# Warwickshire Basketball Association

# U11/U13/U15/U17

# Warwickshire Youth League Rules

# 2026/27

## 1. Purpose

1.1. The purpose of the Warwickshire Youth League is to provide competitive basketball opportunities for children under the age of 18. This development league will also provide more opportunities for building a bigger and stronger workforce around coaching and officiating within the game of Basketball.

## 2. Governance

2.1. The League is administered by the Warwickshire Basketball Association (hereinafter referred to as the WBA) League committee.

2.2. Any protests, complaints and appeals against decisions by the League committee shall be dealt with by the WBA Appeals Committee.

2.3. In the event of the outcome of the protest or complaint not being accepted, further reference may be made to the Basketball England Appeals system.

## 3. Competition Format

3.1. Entry will be made on the relevant WBA Youth League entry form and payment should be made to WBA by bank transfer. The entry fee will be reviewed annually and announced in March each year for the following season. The Fee for 2026/27 is £25 per team.

3.2. The League Sub-committee will decide the size and composition of divisions.

3.3. Each team will play a minimum of 2 games against every other team in its division on a home and away basis, unless otherwise decided by the League committee.

3.4. 3pts shall be awarded for a win, 1pt for a loss and 0pts for a default.

3.5. The team with the most points will be the League Winners, the team who wins the age group play offs will be crowned league champions.

3.6. In the event of a tie between two or more teams for the championship, the results of the games between only those two teams will determine positions in the first instance, and if there is still a tie, positions will be determined by overall points' difference.

3.7. In the event of a team withdrawing or not completing 75% of its fixtures, then the record of that team will be deleted from the league tables.

3.8. Competition games will start at the beginning of October and be completed by the end of May the following year.

3.9. All games shall be played according to current Basketball England (BE) rules. except where these rules replace or enhance the BE rules.

3.10. Clubs are instructed that until further notice a full court press will not be allowed once a team is **20 points or more** ahead. If a team contravenes this instruction, they shall be penalised by the awarding of possession to the opposition at the side line nearest the point where the offence occurred. However, half court man to man or zone defence is acceptable.

3.11. Zone defence will not be permitted at the U11 and U13 age group competition. Zone defence will only be allowed during quarters 1 and 3 for U15 and U17 age group competition.

## U11 CVL Specific rules

3.12. Games will be cross court and played on 8.5ft baskets.
3.13. Teams will play on their respective courts based on the fixture list based on the relevant game, unless they have been specified to rest.
3.14. Games will start with a jump ball.
3.15. Teams should consist of 8 players. Games will be played 4 on 4. Specific games may be reduced to 3 on 3 depending on numbers.
3.16. Games will consist of 2 halves, each being 8 minutes (running clock).
3.17. Half-time will be 2 minutes.
3.18. All scored baskets will be worth 2 points. There will be no 3-point line.
3.19. If fouled in the act of shooting, the fouled player will take one free throw.
If the basket was scored, the free throw will be worth 1 extra point if scored.
If the basket was not scored, the free throw will be worth 2 points if scored.
3.20. The game clock will not be stopped for foul shots (running clock).
3.21. Individual player fouls will be called by referees but not recorded.
3.22. No time outs shall be allowed during play.
3.23. The 4 players that start the 1st half should be subbed off at the 4-minute mark of the first half. This will also be the case for the 2nd half. If a player is injured, they can be replaced with a substitution.
3.24. There is to be no full court press throughout the duration of each game. Half-court defence must be played at all times.

## 4. Registration & Licence Fees

4.1. All players and coaches must be registered with Basketball England (BE) and have the correct licence. You can register as many players for a team as you wish.
4.2. All players must have a Player licence issued by Basketball England. All Coaches must have a coach licence issued by Basketball England. All Team Managers/Game Day Delegates/or Bench Personnel must have the appropriate licence issued by BE.
4.3. All participants' licences will be checked before the start of each game by the officials. Any player or coach without the correct licence will not be permitted to participate in the game.
4.4. Any team found playing a player not registered with BE will be fined £20 and will lose the game by forfeit (20-0)

## 5. Player Eligibility

5.1. All registered National League Players are not permitted to play in any age group competition within the Warwickshire Youth League.

5.2. Any team found playing a National League registered player will be fined £20 and will lose the game by forfeit (20-0).

5.3. U11 players must be 10 or under by the 31st of August prior to the season start.

5.4. U13 players must be 12 or under by the 31st of August prior to the season start.

5.5. U15 players must be 14 or under by the 31st of August prior to the season start.

5.6. U17 players must be 16 or under by the 31st of August prior to the season start.

## 6. Officials

6.1. All officials must be registered with Basketball England (BE) and Warwickshire Basketball League and have the correct licence with current enhanced DBS and Safeguarding certificates.
6.2. All referees must have a referee licence issued by Basketball England. All table officials must have a table official licence issued by Basketball England.
6.3. All games must have at least one Level 2 or higher qualified referee and one Level 2 or higher table official.
6.4. It's the responsibility of the home team to pay for all match day officials.

## 7. Fixture Obligations

7.1. All League and Cup games shall be played Saturday and Sunday, starting no earlier than 10am and should aim to finish by 7pm, unless by agreement of both Clubs

7.2. Fixtures will be circulated to all clubs by the 31st July each year prior to the season start

7.3. Clubs will have until the 31st August each year to confirm their fixtures with the league secretary and opposing clubs. Any changes to fixtures during this timeframe will not incur a charge.

7.4. All games must be played according to the latest schedule circulated by the League Secretary.

7.5. Any club who has to postpone or rearrange a fixture must notify the League Secretary by email to youthleague@warwickshirebasketball.co.uk including reason for postponement and details of rearrangement.

7.6. Any club who has to postpone or rearrange a fixture after the 31st August or during the course of the season (even with the consent of the League Secretary and their opponents) may incur a fine of £10 per game provided that at least 7 days' notice is given. If the postponing club cannot make the necessary rearrangements within 7 days of the original schedule, it may forfeit the game.

7.7. If less than 7 days' notice is given a fine of £15 may be payable to Warwickshire Basketball by the postponing club.

7.8. In the event of late cancellation – (less than 48 hours before the scheduled tip-off time or on the day of the game by either team, a fine of £25 will be imposed and that team may forfeit the game. Further, the home side may claim court hire costs from the visitors provided they cannot cancel their booking (Proof will be required to substantiate any claims)
If the home team cancel and the visiting team have travelled, then the latter may claim travelling expenses from the League, based on mileage from their home court to the venue and return x 2 cars, which will be charged on to the home team.
* In the event of late cancellation or non-arrival of the visiting team, then the home team may claim 100% of the court hire cost from the League, which will be charged to the away team together with any officials' costs which may have been incurred.

7.9. If the visiting team fails to arrive by 15 minutes after the scheduled tip-off time, then the referee may award the game to the home team 20-0. The home team should pay both officials and a claim sent to the Treasurer within 5 days providing bank details.

7.10. If the home team fail to have 5 players ready to play within 15 minutes of the scheduled tip-off time without notification, then the referee may award the game to the away team 20-0.

7.11. Should either team decide they cannot re-arrange any cancelled game after being instructed by the League Secretary they shall be deemed to have defaulted the fixture. The game shall be awarded to the opposition 20-0 and the defaulting team shall forfeit any match points that may have accrued from the fixture. A fine of not less than £25 may also be levied against the offending team.

7.12. In the event of a team Coach being disqualified from the game and being the only licensed person on the team bench responsible and qualified for Safeguarding, the game will be abandoned and awarded to the opposition 20-0.

## 8. Results

8.1. The home team must provide a clear and legible photograph of the white copy of the scoresheet by email within 24 hours after the game to youthleague@warwickshirebasketball.co.uk. Failure to do so **wil**l incur a fine of £10.

8.2. If the score sheet is not received within 48 hours, the game may be awarded by default to the away team and points may be deducted from the home team at the discretion of the League Committee.

8.3. The match number **must** be written in the appropriate place at the top of the scoresheet. If for any reason the game does not take place, then the home team secretary must inform the League immediately by e-mail to youthleague@warwickshirebasketball.co.uk .

8.4. E-scoring remains optional for 2026/27 season.