeting & PPSC AGM (UL Arena)

IMPORTANT NOTE

This Calendar is subject to change if deemed necessary by the PPSC at any time throughout the year. Only Finals are guaranteed to be played in the National Basketball Arena (where possible). The PPSC reserve the right to move all stages to other neutral venues should the need arise.

1. MANAGEMENT OF SCHOOLS COMPETITIONS

- 1.1** These Rules and Regulations (R&Rs) govern the operation of Basketball Ireland Post-Primary Schools Competitions for the current season. The following abbreviated terms will be used throughout this document.

R&R = Rules and Regulations

RO = Regional Organiser

PPSC = Post Primary Schools Committee

BICO = Basketball Ireland Competitions Officer

NRC = National Referees Committee

ROI = Republic of Ireland

NI = Northern Ireland

- 1.2** The PPSC has the right to exercise its judgement in the interpretation of these R&Rs and the decision of the PPSC is final, following any appropriate appeal process, in relation to all Schools Competition issues. The school's download section on the Basketball Ireland website should be consulted for possible updates or changes to these regulations or calendar of events on a regular basis. If any doubt exists prior to a game about to take place you should seek clarification from the PPSC or your RO.

1.3 Rules and Regulations Overview

- (i) Rules will be reviewed at the end of each season based on the following:
 - (a) The operations of the Schools Competitions throughout the season.
 - (b) Proposals put forward by the Regional Organisers (ROs) and/or the PPSC.
 - (c) Any suggestions for amendments by schools to the R&Rs must arrive with the PPSC, through the relevant RO, on or before May 1st of the current season.
- (ii) Where time constraints affect issues that arise the Chairperson of the PPSC, in consultation with the Executive Committee of the PPSC, have the authority to make decisions on any matter not specifically covered by the R&Rs.
- (iii) The PPSC NEC has the right to amend or add to these R&Rs.
- (iv) The PPSC reserves the right to exercise its judgement and discretion in the interpretation of these R&Rs taking into account the best interests of Post-Primary Schools and players. The PPSC interpretation will be final and binding on all members.
- (v) In addition to these R&Rs schools must also adhere to any regional regulation and deadline as laid down by the Regional Organiser/Regional Committee and approved by the PPSC.
- (vi) These regulations form part of the regulations of Basketball Ireland and should be read in conjunction with them. It is the responsibility of all schools to make themselves aware of the Basketball Ireland Regulations which will be available on www.basketballireland.ie
- (vii) In order for a team to qualify automatically for the All-Ireland Playoffs, the team must have played in a regional competition with a minimum of four teams.
- (viii) F.I.B.A. rules will apply to any issues arising from a PPSC competition that is not governed by current PPSC R&Rs. Refer to 1.3(ii) and 1.3(iii).

- (ix) In a situation where a match official expels a team coach from the gym, another adult nominated by the school coach (not a player on that team) must take responsibility for the team. If there is no other adult available to take responsibility for the team the match is forfeited by the team whose coach was expelled. Rule 2.4 (vi) must be fully adhered to.
- (x) In a situation where a match official expels a team player from the gym during a tournament, that player cannot play in the following competition game.
- (xi) It is the responsibility of each registered school to ensure that all teaching and coaching personnel involved in the school's basketball program are fully familiar with and adhere to the code of ethics and good sport. Copies of the Code are available from the Irish Sports Council.
- (xii) New schools entering PPSC competitions grade will be determined by the PPSC.
- (xiii) 'D' Schools cannot participate in the Schools National Cup at any grade.
- (xiv) Teams that are demoted will be Schools Cup tied at all grades for one year i.e. cannot take part in the Schools National Cups at any grade. Schools demoted from C to D (Development) grade are not eligible to participate in the Provincial 'D' Cups i.e. Munster/ Leinster/Connacht/Ulster Development Cups for one year.

1.4 Trophies and Medals

- (i) All Schools National Trophies remain the property of Basketball Ireland. Where winning schools have received trophies the contact person provided in the registration process of the current season will then be responsible for its return and engraving to the Basketball Ireland office by the following deadlines:
 - 1) National Under-19 and Under-16, League and Cup trophies 30th November of the following season.
 - 2) National Minor and Junior Year League trophies plus U14 & U15 National Cups – 31st of January of the following season.
 Regional Trophies remain the property of the PPSC and must be engraved and returned to the RO by the dates specified by the RO.
- (ii) Failure to return the trophies by this date will result in Basketball Ireland collecting the trophy, with the cost of this paid by the school. Failure to pay this fine will result in suspension from competition until the cost is met.
- (iii) Failure of schools to return trophies due to loss at either regional or national level will result in the school paying the cost of the trophy to be replaced and re-inscribed to a maximum of €1000 euro. Failure to pay this fine will result in suspension from competition until the cost is met.
- (iv) Schools who return trophies in a damaged condition will result in the school paying the cost of the trophy to be fully repaired. Failure to pay this fine will result in suspension from competition until the cost is met.
- (v) At Regional Final & National Finals there will be 12 medals for each team at U16 & U19 and 15 medals at Minor & Junior. The RO will provide the contact details of the supplier for regional finalists wishing to order extra medals from the supplier. The provision of medals & trophies for all National Finals is the responsibility of Basketball Ireland.

1.5 Communication

- (i) The communication procedures accepted by the PPSC are as follows: Phone Call, E-Mail and Postal Service. E-Mail is the preferred option.
- (ii) The official channel of communication from Basketball Ireland is E-Mail. All school contacts must take responsibility for checking the E-Mail address provided in the registration process on a regular basis.
- (iii) It is the responsibility of the school to inform the PPSC and Basketball Ireland of any changes to the contact person before or during the season. It is also the responsibility of the school to ensure that all contact details are correct.

1.6 PPSC School Registration

- (i) For a school to register with the PPSC its first teams at each age level of competition must play in the PPSC leagues. First team in this context refers to the top standard team at each age level. Failure to comply will lead to €1000 fine and the immediate removal of the school from all PPSC competitions.
- (ii) PPSC registered schools will receive the following:
 - A minimum of 3 full duration scheduled games at regional pool stage at each grade prior to semi-finals and/or finals. All Regional Finals must be in a neutral venue i.e. a gym not owned by a school involved in the final.
 - 12 medals at U16 & U19 and 15 medals at Minor & Junior will be provided for both Regional winners and finalists. Schools can purchase extra medals from the medal supplier.
 - Presentation of a Regional Perpetual Cup or Plaque for the winning team.
 - Referees and hall hire for Regional finals is paid by the PPSC.
 - Regional places in All-Ireland Qualifying Tournament Playoffs (Pools or Knockout) at Minor/Junior/U16 and U19 levels.
 - All-Ireland Playoff (Pools or Knockout) stages will take place based on the schedule posted on the BI website.
 - All Finals at A/B/C will be in the NBA except Minor A which will take place in the UL Sports Arena.
 - All-Ireland Gold, Silver and Bronze Medals will be presented to the final four teams in each National Competition.
 - A National Cup will be presented to each winning team and the team name will be recorded on the PPSC Roll of Honour on the BI website.
 - Referees and hall hire for national finals are paid by the PPSC.
 - Each team that qualifies for the All-Ireland League Group Stage must pay a contribution of €25 per group game (Pools or Knockout) (i.e., two matches is €50 and three matches is €75). The only exception to this is in the Minor A Tournament in UL, where it is €20 per game.
 - Each team that qualifies for an All-Ireland League Quarterfinal must pay a contribution of €25 for that match.
 - There is no contribution for All-Ireland League Semi-Finals or Finals

2. REGISTRATION

2.1 School Competitions Registration

- (i) There is a separate independent online league registration process for boys and girls. Any school owing outstanding fees or fines must pay these in full before their registration for the current season will be accepted. *NOTE: If you have basketball teams of the other gender in the school these teams must also register and play with BIPPS. If not any registration becomes null and void and all teams are excluded from BIPPS competitions.*

- (ii) League Registration

Forms and fees, including proof of the electronic payment of fees, must be presented to the RO at, or prior to, the regional meeting. Where no such meeting occurs proof of registration and fees must be sent directly to the PPSC Treasurer by the set calendar date.

Schools must comply fully with the required registration procedure as follows:

- Step 1 Register online by at latest the set calendar date via the link provided by the RO and/or PPSC Registrar.
- Step 2 Receive confirmation of your registration and the fees due from the Registrar.
- Step 3 Fully Completed Player Registration Forms must be received by Regional Organisers prior to any games taking place in that competition. All games played by a team prior to the RO receiving these completed forms will be forfeited. The responsibility is fully on the team coach/school to ensure that this has been received and acknowledged in writing/email by the RO.

- (iii) Cup Registration

Schools wishing to enter a Basketball Ireland Schools Cup competition must submit their entry to the Basketball Ireland Office via the online form by the deadline outlined in that current year's calendar. All Cup entries are available only from BI. All schools must be registered with the PPSC for the Post-Primary Schools League Competition at the appropriate gender and must also play in their specific league competitions in order to be eligible to enter the Basketball Ireland Schools Cup Competition.

2.2 Team Registration

- (i) You may register as many teams as you wish within an age group, prior to the competition commencing.
- (ii) If you wish to register two teams in the league you may enter a second team in the same grade or in the immediate grade below the current school grade.

2.3 Player Registration

- (i) Only students who are currently attending a second level school in Ireland on a full time basis - *up to and including 6th Year (ROI) and Year 13 (NI)* - and registered with the Department of Education on that school's roll on the Departmental returns in October are eligible to participate in Post Primary Schools Competitions subject to satisfying 2.3 (iv) below. The PPSC Executive may authorise a Regional Organiser at any time to request written confirmation, which must be signed by the school principal, that a student(s) is registered on the school roll and is currently attending the school in a full time capacity as a student. In this circumstance, until such confirmation is received by the PPSC/ RO, the student(s) cannot participate in any PPSC competition.

- (ii) PLC students are ineligible for Post Primary Schools Competitions.
- (iii) **Player Registration Deadlines:**
 Players must be registered on the National Team/Player Registration Form in their respective region which will be made available to registered schools by the RO.
 A separate form must be completed for each team.
 - 1) Under-16 and Under-19 team player registration forms must be completed and submitted to the RO before the school play their first game of the current season.
 - 2) Minor and Junior team player registration forms must be completed and submitted to the RO before the school play their first game of the current season.
 - 3) Where a Junior player is playing Under-16 they must be registered before they play.
 - 4) All players must be fully registered before the date of their league's first fixture. Any subsequent players may be registered, but they must be registered prior to the relevant fixture.
 - 5) Coaches should retain a copy of all completed registrations.
 - 6) Players can be added to a team registration list by contacting the RO in writing until Regional final stage but cannot be added after that date. Schools can register players to a team by contacting the RO until Regional Finals. There is a deadline of Regional Finals re adding players to any team.
- (iv) Players from other Countries who partake in education for a term or part thereof will be registered as a player under Category X. In order to continue playing the PPSC may require confirmation from the school and Principal in writing at the start of the next term that these students are currently in full time education in the registered school and that they will be continuing their education in said school in that capacity for the remainder of that term/year.
- (v) It is important to note that schools are not considered as registered until all fees (including late fees) are paid in full by the designated dates as set out in the PPSC registration form and/or calendar pertinent to that particular school year. Schools will be removed automatically from competition once these registrations cut off dates are reached and they will undertake no further part in PPSC competitions.

2.4 Responsibilities

- (i) Proof of age or school registration rests with the player, the school and the coach. There is no onus on the PPSC for checking this information. All school contacts must be aware that at any point during the season the eligibility of a player can be queried by the RO and/or PPSC.
- (ii) It is the responsibility of the coaches/teachers and managers to read and adhere to the Basketball Ireland Code of Conduct. This is available for download on the Basketball Ireland website in the download section.
- (iii) It is the responsibility of each school to ensure that all teaching and coaching staff are familiar with and adhere to the Code of Ethics and good practice. This is available on the Basketball Ireland website.

- (iv) It is the responsibility of each school to ensure upon registration with the PPSC that they comply fully with their Statutory obligation under the National Vetting Bureau (Children and Vulnerable Persons) Act 2012 as amended by the Criminal Justice (Spent Convictions and Certain Disclosures Act) 2016) and the Department of Education and Skills Circular 0031/2016.
- (v) All persons not covered under the vetting procedure in 2.4 (iv) involved in the PPSC U15 & U17 Inter Regional Competitions to include sports coaches/managers/physios etc must comply fully with the Act. Basketball Ireland will process applications for vetting where the appointing Regional Organiser requests Team Management to apply.
- (vi) In order for a game to be legal a school must appoint adults only as coaches of the school team and the adult(s) must be named on the scoresheet and fulfil all the requirements of Section 2.4

3. GAME PROCEDURES

3.1 Players

- (i) In U16 & U19 competitions run by BIPPSC only 12 registered players may be on the score sheet. For Minor & Junior Leagues, U14 & U15 Cup competitions a maximum of 15 registered players may be on the scoresheet.
- (ii) Fifteen registered players of the eligible age group may play in any game in the BIPPSC Inter-Regional Schools Competitions.

3.2 Timing

The timing of schools games is outlined below:

- | | |
|--|--------------------|
| 1) Under-19 and Under-16 League Games: | 4 X 8 Min Quarters |
| 2) Under-19 Cup Games: | 4 X 8 Min Quarters |
| 3) Under-16 Cup Games: | 4 X 8 Min Quarters |
| 4) Under-15 Cup Games | 4 X 7 Min Quarters |
| 5) Under-14 Cup Games: | 4 X 7 Min Quarters |
| 6) Minor and Junior League Games: | 4 X 7 Min Quarters |

NB: The All Ireland Minor Girls & Boys 'A' tournament will be reduced to 4X6 Minute Quarters.

3.3 Time-Outs

- (i) Two time-outs may be taken in the first half.
Three time-outs may be taken in the second half with the proviso that if a Coach/Team does not use one of the three time-outs in the second half before the final two minute mark in the 4th quarter, the Coach/Team loses the time-out and will have two time-outs remaining during the final two minutes in accordance with FIBA Rules and Regulations. In Playoff Tournaments or regional Finals where there are a series of games the PPSC and/or Regional Organiser reserve the right to reduce the number of time-outs to two per half.
- (ii) One time-out will be given per team in each period of extra time.

3.4 Jump Balls

There will be no additional jump balls after the one that starts the game. The first possession goes to the team who do not gain possession from the opening jump ball. Possession then alternates for the remainder of the game.

3.5 Scoresheet

A specially designed PPSC Minor and Junior Scoresheet is available for use from your Regional Organiser which can accommodate the names of 15 players (if required). The Away team coach is entitled take a photo/copy of the scoresheet at the end of the game.

3.6 'Fair Play Ruling'

When a team achieves a 20-point lead over their opposition, the PPSC state that the scoreboard operator holds the lead at 20 points on the visible scoreboard. The scorekeeper will keep the actual score but the visible score will remain at a 20-point lead on the scoreboard. All coaches must abide by this and make their players aware of this 'Fair Play Ruling'. In the event of a team reducing the deficit to less than the 20-point lead, the operator will amend the scoreboard to reflect the score in the scorebook.

3.7 Uniforms

- (i) Legal uniform numbers as per FIBA Rules and Regulations allow use of all numbers between 0-99 including 00.
- (ii) Team members are required to wear uniforms of the same colour with numbers on the front and back. In the case of Regional and National Finals, players not wearing legal uniforms will not be permitted on court.

3.8 Player Eligibility (Cup and League)

- (i) The following are the requirements for each age group and this section must be read in conjunction with Sections 8.1, 8.2, 8.3, 8.4 & 8.5:
 - 1) **Under-19 Competitions** Players must be born on or after 1st January 2005. (Minor and Junior players are ineligible to play in Under-19 competitions.)
 - 2) **Under-16 Competitions** Players must be born on or after 1st January 2008 (Minor players are ineligible to play in Under-16 competitions.)
 - 3) **Under-15 Cup Competition** Players must be born on or after 1st January 2009 (Any player underage can play U15 Cup)
Note: Rule 8.2 (i) Players can only play in a maximum of two cup competitions in the same season.
 - 4) **Under-14 Cup Competition** Players must be born on or after 1st January 2010 (Any player underage can play U14 Cup)
Note: Rule 8.2 (i) Players can only play in a maximum of two cup competitions in the same season.
 - 5) **Junior League Competition**
Players must be born on or after 1st January 2009 and be in 2nd Year (ROI) / Year 10 (NI). Two Year 11 (NI) players of eligible age (i.e. born Jan-June 2009) may be selected to play, however once they play their classification remains as a Junior Player regarding all PPSC competitions. (The numeral "11" must be inscribed against these players' names on scoresheets in all games). No 3rd Years (ROI) are allowed play Junior. A player can only play in the Junior Competition for a maximum of two seasons.

* NI = Northern Ireland

* ROI = Republic of Ireland

6) **Minor League Competition**

Players must be born on or after 1st January 2010 and be in 1st Year (ROI) / Year 9 (NI). A player can only play in the Minor Competition for one season.

- (ii) A team that plays or lists on the scoresheet an ineligible player in any competition will be disqualified from that competition. *Note: Overage players are deemed as ineligible players under this rule in all Regional and National PPSC competitions.*
- (iii) If the ineligible player is discovered after a final, the offending school will forfeit all titles and trophies. The PPSC shall have the authority to make any consequential adjustments to titles and awards.
- (iv) On request from the PPSC and/or RO, a school must provide evidence of dates of birth of individual players within 48 hours.
- (v) After 2 'walkovers/forfeits' in any PPSC competition all of the results of the offending team are null and void and they are removed from the current competition.

3.9 **Condensation**

If a game is disrupted because of condensation the following procedure will apply:

- (i) On the first occurrence of condensation interfering with play the referee shall stop the game and allow the home team fifteen minutes to solve the problem. This time should be used to dry the floor and ensure it is possible to continue the game.
- (ii) On the second occurrence of condensation the referee shall stop the game. If a suitable venue is available within 30 minutes of the second disruption, it is necessary for both teams to continue to play the game in this venue. A 5-minute warm up must be provided in this venue. If a suitable venue is not available within 30 minutes of the disruption, the home team will have to travel to the visiting team's court within 7 days to replay the game in full.
- (iii) The referee shall have the power to decide on the fitness of the court for play. Any objections to the court or equipment provided must be made to the referee prior to the start of the game.

3.10 **Game Disruption**

If a game begins and is disrupted for any reason (with the exception of condensation) the following procedures shall apply:

- (i) The Convenor, (or Referee in the absence of a Convenor) will take the scoresheet at the point of the disruption. The Convenor must include a detailed report of this disruption. The Convenor/Referee investigates to see if the disruption can be resolved and if the game can continue within a reasonable time frame. If this is not possible the RO will be contacted (at regional stage) or at All Ireland playoff stage the PPSC will be contacted.
- (ii) If the game cannot be resumed, the RO/PPSC will continue to investigate the circumstances, which led to the disruption. Written reports will be necessary.

- (iii) The PPSC will make the final determination based on the reports in 3.10 (ii) above as to whether the disruption was outside the control of the home team. If the disruption was caused by one of the teams or their supporters, the game may be lost by forfeit and a fine may be levied as deemed appropriate. If the disruption was beyond the control of the teams, the game will be resumed at the point of the disruption at a time and place determined by the RO/PPSC. The game will not be resumed if both teams agree to let the score stand at the point of the disruption as the final score.

4. LEAGUE FIXTURES

4.1 Organisation of League Matches

- (i) All school matches should normally take place on schooldays or as designated by the relevant organiser RO or the PPSC. They may, by mutual agreement of coaches/schools and with the permission of the RO and/or PPSC, take place at other times within a region's timeframe for the league.
- (ii) All games must be played on or before the stated regional and national deadlines (days and times appointed) unless an extension has been granted as per (i) above.
- (iii) Where a school has two teams competing on the same day the youngest age group must always play first unless otherwise agreed.

4.2 Communication for Organisation of League Matches

- (i) The first named team will have home advantage and is responsible for communicating with the away team to arrange the fixture. In the event of a dispute the RO will rule on any regional league fixture.
- (ii) Official communication, as outlined in Section 1.5 must be used to clarify the time, date and location of the fixtures between each school. When an issue arises among or between schools that is brought to the attention of the PPSC Executive and they deem it to be a serious issue then the RO and/or SO will be authorised to use the full list of sanctions available to them to deal with the issue.
- (iv) If a team is unable to fulfil a Regional Final fixture at the pre-set date sent out by the RO in the fixtures at the start of the competition then they will be automatically replaced by the team they defeated in the semi-final.
- (iii) The League 'Round of 16' games at U19 and U16 must be organised by the Home team. The date, time and venue communicated to the SO in writing within 5 calendar days from when the school receives notification of the fixtures. Failure to comply with this will be considered a serious issue see 4.2 (ii).

4.3 Match Officials for League Matches

- (i) All referees operating in all PPSC events, both Regional and National, must be licensed and registered as appropriate with Basketball Ireland i.e. paying the relevant registration fees. Referees must be both registered and graded to officiate at 'A' grade. Students/Staff or Coaches cannot referee competitive games involving their own school at any grade.
- (ii) The home team should provide table officials. The visiting team have the right to put an observer seated at the table. They must exercise this option before the game begins.

4.4 Failure to Fulfil a Preliminary or Playoff League Fixture

Any team failing to fulfil or comply with their full playoff preliminary and/or tournament commitments will be fined €1000. If a school does not pay the fine within 2 working days the school will be automatically suspended from all competitions with immediate effect. Any further withdrawals by the same school gender within a period of 3 years from the date of incurring the first penalty will incur a fixed penalty of €1000 plus an automatic immediate suspension of all school teams from PPSC competitions for 12 months from the date of incurring the second penalty.

Once a team indicates in writing to the PPSC that they are withdrawing from a particular playoff they cannot re-enter that same playoff competition

4.5 Failure to Arrive for a League Match on Time

A team who fails to appear on the court thirty minutes after the appointed time shall forfeit the game. In exceptional circumstances, or where a team is aware they will be late arriving, a notification must be communicated to the basketball contact of the opposing school and/or the opposing school's main office, the Regional Organiser and the PPSC. Decisions on the progression of the game can then be made accordingly.

4.6 Results

Regional League Results: The winning team is responsible for sending the original score sheet to the Regional Organiser within the region's deadline for any game being played. No points will be awarded without the score sheet. The winning coach/school must also text the RO with the result before the end of the game day

4.7 All-Ireland Playoff Qualifiers and Hosting of Tournaments

- (i) Note that on completing their online registration schools would have chosen to confirm their commitment to participate fully in the National Playoff Competition which includes all games up to All-Ireland Finals. Failure to comply will result in a €1000 fine plus the enforcement of rule 4.4 in the event of a subsequent offence. This means that schools which have not made this commitment cannot advance beyond the pool stage at regional level.
- (ii) When the Regional Finalists are known, each qualifying finalist may apply to host an All-Ireland Playoff. These applications must be received no later than the day of the Regional Final. When all applications are received, the PPSC will select the most suitable venue, based on geography, facilities, seeding and availability of referees.

- (iii) There will be a refereeing fee of €25 per group game per qualifying team in the playoff tournament for the All-Ireland Playoff (Pools or Knockout) Stages. This will be paid to the host school on the day in cash/cheque or prior to the tournament via EFT/Cheque. The fee is increased to €50 if paid after the day. Teams must produce proof of payment if they are sending an EFT prior to the tournament to the PPSC. The host will submit cash/cheques paid on the day directly to the PPSC, along with the score sheets, report form and referees' claim forms.
- (iv) A copy of these Rules and Regulations plus a copy of the PPSC schedule for the particular tournament must be made available for referees and officials at the table of all All- Ireland Qualifying and Hosted Tournaments. The host school must provide this.

4.8 Supporters

School authorities and representatives shall be held responsible for any misconduct by players, coaches or supporters that may be reported by venue authorities or venue officials. Schools deemed guilty shall be subject to a fine of €1000 as assessed by the PPSC. The school is also responsible for any payments to repair damaged property. Players, supporters and team officials are obliged to adhere to all venue regulations. In all cases the school is ultimately responsible for controlling and supervising their supporters and parents.

5. SCHOOLS CUP

5.1 Schools Cup

- (i) In the case of a Schools Cup fixture, the designated home team must make contact with the away team and agree the fixture date. To confirm the fixture the home team must return a fixture confirmation form to the Basketball Ireland Schools Competition Officer via E-mail no later than 48 hours in advance of the fixture.
- (ii) In the case of a Schools Cup fixture, if the designated home team does not make contact in relation to the cup fixture, the away team may take responsibility for organising the fixture. The away team must contact the Basketball Ireland Schools officer to make them aware of the situation. This contact must be made at least 7 days before the date of the game.
- (iii) In the case of a Schools Cup fixture, after agreeing a fixture, if one of the teams is unable / unwilling to play the game they must inform the opposing team 72 hours before the scheduled time by email and phone. If these conditions are met the Basketball Ireland Schools officer may in conjunction with the other team reschedule the game depending on the circumstances. Failure to meet this reschedule fixture by the team who was unable/unwilling to play the original fixture, will lead to forfeiture by them.
- (iv) In the case of a Schools Cup fixture, a re-scheduled game must be played within 7 days of the original fixture. Where communication paths between teams and the Basketball Ireland Schools officer are not adhered to, then the team at fault will forfeit the game. The PPSC will make the final decision on this.

5.2 Failure to Fulfil a Schools Cup Fixture

Any team failing to fulfil a schools cup fixture will be fined €1000. If a school does not pay the fine the school will not be allowed to compete the following season.

5.3 Failure to Arrive for a Schools Cup Match on Time

A team who fails to appear on the court thirty minutes after the appointed time shall forfeit the game. In exceptional circumstances, or where a team is aware they will be late arriving, a notification must be communicated to the basketball contact of the opposing school and the opposing school's main office if during the day and the PPSC. A decision on how to proceed can then be made accordingly. It is in line with the ethos of schools basketball that goodwill prevails and every effort is made by all parties to proceed - if possible - with the fixture.

5.4 Cup Match Officials

- (i) All referees operating in Basketball Ireland Schools Cup events must be licensed and registered with Basketball Ireland. Referees must be both registered and graded to officiate at 'A' grade. Students/Staff and Coaches cannot referee competitive games involving their own school at any grade.
- (ii) Unregistered officials will not receive any appointments from Basketball Ireland and schools will be subject to a fine for using unregistered officials. Score sheets will be checked on a random basis by Basketball Ireland.
- (iii) Two referees and two table officials must officiate all games. If the home team can only provide one referee, they must notify the travelling team and allow them bring a referee. If the home team cannot provide any referee they must notify the travelling team and allow them bring two referees.
- (iv) In the case where a referee does not arrive, and the game does not have two referees, this must be communicated to the visiting school by the home team immediately. Basketball Ireland recommends that the game be played with one registered official. If a school decides to play the game, an appeal based on this article will not be accepted by the PPSC.
- (v) The home team must provide table officials. The visiting team have the right to put an observer seated at the table. They should exercise this option before the game begins.

5.5 Cup Results

Schools Cup Results: The designated home team is responsible for sending the original score sheets to the BICO within 5 working days of the game being played. A fine of €100 will apply after the 5 days if no score sheet has been received. No points will be awarded without the score sheets. An immediate level of communication is required (text, phone or email) so that the next round of games can be scheduled. This communication must be made to the Basketball Ireland offices before 5pm on the evening of the scheduled fixture.

5.6 Schools Cup Fixtures Setting

Where two teams cannot agree a time/date within the deadlines, the game will automatically be set by the PPSC. The PPSC reserves the right to consult the ROs for the two school teams involved to help resolve the issues.

5.7 Supporters

School authorities and representatives shall be held responsible for any misconduct by players, coaches or supporters that may be reported by venue authorities or venue officials. Schools deemed guilty shall be subject to a fine of €1000 and as assessed by the PPSC. The school is also responsible for any payments to repair damaged property. Players, supporters and team officials are obliged to adhere to all venue regulations. In all cases the school is ultimately responsible for controlling and supervising their supporters and parents of players.

6. APPEALS

6.1 Procedure for Appeals

- The PPSC Executive Committee will appoint an Appeal Committee and inform the BICO in writing. Each PPSC Appeals Committee will consist of 3 persons not having a conflict of interest.
- Each Appeals Committee will adjudicate only on the written submissions received from both sides involved in the appeal.
- Any decision can be appealed except fixed penalties included in the Rules and Regulations for that year. The PPSC will adjudicate on both the Schools Cup and League competitions.
- If you are appealing the result of a game, the scoresheet must be signed in protest by the Captain or Coach before the referees sign it.
- An appeal on the official PPSC appeals form - including the appeal fee of €300 must be lodged to the PPSC Bank Account – must be with the PPSC Secretary within 2 working days of the incident arising. The PPSC will invite written submissions from the *Appellant* and the *Respondent* within a timeframe not exceeding a further 24 hours from the formal appeal being lodged with the PPSC. Once this process is concluded and the PPSC Secretary has prepared the appeal file it will be sent to that specific PPSC appointed Appeal Committee to be heard.
- The Appeal Committee will review only the written submissions and may seek further written clarification from the *Appellant* or *Respondent* or both if they deem it necessary. This clarification will be sought on behalf of the Appeals Committee through the PPSC Secretary.
- The decision of the Appeals Committee will also be issued in writing to the *Appellant* and the *Respondent* and it will include the rationale and reasoning behind the decision-making process. Those taking part in the appeal decision will be named in the written judgment.
- If an appeal has been lodged in relation to a competition / suspension / fine etc everything involving that appeal will go on hold pending the outcome of the appeal.

- Any decision of the PPSC NEC Appeals Committee can be appealed to the National Appeals Committee (NAC), which is an Independent body, and all appeals to the NAC are processed by and through Basketball Ireland HQ. In order for an appeal of a *PPSC appeal decision* to be valid it must be received in writing at the office of Basketball Ireland. After receiving notification of the *PPSC appeal decision* the appellant must lodge their appeal to the NAC in strict accordance with the *Regulations & Bye Laws of Basketball Ireland* which govern such appeals. It is the duty of an Appellant to ensure that they fully comply with all NAC conditions in making their appeal through Basketball Ireland.

6.2 Appeal under time constraints.

- In the case of an appeal where time constraints apply, i.e., a tournament, the appeal should be made should be made to the BIO and / or PPSC representative(s) that is/are present immediately following the game or issue. An emergency PPSC Appeals Committee will be appointed by the PPSC Executive Committee as outlined in 6.1 on receipt of appeal payment and this Appeal Committee will make a ruling on the appeal. In such circumstances the tournament must proceed as scheduled even if a decision is not forthcoming. The Appellant has the right to appeal any decision made in such circumstances to the NAC following the tournament. Where no decision was forthcoming the Appellant can appeal to the NAC immediately following the tournament.

7. GRADING

7.1 Schools Grades

- (i) Schools are graded by gender, and the school grade applies to all teams of that gender within the school, i.e. Under-19/Under-16/Under-15/Under-14/Junior/Minor.
- (ii) Grades may vary between genders in a particular school.
- (iii) Schools will be graded A, B, C and in some regions D categories. Schools competing in 2 or more grades should always have their best panel of players on their first team.
- (iv) Where a school reapplies for entry into competitions after being out for two seasons, they may, at the discretion of the PPSC, re-enter at the same level or a level immediately below that grade.
- (v) A team wishing to compete below their registered school grade for the current season may only play in that grade as a friendly team and their results will not be taken into account in league placings or qualifications.
- (vi) The BICO will provide the PPSC with a full list of All-Ireland finalists in All-Ireland Competitions and of all schools who withdrew from Playoff tournaments.

7.2 Promotion

- (i) Any school competing in competitions is eligible for promotion to a higher grade at the discretion of both the PPSC and Regional Organiser.
- (ii) The winner of a D league at any age group may be promoted to the C division. The school will remain there for at least one year.
- (iii) Any school having won or been a runner-up in an All-Ireland League or Cup Final at B or C level in Minor/Junior/U14/U15/U16/U19 will be automatically promoted to the next level. This level will apply for a minimum of 2 years in league and a minimum of 1 year in the cup except in the case of the U19 league where schools will have the right to appeal for regrading after one year to the PPSC (see 7.3).
- (iv) Any school having reached an All-Ireland League semi-final at B or C level in Minor or Junior will be automatically promoted to the next level. This level will apply for a minimum of 1 year after which time the school will have the right to apply to the PPSC to be considered for regrading (see 7.3).
- (v) As a result of playing in an All-Ireland semi-final each of the schools will be notified of their automatic promotion. Schools with Under 19 finalists in League or Cup may appeal this automatic promotion within 7 days of receiving this notice by email to the PPSC Registrar using the regrading procedure as per 7.3 below. Deadline dates will be strictly adhered to.
- (vi) If a school is promoted by their Regional Organiser for any reason other than the automatic promotions listed above they have the right to appeal as per the Regrading regulation 7.3 which follows.

7.3 Regrading

A school seeking a demotion for a new season must use the official PPSC regrading form available on the Basketball Ireland website and comply with the requirements therein. Making the appeal is an online procedure.

8. LEAGUE AND CUP PLAYING RULES

8.1 Movement of Players for League Competition (Boys and Girls)

- (i) Players can only play in their own age group and the age group immediately above.
- (ii) If a 1st Year player is overage for the Minor Competition or if a 2nd Year player is overage for the Junior Competition they become automatically reclassified as a player at the next appropriate age level, taking on board the full status of that regrading and reclassification.
- (iii) If a school has a second or third team playing in competition players cannot play below the highest grade, they have played at Any Age level i.e. if you play with your team at A level then you cannot play at B Level again for the season at any age group. A maximum of two players can move from the lower grade to the higher grade at each of the defined age levels in League.
- (iv) Players moving to a new school mid-season cannot play in any League and Cup Competitions in which they have played in their previous schools.
- (v) Three Under-16 players can play Under-19. These players may be rotated from game to game but only three can be named on the scoresheet in any one game. The number "16" must be inscribed against these players' names on under-19 scoresheets.
- (vi) Three Junior players can play Under-16. These players may be rotated from game to game. Any Junior players going to play at U16 must be registered on the official Team/Player Registration Form in September as per section 2.3. The numeral "2" must be inscribed against these players' names on U16 scoresheets.
- (vii) Two younger Year 11 players (NI only) can play on the Junior team if they are of the eligible age (i.e. born between January-June 2008) and in so doing automatically become classified as a Junior. The numeral "11" must be inscribed against these players' names on Junior scoresheets. Eligible players can only play for a maximum of two seasons at Junior league level. No 3rd Years (ROI) can play in the Junior Competition at any time.
- (viii) Three Minor players can play Junior. These players may be rotated from game to game. The numeral "1" (ROI) and "9" (NI) must be inscribed against these players' names on all Junior scoresheets.
- (vii) Minor and Junior players are ineligible to play in Under-19 competition.
- (viii) Minor players are ineligible to play in Under-16 competition.
- (ix) A school may play any registered player from their Under-19 panel and 3 qualifying Under-16 players from their league panel in the Under 19 league competition. These players can change from game to game and must be inscribed with the numeral "16" on all U19 scoresheets. An exception to this rule is if any of those players have already played on a lower division Cup team. They are then Cup tied and cannot play.

8.2 Movement of Players for Cup Competition (Boys and Girls)

- (i) Players can only play in a maximum of two cup competitions in the same season.
- (ii) A player who plays on a cup team may not play on another cup team in the same grade or age group for the duration of the competition.
- (iii) A player may not play for two different schools in the same competition.
- (iv) Any number of Under-16 players can play in the Under-19 Cup competition.
- (v) Any number of Junior players can play in the Under-16 Cup competition.
- (vi) Junior players are ineligible to play in the Under-19 Cup Competition.
- (vii) Minor players are ineligible to play in the Under-16 Schools Cup Competition.
- (ix) Any players that are underage can play in both the U14 & U15 competition provided they are eligible to play under rule 8.2 (i)
- (ix) If a 1st Year player is overage for the Minor Competition or if a 2nd Year player is overage for the Junior Competition they become automatically reclassified as a player at the next appropriate age level, taking on board the full status of that regrading and reclassification.

8.3 Rules of Under-14, Under 15, Under-16 and Under-19 Cup Competitions (Boys and Girls)

- (i) Basketball Ireland is responsible for running all aspects of the U14, U15, U16 and U19 Schools Cup Competitions.
- (ii) The R&Rs outlined in the Game Procedures Section (Section 3) and the Fixtures Section (Section 4) applies to all Cup fixtures.
- (iii) Schools Cup progression rules state that a team that plays home in the first round will play away in the second round. The exception to this is where both teams have played away or home in the previous round. If this happens, the team who is higher up in the draw will play at home unless the opposing team have played more away fixtures at that stage of the competition. In such case(s) the lower placed team in the draw will have home advantage. Where a team receives a bye in any round this is recorded as a home game.
- (iv) If a team does not enter by the deadline as set out in Rule 2.1 they will not be included in the cup draw.
- (v) Any team entering a second team in the Cup competition must enter it in the same grade as their first team. This applies for the Schools Cup only.

- (vi) In the U14 & U15 Cup a team must have 10 players to legally play a game. Once the game starts if a team is reduced to less than 10 players the team must play with less than 5 in that quarter if no legal substitute is available.
- (vii) The rotation of players in U14 & U15 Cup is as follows:
 1. Five players play the first quarter
 2. A different five players must play in the second quarter.
 3. Any five players may play in the third and fourth quarters.
 4. Substitutes may only play first quarter and second half or second quarter and second half.
 5. A contravention of the rotation rules above (1-4) will result in the infringing team automatically forfeiting that game.

8.4 Rules of Minor and Junior League Competition (Boys and Girls)

- (i) The R&Rs outlined in the Game Procedures Section (Section 3) and the Fixtures Section (Section 4) apply to all Minor & Junior League fixtures.
- (ii) The rotation of players is as follows:
 1. Five players play the first quarter
 2. A different five players must play in the second quarter.
 3. Any five players may play in the third and fourth quarters.
 4. Substitutes may only play first quarter and second half or second quarter and second half.
 5. A contravention of the rotation rules above (1-4) will result in the infringing team automatically forfeiting that game.

8.5 General Rules of Minor and Junior League Competition (Boys and Girls)

- (i) A team must have 10 players to legally play a game. If they have less than 10 before the game starts they must forfeit and the score stands as 20-0 on the score sheet in favour of the team who has 10 players. The teams should then play a friendly game.
This does not apply to regional finals, playoff tournaments and national finals at Minor and Junior levels games where schools involved must have the required number of players for games to proceed. Teams may not agree to amend this rule/result. Once the game starts if a team is reduced to less than 10 players the team must play with 4 in that quarter if no legal substitute is available.
- (ii) In the case of National Playoffs where time constraints exist, schools will be given reasonable notice of their fixture. It is expected that once a school qualifies from their region, they are ready to travel at short notice. Withdrawal from National Playoffs is considered a serious breach of the Basketball Ireland Post Primary School R&Rs and is subject to a fine of €1000. Rule 4.4 will apply.
- (iii) If a region has not produced qualifiers by the cut-off date on the Calendar the region will automatically lose their qualification places. A report will be commissioned by the PPSC NEC and any schools found to be responsible for preventing the completion of the Regional Competition by the deadline will be subject to a €1000 fine by the PPSC.

9. PPSC CLASSIFICATION PROCEDURE

9.1 Classification Procedure

1. In all competitions with a round-robin system, teams will be classified according to their win-loss record, namely 3 classification points for each game won, 1 classification point for each game lost and 0 classification point for a game lost by forfeit. A forfeit is classified as:
 - A team whose actions are adjudged by the PPSC or its representative such that prevented the game from being played
 - A team that does not turn up to play or refuses to play after being instructed to do so by the PPSC or its representative.
 - In the event that a team arrives at a venue and due to extenuating circumstances – accepted by PPSC – they do not have the required number of players to play a competitive game the following will apply. They will proceed to play a non-competitive game, a loss with a score of 20-0 shall be recorded against them. It will not be classified as a forfeit and the losing team will receive 1 classification point for fulfilling the fixture taking into account the circumstances. The winning team will receive 2 classification points for a win.
 - The PPSC Executive or its representative must be consulted prior to a forfeit being awarded. School Teams or their representatives, or tournament convenors do not have the authority to award games between each other - in any circumstance - without prior consultation and permission granted by the PPSC Executive or its Representative (BICO).
2. If in the regional leagues/playoff tournaments a team forfeits for the second time, that team shall be disqualified from the regional leagues/playoff tournament and the results of all games played by this team shall be nullified.
3. Classification Procedure as follows:

In a scenario where two teams are tied:

If there are two teams tied in this classification the result of the match between the teams involved will be used to determine the placing.

In a scenario where three or more teams are tied:

If three or more teams are tied on classification points the following criteria will be used to determine classification in this order.

- (a) The win-loss results of the game(s) between these three or more teams.

If this does not separate the teams then:

(b) Higher game points difference of the games between them (i.e. points scored less points conceded in the games involving the teams' level on classification points).

If this does not separate the teams then:

(c) Higher number of games points scored in the games between them (i.e. the number of points scored in the games involving the teams' level on classification points).

If at any level of these criteria above one or more team(s) is already classified while some others are not yet classified, then the procedure will be repeated from the beginning for all the remaining teams not yet classified.

If the teams cannot still be classified using the above criteria, then a draw will be used to determine classification. The scores in the games against a team or teams that are not level on classification points will never be used in PPSC Competitions. This is to ensure that weaker teams in competitions are protected.

10. COURT MARKINGS

10.1 Introduction of New Court Markings

- (i) For all Schools' Competitions the new markings, introduced in the FIBA Rules in 2010 are preferable. Where these are in place Schools' Competitions will use the new court markings.
- (ii) In cases where the old court markings are the only markings on the court, they shall be used. However, any school using old court markings should be brought to the attention of the RO who can follow up and insist on using a preferable size one.

11. PPSC INTER-REGIONAL RULES AND REGULATIONS

11.1 Ball Size

Girls will play with a Size 6 Basketball

Boys will play with a Size 7 Basketball

11.2 Timing

The matches shall be four quarters of seven minutes each (4 X 7 Min Quarters).

11.3 Time-Outs

Two time-outs may be taken in the first half. Three time-outs may be taken in the second half with the proviso that if a Coach/Team does not use one of the three time-outs in the second half before the final two minute mark in the 4th quarter, the Coach/Team loses that time-out and will have two quarter, the Coach/Team loses the time-out and will have two time-outs remaining during the final two minutes in accordance with FIBA Rules and Regulations. One time out will be given per team in each period of extra time.

11.4 Jump Balls

There will be no additional jump balls after the one that starts the game. The first possession goes to the team who do not gain possession from the opening jump ball. Possession then alternates for the remainder of the game.

11.5 Fair Play Ruling

When a team achieves a 20-point lead over their opposition, the PPSC state that the scoreboard operator holds the lead at 20 points on the visible scoreboard. The scorekeeper will keep the actual score but the visible score will remain at a 20-point lead on the scoreboard if maintained. All coaches must abide by this and make their players aware of this 'Fair Play Ruling'. In the event of a team reducing the deficit to less than the 20-point lead, the scoreboard operator will amend the scoreboard to reflect the score in the scorebook.

11.6 Uniforms

Legal uniform numbers are 0-99 inclusive including 00. Players on the same team shall not wear the same number. Team members are required to wear uniforms of the same colour with numbers on the front and back. In the case of National Finals, players not wearing legal uniforms will not be permitted on court.

11.7 Player Eligibility

U15 Players must be born on or after the 1st January 2009. 15 players can be placed on the score sheet and can play in each game. A team that plays an ineligible player in any competition will be subject to broad sanctions, which will include disqualification of the team from the competition. Only players in fully registered PPSC schools playing in our leagues are eligible to attend trials and participate in the PPSC Inter Regionals. Players can only train and play with the region their school is assigned to by the PPSC Executive Committee and registered in. This will be documented on their PPSC registration form receipt.

11.8 Defence & Full Court Press

As with all PPSC competitions there is no restriction on defence or exerting full court pressure at any time and any team can play whatever defence and press they wish at any time.

11.9 Player Rotation

The rotation of players is as follows in U15 Inter Regional teams:

1. Five players play the first quarter
2. A different five players must play in the second quarter.
3. Any five players may play in the third and fourth quarters.
4. Substitutes may only play first quarter and second half or second quarter and second half.
5. A contravention of the rotation rules above (1-4) will result in the infringing team automatically forfeiting that game.

11.10 Only players in PPSC registered schools and playing in a minimum of one grade in our Leagues can play in the PPSC Inter Regionals.

11.11 PPSC Guidelines for the appointment, selection and participation of players on Inter Regional teams are available from each Regional Organiser or the PPSC Secretary on request.

12. HOSTING PLAYOFF TOURNAMENTS

- 12.1** The calendared dates for all Preliminary and Playoff (Pools or Knockout) Tournaments cannot be changed without the agreement, via email, of all the schools involved in any particular Preliminary or Playoff Tournament and that of the PPSC Executive. All email correspondence must be copied to the PPSC Executive at ppscec@gmail.com. This date must be prior to the calendared date.
- 12.2** The host is responsible for providing a proper regulation size indoor hall for the duration of the tournament. The hall must be approved by the PPSC NEC or its representative.
- 12.3** The host will provide an electronic scoreboard and suitable competent table officials for each game of the tournament, this must include both a scorekeeper and a timekeeper. Teams have the right to have one observer at the table during the games.
- 12.4** The host should provide a Convenor for the duration of the tournament that takes responsibility for the running of the tournament and will work closely with the BICO. The Convenor will be known in advance to the travelling teams and greet them on arrival at the venue. The PPSC Executive or its representative must be consulted on all issues that arise prior to a decision being taken. School Teams or their representatives, or tournament convenors do not have the authority to award games between each other - in any circumstance - without prior consultation and permission granted by the PPSC Executive or its Representative (BICO).
- 12.5** The Host must provide a room with complimentary subsistence i.e. tea, coffee, sandwiches for tournament officials/referees, players & coaches during the Playoff tournament.
- 12.6** It is the responsibility of each school/region to book and pay for their own accommodation (if required), transportation to and from the venue, first aid, and their own basketballs to warm up for these Tournaments.
- 12.7** It is the responsibility of each school to pay whatever the appropriate fee as laid down by PPSC for the Tournament to the Convenor on arrival at the venue.
- 12.8** It is obligatory for teams to fulfil all their fixtures at both the Preliminary and Playoff Tournaments. Failure to comply will result in a €1000 fine for the school or a suspension if they are repeat offending see Rule 4.4. Once a team indicates in writing to the BICO/PPSC that they are withdrawing from a particular playoff they cannot re-enter that same playoff competition.
- 12.9** If a player/coach is disqualified, he/she cannot participate in the team's next tournament game. If there is no game, the tournament host must immediately report to the PPSC NEC who will apply a sanction following the tournament. The PPSC will be requesting from the NRC a report from the specific Referees.
- 12.10** Teams should in normal circumstances report to the Table 30 mins prior to their tournament game beginning so as to allow the organisers adequate time to prepare the score sheet. A twenty minutes break will take place for teams playing back to back fixtures in playoffs.

- 12.11** Schools involved in playoffs (pools or knockout) can apply to host a playoff tournament. Hosting are decided by the PPSC Executive directly at their scheduled meeting as per Calendar. Schools must inform both their Regional Organiser and the Basketball Ireland Schools officer of their request to host the playoff in writing.
- 12.12** Hosts are decided, taking into account a school's placing within their regional competition in conjunction with the geographical placings of the other schools in your pool. A record of previous attendance at playoffs and of previous satisfaction as host of events are also factors in the PPSC Executive's decision to award hosts.
- 12.13** Competent table officials along with a Convenor for the event is also a requirement. The cost of the table officials and convenor will be met by the host school. The appointment and payment of referees will be made by the Basketball Ireland Schools officer. The appointments will be made by the PPSC in conjunction with the NRC Appointments Officer.
- 12.14** BIPPS is comprised of 9 geographical regions on the island of Ireland with a Regional boys and a Regional girls Organiser elected each year by the registered schools in that region at their annual general meeting. The PPSC comprises of all the voluntary Regional Organisers (RO). ROs meet as the National Executive Committee and at their AGM on a bi-annual basis they elect a Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, Registrar and Minutes Secretary who comprise of an Executive to run day to day affairs with Basketball Ireland. The PPSC National Executive Committee may appoint other specific roles as required under their Terms of Reference.
- 12.15** The PPSC Executive and Basketball Ireland Competitions Officer (BICO) administers the National Competitions element of the schedule on behalf of the BIPPS, while the ROs administer the competition up to and including the Regional League Finals in their own region.

13. INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL SPORTS FEDERATION – WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

- 13.1** A bi-annual competition will be organised for U18 'A' teams from registered schools to participate in a National 3v3 competition, the winner of which will represent Ireland in the ISF WSC (3v3). All costs of the tournament and flights as laid down by the ISF will be the responsibility of the qualifying school and met by the qualifying school.

The team selected to represent Irish Schools in the bi-annual U18 ISF WSC (5v5) competition will be selected through an invitation tournament consisting of Quarterfinalists from both the U19A Boys and Girls Cup and League competition if they wish to attend. The overall winner of this tournament will represent Ireland in the ISF WSC. All costs of the tournament and flights as laid down by the ISF will be the responsibility of the qualifying school and met by the qualifying school.

These competitions to select ISF-WSC representatives will be overseen fully by the PPSC on behalf of Basketball Ireland and the International School Sports Federation. The administration of the registration will be undertaken by BIHQ on behalf of the Governing Body. Entering a team or not in any year to represent Irish schools in ISF-WSC competition is a PPSC NEC decision. Further information is available on www.isfsports.org

14. ESSF EUROPEAN OPEN SCHOOL CHAMPIONSHIPS

14.1 ESSF European Open Championships

An annual competition may be organised for the U18 'A' teams from PPSC registered schools to participate in a competition organised by the PPSC for selection to the ESSF European Open Schools Basketball Championships. This competition is organised by the European Schools Sports Federation. It is a competition at European Level for schools. Further information is available on www.europeanschoolsport.com

15. GUIDELINES AND PROCEDURES FOR 'COVID 19'

15.1 PPSC Procedures for a School unable to fulfil a fixture due to 'Covid 19'

A school unable to fulfil a fixture due to 'Covid 19' or an issue arising from it, will automatically forfeit the fixture in order to allow the competition to proceed. Acceptance of this condition is a requirement of registering for this season.

15.2 'Covid 19' Guidelines

Government and Basketball Ireland guidelines on 'Covid 19' must be strictly adhered to at all times.

PPSC NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE - CONTACT DETAILS

- *RO = Regional Organiser*
- *EC = Executive Committee*

Name	Position	E-Mail Contact
PPSC	Post Primary Schools Officer (PPSC BISO)	ppscbiso@gmail.com
Marie O'Toole	East Boys RO PPSC Chair (EC)	ppscchair@gmail.com
Joe Shields	North-West Boys & Girls RO	northwestregiongirls@gmail.com northwestregionboys@gmail.com
PJ Reidy	Midlands Boys & Girls RO	pjreidy7@hotmail.com
Lorna Finnegan	PPSC Registrar (EC)	ppscregistrar@gmail.com
Darren Bellew	North-East Boys RO	neschoolsbasketball@gmail.com
Niamh Ni Chearra	North-East Girls RO PPSC Treasurer (EC)	neschoolsbasketball@gmail.com treasurerppsc@gmail.com
Joe Shields	West Girls RO	westregiongirlsbasketball@gmail.com
Paul Ryan	East Girls RO PPSC Secretary - (EC)	eastregionro@gmail.com ppscexecutive@gmail.com
Tommy O Mahony	South-East Boys & Girls RO - PPSC Minutes Secretary (EC)	tommyomahony@gmail.com ppscecc@gmail.com
Rosanne O Callaghan	South Boys RO	southboysbipps@gmail.com
Dominic Foster	South Girls RO	bippsouthgirls@gmail.com
Tony Hehir	South-West Boys RO	southwestbasketball@gmail.com
PJ Reidy	North Boys & Girls RO	pjreidy7@hotmail.com
Ger Tarrant	South-West Girls RO	swgball@gmail.com
Tom O Malley	West Boys RO PPSC Advisor [EC]	westregionboysbasketball@gmail.com ppscadvisor@gmail.com

Agreed by PPSC at AGM on 6th May 2023