



# Basketball Ireland

## Post Primary Schools

# COMPETITIONS HANDBOOK

## 2024/2025 SEASON

This handbook includes:

- Calendar for 2024/25
- Rules and Regulations for 2024/25
- PPSC Regional Organisers – contact information
- Head of Schools' Operations (HSO) – Contact Information
- Registration Information
- PPSC Appeal Form
- PPSC Game Scoresheet



**INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL SPORT FEDERATION**

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

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## OVERVIEW & SUMMARY OF GENERAL COMPETITIONS RULES

<b>Competition 2024/25</b>	<b><u>U-19</u></b>	<b><u>U-16</u></b>	<b><u>U-15 CUP</u></b>	<b><u>U-14 CUP</u></b>	<b><u>JUNIOR</u></b> <b><u>2<sup>nd</sup>Year/YR10</u></b>	<b><u>MINOR</u></b> <b><u>1<sup>st</sup> Year/YR9</u></b>
<b>Age Limits</b>	2006 or later <i>(PLCs are ineligible)</i>	2009 or later	2010 or later	2011 or later	2 <sup>nd</sup> Year or Year 10 student and born in 2010 or later	1 <sup>st</sup> Year or Year 9 student and born in 2011 or later
<b>Player eligibility for League Competitions</b> <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 <b>three</b> Under-16 players can play up  No Minor or Junior Players can play in the U19 League	All players Under-16. Maximum of <b>three</b> Junior Players can play up  No Minor Players can play in the U16 League			All eligible players in 2 <sup>nd</sup> Year or YR 10. Maximum of two age appropriate YR 11's (NI) can play down. No 3 <sup>rd</sup> 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 <sup>st</sup> 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.
<b>Player eligibility for Cup Competitions</b>	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		
<b>Player Rotation</b> <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.
<b>Timing: League</b>	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)
<b>Timing: Cup</b>	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.		
<b>Time Outs</b> <i>N.B. Time Outs can be reduced by PPSC to 2 in the 2<sup>nd</sup> half for tournaments and regional finals.</i>	2 timeouts in the 1 <sup>st</sup> half. 3 in the second half with max 2 used in the last 2 minutes of 4 <sup>th</sup> quarter.	2 timeouts in the 1 <sup>st</sup> half. 3 in the second half with max 2 used in the last 2 minutes of 4 <sup>th</sup> quarter.	2 timeouts in the 1 <sup>st</sup> half. 3 in the second half with max 2 used in the last 2 minutes of 4 <sup>th</sup> quarter.	2 timeouts in the 1 <sup>st</sup> half. 3 in the second half with max 2 used in the last 2 minutes of 4 <sup>th</sup> quarter.	2 timeouts in the 1 <sup>st</sup> half. 3 in the second half with max 2 used in the last 2 minutes of 4 <sup>th</sup> quarter.	2 timeouts in the 1 <sup>st</sup> half. 3 in the second half with max 2 used in the last 2 minutes of 4 <sup>th</sup> quarter.
<b>Min. Court Size</b>	24m X 13m	24m X 13m	24m X 13m	24m X 13m	24m X 13m	24m X 13m
<b>Defence &amp; Full Court Press</b>	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.
<b>Ball Size</b>	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 2024/25

### August 2024

Thurs 29th Closing date for School Cup at 12:00pm (noon)

### September 2024

Monday 2nd 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 13th Sept.)*  
 Wed 4th Closing Date for late School Cup Entry at 12:00pm (noon) - *Late fee apply*  
 Thurs 5th School Cup Draw (Under-16 and Under-19)  
 Friday 6th 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 4th October.)*  
 Saturday 7th PPSC Meeting  
 Friday 13th School Cup (U16 and U19) Round 1 (Deadline for Round 1, Friday 13th)  
 16th – 20th Schools Cup (U16 and U19) Round 2 (Deadline for Round 2, Friday 20th)

### October 2024

Friday 4th Final date for payment of late registration fee.  
 7th – 11th Schools Cup (U16 and U19) Round 3 (Deadline for Round 3, Friday 11th)  
 Monday 14th U14 & U15 Schools Cup registration opens.  
 19th– 20th BIPPS ‘Tom Collins’ U15 Inter-Regional Tournament (UL Arena)  
*Mid-Term Break: (ROI) Mon 28th - Fri 1st Nov & (NI) Autumn Half-Term*

### November 2024

5th – 8th Schools Cup (U16 and U19) Quarter Finals (Deadline for QF Friday 8th)

### December 2024

Friday 6th Regional Competition Deadline for Under-16 and Under-19 Leagues  
 Saturday 7th PPSC Meeting  
 Monday 9th U15 Girls Pools Schools Cup Finals Playoffs (Host Venues)  
 Tuesday 10th U15 Boys Pools Schools Cup Finals Playoffs (Host Venues)  
 Wed 11th Schools Cup U16A and U19A Semi Finals (Neutral Venues)  
 Thurs 12th Schools Cup U16B and U19B Semi Finals (Neutral Venues)  
 Friday 13th Schools Cup U16C and U19C Semi Finals (Neutral Venues)  
*Christmas Holidays: (ROI) Thurs 20th Dec – Mon 6th Jan & (NI) Christmas Term*

### January 2025

Tuesday 7th U19 Boys A/B/C Playoffs (Host Venues)  
 Wednesday 8th U19 Girls A/B/C Playoffs (Host Venues)  
 Thursday 9th U16 Boys A/B/C Playoffs (Host Venues)  
 Friday 10th U16 Girls A/B/C Playoffs (Host Venues)  
 Monday 13th U14 Girls Schools Cup Playoffs (Host Venues)  
 Tuesday 14th U16C Girls League Quarter & Semi Finals [Oblate]  
 Wednesday 15th U19C Boys League Quarter & Semi Finals [Oblate]  
 Thursday 16th U19C Girls League Quarter & Semi Finals [Oblate]  
 Friday 17th U16C Boys League Quarter & Semi Finals [Oblate]  
 Monday 20th U14 Boys Schools Cup Playoffs (Host Venues)  
 Tuesday 21st U16A and U19A Cup Finals [NBA] Main Court  
 Wednesday 22nd U16B and U19B Cup Finals [NBA] Main Court  
 Thursday 23rd U16C and U19C Cup Finals [NBA] Main Court  
 Friday 24th Leinster D Finals Boys & Girls [Oblate]  
 Tuesday 28th U19A Boys League Quarter & Semi Finals [NBA] Main Court  
 Wednesday 29th U19A Girls League Quarter & Semi Finals [NBA] Main Court  
 Thursday 30th U16A Boys League Quarter & Semi Finals [NBA] Main Court  
 Friday 31st U19B Boys League Quarter & Semi Finals [NBA] Main Court

## February 2025

Tuesday 4th	U16B Girls League Quarter & Semi Finals [NBA] Main Court
Wed 5th	U16A Girls League Quarter & Semi Finals [NBA] Main Court
Thursday 6th	U19B Girls League Quarter & Semi Finals [NBA] Main Court.
Friday 7th	U16B Boys League Quarter & Semi Finals (Oblate Hall)
	<i>Mid-Term Break: (ROI) 17th – 21st Feb &amp; (NI) Spring Half-Term</i>
Tuesday 25th	U16C and U19C League Finals [NBA] Main Court
Wednesday 26th	U16A and U19A League Finals [NBA] Main Court
Thursday 27th	U16B and U19B League Finals [NBA] Main Court

## March 2025

Wed 12th	Regional Competition Deadline Minor & Junior Competition
Thurs 13th	PPSC Meeting
Wed 19th	Junior C Boys League Playoffs (Host Venues)
Thurs 20th	Junior C Girls League Playoffs (Host Venues)
Monday 24th	U15A Schools Cup (Girls) All Ireland Final Round (Oblate)
Monday 24th	Minor B Boys League Playoffs (Host Venues)
Tuesday 25th	U15A Schools Cup (Boys) All Ireland Final Round (Oblate)
Tuesday 25th	Minor B Girls League Playoffs (Host Venues)
Wednesday 26th	U14A (Girls) Schools Cup All Ireland Final Round (Oblate)
Thursday 27th	U14A (Boys) Schools Cup All Ireland Final Round (Oblate)
Friday 28th	Junior B Boys League Playoffs (Host Venues)
Monday 31st	Junior A Boys League Playoff (Host Venues)
Monday 31st	Regrading window opens

## April 2025

Tues 1st	Junior A Girls League Playoffs (Host Venues)
Wed 2nd	Junior B Girls League Playoffs (Host Venues)
Thurs 3rd	Minor C Boys League Playoffs (Host Venues)
Fri 4th	Minor C Girls League Playoffs (Host Venues)
Sun 6th	PPSC Meeting
Mon 7th	Junior A Boys Quarter & Semi Finals [Oblate]
Mon 7th	Junior C Boys Quarter & Semi Finals [Central Venue]
Tues 8th	Junior A Girls Quarter & Semi Finals [Oblate]
Tues 8th	Junior C Girls Quarter & Semi Finals [Central Venue]
Wed 9th	Junior B Girls Quarter & Semi Finals [Oblate]
Wed 9th	Minor C Boys Quarter & Semi Finals [Central Venue]
Thurs 10th	Junior B Boys Quarter & Semi Finals [Oblate]
Thurs 10th	Minor C Girls Quarter & Semi Finals [Central Venue]
Friday 11th	Minor B Girls & Boys Quarter & Semi Finals [Central Venue]
Friday 11th	Regrading window closes.
	<i>Easter Hols: (ROI) Friday 11th - 28th April &amp; (NI) Spring Holidays</i>
Monday 28th	U15 A Boys and Girls Finals [NBA] Main Court
Tuesday 29th	Minor B & C Boys & Minor B & C Girls League Finals [NBA] Main Court
Wednesday 30th	U14 A Boys and Girls Final [NBA] Main Court

## May 2025

Thurs 1st	Junior A Boys and Junior A Girls League Finals [NBA] Main Court
Friday 2nd	Junior B & C Boys & Junior B & C Girls League Final [NBA] Main Court
Friday 9th	PPSC AGM (Limerick)
Sat 10th	Minor A Tournament (UL Arena)
Sun 11th	Minor A Tournament (UL Arena)

# 1. MANAGEMENT OF SCHOOLS COMPETITIONS

## 1.1 Rules and Regulations Overview

- (i) 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.
- BIPPS = Basketball Ireland Post Primary Schools  
R&R = Rules and Regulations  
RO = Regional Organiser  
PPSC = Post Primary Schools Committee (All Regional Organisers)  
EC = Post Primary Schools Executive Committee (Officers of the PPSC)  
HSO = Basketball Ireland Head of Schools Operations  
NRC = National Referees Committee  
ROI = Republic of Ireland  
NI = Northern Ireland
- (ii) The PPSC Executive Committee may impose penalties - such as disciplinary action, order and instruct that game are replayed and/or fines - for breaches of the regulations that have no specified penalty in these Rules and Regulations.
- (iii) The PPSC Executive Committee may increase or decrease penalties in the PPSC Rules and Regulations where it is determined as warranted by the PPSC Executive having considered exceptional or extenuating circumstances/evidence or due to aggravated or repeated action.
- (iv) 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.

## 1.2 Rules and Regulations Overview

- (i) Rules will be reviewed at the end of each season based on the following:
- The operations of the Schools Competitions throughout the season.
  - Proposals put forward by the Regional Organisers (ROs) and/or the PPSC.
  - Any suggestions for amendments by schools to the R&Rs must arrive with the PPSC, through the relevant RO, on or before May 1<sup>st</sup> 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](http://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 1.2(ii) and 1.2(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. This same rule also applies to new schools initially graded by PPSC at 'D'.

### **1.3 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:
  - National Under-19 and Under-16, League and Cup trophies 30<sup>th</sup> November of the following season.
  - National Minor and Junior Year League trophies plus U14 & U15 National Cups – 31<sup>st</sup> 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 15 medals for each team at U16 & U19, Minor & Junior. The RO will provide the contact details of the supplier for regional finalists wishing to order extra medals from the supplier.

## 1.4 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.

## 1.5 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.*
  - *15 medals at U16 & U19 and also 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 €30 per group game (Pools or Knockout) (i.e., two matches is €60 and three matches is €90). The only exception to this is in the Minor A Tournament in UL, where it is €25 per game.
- Each team that qualifies for an All-Ireland League Quarterfinal must pay a contribution of €30 for that match.
- There is no contribution for All-Ireland League Semi-Finals or Final.

## 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*

Schools must comply fully with the required '3 step' 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 6<sup>th</sup> 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:**  
All Players must be registered on the Player Registration Form with their RO in their respective region before they play their first game. A copy of the Registration Form is available to print out on page 35 of this Handbook. A separate form must be completed for each team.
  - *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.*
  - *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.*
  - *All Junior players playing Under-16 must be registered on the U16 player registration form in order to be eligible to play.*
  - *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.*
  - *Coaches should retain a copy of all completed registrations.*
  - *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 involved in the PPSC U15 Inter Regional Competitions to include sports coaches/managers/physios etc must comply fully with the vetting procedure in 2.4 (iv). 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 all PPSC competitions a maximum of fifteen registered players of the eligible age group may be on the scoresheet.

### 3.2 Timing

The timing of schools games is outlined below:

- Under-19 and Under-16 League Games: 4 X 8 Min Quarters
- Under-19 Cup Games: 4 X 8 Min Quarters
- Under-16 Cup Games: 4 X 8 Min Quarters
- Under-15 Cup Games: 4 X 7 Min Quarters
- Under-14 Cup Games: 4 X 7 Min Quarters
- Minor and Junior League Games: 4 X 7 Min Quarters

*NB: The All Ireland Minor Girls & Boys 'A' tournament will be reduced to 4 X 6 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. Teams will be informed of this prior to the game starting by the PPSC or RO.
- (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 Scoresheet is available for use from your Regional Organiser or printed directly from this handbook (pg. 35) which can accommodate the names of 15 players in all competitions Cup and League competitions i.e. U19/U16/U14/Junior & Minor. 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:
  - **Under-19 Competitions** *Players must be born on or after 1<sup>st</sup> January 2006. (Minor and Junior players are ineligible to play in Under-19 competitions.)*
  - **Under-16 Competitions** *Players must be born on or after 1<sup>st</sup> January 2009 (Minor players are ineligible to play in Under-16 competitions.)*
  - **Under-15 Cup Competition** *Players must be born on or after 1<sup>st</sup> January 2010 (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.*
  - **Under-14 Cup Competition** *Players must be born on or after 1<sup>st</sup> January 2011 (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.*
  - **Junior League Competition**  
*Players must be born on or after 1<sup>st</sup> January 2010 and be in 2<sup>nd</sup> Year (ROI) / Year 10 (NI). Two Year 11 (NI) players of eligible age (i.e. born Jan-June 2010) 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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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
  - **Minor League Competition**  
*Players must be born on or after 1<sup>st</sup> January 2011 and be in 1<sup>st</sup> Year (ROI) / Year 9 (NI). A player can only play in the Minor Competition for one season.*

### 3.8 Player Eligibility (Cup and League) cont.

- (ii) A team that plays or lists on the scoresheet an ineligible player in any competition will forfeit the game and may be disqualified by PPSC 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 (apart from 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 Regional League Matches

- (i) All school regional matches must start and finish during official school hours unless agreed by both schools. In exceptional circumstances the relevant Regional Organiser may request permission from the PPSC to allow a fixture outside these parameters.
- (ii) All games must be played on or before the stated regional and national deadlines (days and times appointed).
- (iii) Where a school has two teams competing on the same day in a regional competition the youngest age group must always play first unless otherwise agreed. The PPSC reserve the right to change the order of play during playoffs and national semi-finals and finals if they deem it necessary for competition and travel purposes.

### 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 1.4 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 HSO 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 time and venue communicated to the HSO 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 all grades. 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.
- (iii) All referees must be registered with their local Referee's association. Minors (U18) cannot referee schools games.

### **4.4 Failure to Fulfil a Preliminary or Playoff League Fixture**

- (i) Any team failing to fulfil or comply with their full League playoff preliminary and/or tournament commitments will be fined €1000 by the PPSC. 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.
- (ii) 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 on the specific calendared dates as set down in advance by the PPSC for that specific year. Failure to comply will result in a €1000 fine by the PPSC 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 €30 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 €60 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. The Cup competitions will be divided into northern and southern conferences. This is based on entries received so may not always be a straight split. Entry to the competition will still involve significant travel and it is likely to be outside your region.
- (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 HSO 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 Head of Schools Operations and PPSC 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 by Basketball Ireland and will automatically be removed from participation in the Regional and National League competitions by the PPSC until the fine is paid.

## **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 all grades. 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 PPSC and 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) All referees must be registered with their local Referee's association. Minors (U18) cannot referee schools games.

- (v) 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.
- (vi) 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 HSO 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

- (i) An appeal on the official PPSC appeals form (see Appendix A Pg 30) - 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.

- (ii) The PPSC Executive Committee will appoint an Appeal Committee and inform the HSO in writing. Each PPSC Appeals Committee will consist of 3 persons not having a conflict of interest.
- (iii) Each Appeals Committee will adjudicate only on the written submissions received from both sides involved in the appeal.
- (iv) 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.
- (v) Any appeal under Section 6.1 shall clearly state the grounds on which the decision is being appealed and shall include any documentary evidence considered necessary to support the appeal. The PPSC may not always hold an appeal hearing for such appeals. In this case the appellant has the right to appeal directly to the NAC.
- (vi) 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.
- (vii) The PPSC 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.
- (viii) The decision of the Appeals Committee will also be issued in writing to the *Appellant* and the *Respondent*. The decision 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.
- (ix) Any decision of the PPSC NEC Appeals Committee can be appealed to the National Appeals Committee (NAC), which is an independent body. 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. PENALTIES

### 7.1 Penalties.

- (i) Outside of automatic fines and penalties, the PPSC may impose penalties upon individual players, schools, members of schools or game officials as it sees and deems fit. These penalties may be in the form of fines, league points deduction, suspension, ordering game replays or disqualification from the Regional and National Competitions fixtures or any other penalty deemed appropriate by the PPSC from time to time. All penalties will be notified in writing to relevant schools by the PPSC representative on the PPSC Executive.
- (ii) Players, coaches, officials and schools and their representatives may be fined and/or suspended for any disciplinary incident occurring before, during or after a game. Disciplinary action may also be taken against a school for any unacceptable behaviour by its followers and /or supporters.
- (iii) Disciplinary action may be taken against a school for non-compliance in respect of their registration and participation conditions.
- (iv) Basketball Ireland strictly prohibits the use of performance enhancing, recreational or other drugs listed in the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) and FIBA Guide to Doping Control. Basketball Ireland and the PPSC will adhere to the guidelines and list of prohibited substances provided and subscribes to the National Anti-Doping Programme, operated by the Sport Ireland (SI). Severe penalties will be imposed for any infringement of these guidelines.
- (v) The PPSC reserve the right to reduce or cancel penalties due to extenuating circumstances as it sees and deems fit commensurate with the offense.

## 8. GRADING

### 8.1 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. Results can be used in an application to regrade for the following year if eligible.
- (vi) The HSO 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.

## **8.2 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. Winners and finalists of the Provincial Development (D) Leagues will be promoted to the C division and 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.
- (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.
- (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 during the regrading window (see calendar) using the regrading procedure in 8.3. 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 8.3 which follows. This will also have to take place within the regrading window (see calendar).

## **8.3 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. Please contact your RO to request a form.

## 9. LEAGUE AND CUP PLAYING RULES

### 9.1 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) Players cannot move within or between grades at any of the defined age levels in the League. If a school has a second or third team playing in competition, players must only play at the grade they are first registered at and if there are two teams at the same grade - as can occur in the Cup competition – players can only play with the team they are registered with and the team they play their first game with. i.e. if a player registers and/or plays their first game at A grade then they cannot play competitively with their school team at B grade at any time that school season and if a player registered and plays their first game at A, they cannot play with another A team at that age group.
- (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 2009) 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. In order to monitor the ‘two seasons at Junior’, all Junior League scoresheets and registrations in the North Region must be sent to the relevant RO and PPSC Executive who will retain them on record for the purpose of checking same. No 3<sup>rd</sup> 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.
- (x) Regional pool games must be played and completed within regular school hours.

## **9.2 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.
- (i) 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.

## **9.3 Rules of U14, U15, U16 and U19 Cup Competitions (Boys & Girls)**

- (i) Basketball Ireland is responsible for running the U14, U15, U16 and U19 Schools Cup Competitions.
- (ii) The R&Rs outlined in the Game Procedures Section and the Fixtures Section 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 the 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:
  - *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.*
  - *A contravention of the rotation rules above (1-4) will result in the infringing team automatically forfeiting that game.*

#### **9.4 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:
  - *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.*
  - *A contravention of the rotation rules above (1-4) will result in the infringing team automatically forfeiting that game.*

#### **9.5 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.  
*NOTE: 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 or less 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.

## 10. PPSC CLASSIFICATION PROCEDURE

### 10.1 Classification Procedure for all games

- (i) In all competitions including 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 (Note: There are no draws in basketball). 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.*
  - *It is the coach and school's responsibility to ensure that all players are eligible. A team who plays an ineligible player in any game will forfeit the game and receive 0 classification points with the winner receiving 3 classification points.*
  - *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 will forfeit the game(s) and receive 0 classification points with 3 classification points for the winning team.*
  - *If a team arrives at a venue and due to extenuating circumstances – accepted prior to the game by the PPSC – they do not have the required number of eligible players to play a competitive game the following will apply: They may proceed to play a non-competitive game. School Teams or their representatives, or tournament convenors do not have the authority to award games between each other in any circumstance without authorisation from the PPSC.*
- (ii) 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.
- (iii) 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.
  1. The win-loss results of the game(s) between these three or more teams.  
*If this does not separate the teams then:*
  2. 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:*
  3. 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 teams get fully classified at any level the classification ends at that point however 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.

## 11. COURT MARKINGS

### 10.1 Court Markings

- (i) For all Schools' Competitions the markings introduced in the FIBA Rules in 2010 are to be used.
- (ii) In cases where the old court markings are the only markings on the court, a competitive game shall not take place.

## 12. PPSC INTER-REGIONAL RULES AND REGULATIONS

### 12.1 Ball Size

Girls will play with a Size 6 Basketball

Boys will play with a Size 7 Basketball

### 12.2 Timing

The matches shall be four quarters of seven minutes each per quarter.

### 12.3 Timeouts

Two timeouts may be taken in the first half. Three timeouts may be taken in the second half with the proviso that if a Coach/Team does not use one of the three timeouts in the second half before the final two minute mark in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter, the Coach/Team loses that time-out will have two timeouts remaining during the final two minutes in accordance with FIBA Rules and Regulations. (basically you cannot carry three timeouts into the final two minutes of the fourth quarter, you lose one). One time out will be given per team in each period of extra time. Extra time is 3 minutes at all age groups. Timeouts in the second half can be reduced for Regional Final and/or playoffs by PPSC or RO, if this is to happen it will be indicated to both teams prior to the game starting.

### 12.4 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.

### 12.5 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.

### 12.6 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.

## 12.7 Player Eligibility

U15 Players must be born on or after the 1<sup>st</sup> January 2010. 15 players can be placed on the score sheet and can play in each game. 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

## 12.8 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.

## 12.9 Player Rotation

- (i) The rotation of players is as follows in U15 Inter Regional teams:
  - *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.*
  - *A contravention of the rotation rules above (1-4) will result in the infringing team automatically forfeiting that game.*
- (ii) Only players in PPSC registered schools and playing in a minimum of one grade in our Leagues can play in the PPSC Inter Regionals.
- (iii) 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.

## 12.10 Procedures for Training Regional Teams

All Regions are required to issue a notice of open trials to all registered PPSC school and allow players to attend for trial. Before a trial or training can take place each Regional Organiser must do the following:

- (i) Forward Garda Vetting Certificates for all proposed Team Management to the PPSC Executive for approval.
- (ii) List on the PPSC online inter-regional database the players who will be present at each session including their school and maintain an attendance sheet for each and every session.
- (iii) Forward a schedule of training dates, venues and times for approval to the PPSC before training can commence.
- (iv) Ensure that Child Protection Guidelines are followed in full and a minimum of two coaches are present at all training sessions.

## 13. HOSTING PLAYOFF TOURNAMENTS

### 13.1 Calendar Dates

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](mailto:ppscec@gmail.com). This date must be prior to the calendared date.

### 13.2 Host responsibilities

- (i) 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.
- (ii) 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.
- (iii) 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 HSO. 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 (HSO).
- (iv) The Host must provide a room with complimentary subsistence i.e. tea, coffee and sandwiches for the tournament officials/referees, team players & coaches during the Playoff tournament.

### 13.3 School individual responsibilities with regard to Tournaments

- (i) 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.
- (ii) 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.
- (iii) 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 HSO/PPSC that they are withdrawing from a particular playoff they cannot re-enter that same playoff competition.

## 13.4 Details on the PPSC Tournaments

- (i) If a player/coach is disqualified in any PPSC run competition, he/she cannot participate in the team's next PPSC competitive game. If there is no following game such as in a tournament the host must immediately report the incident to the PPSC NEC who ensure the sanction is correctly applied to the next competitive game following the tournament. The PPSC will be requesting from the NRC a report from the specific Referees, further sanctions may also be applied by the PPSC.
- (ii) 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.
- (iii) 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.
- (iv) 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.
- (v) 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.
- (vi) The Referee appointments will be made by the PPSC Referee Sub Committee in conjunction with the NRC Appointments Officer to all PPSC Playoffs/National Competitions.
- (vii) It is usually the Home team that changes in the event of a uniform clash of colours. However, the HSO and PPSC will make the final decision on what colour gear that teams wear in all Regional finals, National finals and any Playoffs games. If a school has only one set of gear this may necessitate wearing a set of singlets/bibs provided by the HSO and PPSC to one of the teams, to be decided by the PPSC Executive.

## 13.5 Issues during a tournament.

- (i) If any issue(s) arise during the tournament the convenor should immediately contact the Head of Schools Operation on the contact number supplied to each tournament organiser.
- (ii) The HSO will liaise with the PPSC Executive members who are assigned to be available on that day and will revert with a decision in real time.

## 14. INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL SPORTS FEDERATION – WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

### 14.1 ISF Schools World Championships

- (i) THE PPSC may invite previous U16 League and Cup winners of the appropriate age grouping - in that order - to represent them in both the 3v3 and 5v5 competitions. If these schools are unable to represent then the team may be selected through an organised invitation tournament consisting of Quarter finalists from both the U16A Boys and Girls Cup and League competition of the appropriate age group who wish to attend. The overall winner of this tournament may 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.
- (ii) 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](http://www.isfsports.org)

## 15. ESSF EUROPEAN OPEN SCHOOL CHAMPIONSHIPS

### 15.1 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](http://www.europeanschoolsport.com)

## 16. GUIDELINES AND PROCEDURES FOR 'COVID 19'

### 16.1 PPSC Procedures on 'Covid 19'

- (i) 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.
- (ii) Government and Basketball Ireland guidelines on 'Covid 19' must be strictly adhered to at all times.



## 17 PPSC NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE - CONTACT DETAILS

*RO = Regional Organiser*

*EC = Executive Committee*

Name	Position	E-Mail Contact
<b>Christine Connolly</b>	<b>Basketball Ireland</b> <b>Head of Schools Operations (HSO)</b>	<b>BI HQ Tallaght</b> Tel: <b>(01) 4590211</b> Email: <b>cconnolly@ireland.basketball</b> Mobile: <b>(086) 1772153</b>
Marie O'Toole	East Boys RO <b>PPSC Chair (EC)</b>	ppscchair@gmail.com
Joe Shields	North-West Boys & Girls RO	northwestregiongirls@gmail.com northwestregionboys@gmail.com
PJ Reidy	Midlands Boys & Girls RO <b>PPSC Finance Officer (EC)</b>	schoolsbasketball1@gmail.com
Lorna Finnegan	<b>PPSC Registrar (EC)</b>	ppscregistrar@gmail.com
Niamh Ni Chearra	North-East Boys & Girls RO <b>PPSC Treasurer (EC)</b>	neschoolsbasketball@gmail.com treasurerppsc@gmail.com
Joe Shields	West Girls RO	westregiongirlsbasketball@gmail.com
Paul Ryan	East Girls RO <b>PPSC Secretary – (EC)</b>	eastregionro@gmail.com ppscexecutive@gmail.com
Tommy O Mahony	South-East Boys & Girls RO – <b>PPSC Minutes Secretary (EC)</b>	tommyomahony@gmail.com
Rosanne O Callaghan	South Boys RO	southboysbipps@gmail.com
PPSC Executive Admin	South Girls RO	bippsro@gmail.com
Tony Hehir	South-West Boys RO	southwestbasketball@gmail.com
Gary Connolly	North Boys & Girls RO	gconnolly505@c2kni.net
Ger Tarrant	South-West Girls RO	swgball@gmail.com
Tom O Malley	West Boys RO <b>PPSC Advisor (EC)</b>	westregionboysbasketball@gmail.com

**18 PPSC APPEAL FORM**



**PPSC OFFICIAL APPEAL FORM**

*An appeal on the official PPSC appeals form below including the appeal fee of €300 must be lodged electronically into the Basketball Ireland Post Primary School (PPSC) account within 2 working days of the incident arising. Bank details here:*

**EFT Payment Details:**  
Bank Account Name: Post Primary Schools Basketball  
Branch: AIB, Lyster Square, Portlaoise, Co. Laois  
Account Number: 34294070  
NSC: 93-32-79  
IBAN: IE87 AIBK 9332 7934 2940 70  
BIC: AIBKIE2D

**School Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **School Roll Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Appellant Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

*Tick which is relevant:*

**Regional Game**       **National Game**       **PPSC Committee Decision**

**If you selected National Game please specify if it was:** **League Playoff**       **Schools Cup**

**Date of Game:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Venue of Game:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Did you sign the scoresheet in protest:** **YES**       **NO**

**COMPLETE - Details of your Appeal: (attach scoresheets or additional information where relevant)**

**Which regulation has been breached: (use extra pages as required)**

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

*For Office Use only:*  
**Date Appeal Received:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Accompanying Fee Received:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Sent to PPSC Exec:** \_\_\_\_\_



**Post Primary Player League Registration Form 2024-25** Please fill in all the details requested below:

Name of School & Roll Number:

Team:

Coach:

Gender & Region:

Grade:

Age Group: U19

U16

Junior

Minor

No.	First Name	Surname	Date of Birth	Year in School	Was this player on your school roll last year. Y/N
1.					
2.					
3.					
4.					
5.					
6.					
7.					
8.					
9.					
10.					
11.					
12.					
13.					
14.					
15.					
16.					
17.					
18.					
19.					
20.					

**Notes:**

- One Team per form. All fields must be completed and returned. Use extra sheet(s) if necessary.
- You must return registration forms to your RO before you play your first game. All players playing at that particular age group **must** be included on that Team's respective registration form.
- With regard to age clarification for example a player born in 2005 is overage for a competition which indicates it is for players born in 2006 or later. Ages for this current year at in the handbook (p.2). Your RO will clarify any further questions should you have any.