



## **SPRING 2024 RULES**

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## ADMINISTRATIVE RULES

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- **SUSPENSIONS & FINES**

- Suspensions and fines are decided by the Commissioner. These rulings are non-negotiable. A Player may not play without settling these matters.

- **INAPPROPRIATE BEHAVIOR**

- Any inappropriate behavior, whether physical, verbal, or otherwise may result in non-refundable League removal or banning. This includes any damage to the property of the League or its venue partners.
- The Commissioner reserves the right to remove Fans, Players, or any other Guests from MBL events for any reason.
- If a Guest is subject to misconduct as determined by a Referee or the Commissioner, the Guest will be removed from the premises and banned from all MBL events until the Commissioner grants approval for their return. In extreme cases, the Player who brought the Guest may also be subject to a fine/suspension.

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## **CAPTAIN RULES**

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- **CAPTAIN CONTRIBUTIONS**

- When possible, Captains should try to help out with game management as-needed. Tasks include: clock operator, camera operator, or statistic assistant.

- **ROLE OF THE CAPTAIN**

- Captains are responsible for assigning a team's starters, minutes, roles, and any other functions of the team. Not all players are expected to play an equal number of minutes and it is in the best interest of the team to put together the most competitive lineup possible.

- **LOSING YOUR SPOT AS A CAPTAIN**

- The last place Captain for each Division is the first Captain to be replaced in the following season given that a new candidate has interest in joining. A Captain who serves as a Liaison or Director to the League cannot have their spot removed.

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## PLAYER RULES

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- **PARTICIPATION AGREEMENTS SIGNED BY ALL PLAYERS & CAPTAINS**

- [1] Liability Waiver: I will not hold the Maine Basketball League (herein referred to as "MBL" and/or "the League"), or any of their partners, accountable for any mental or bodily injury that may occur as a result of my participation in the League.
- [3] Rules Agreement: I agree to abide by all MBL rules while participating in the League and while present at buildings, parking lots, and properties of our partners. In violation of this agreement, I understand that a fine, suspension, and/or removal from the League may be assessed. I also acknowledge that poor behavior resulting in removal from the League ensures that no refund (full or partial) will be granted.
- [4] Media Agreement: I agree to allow the League to share photos and videos of myself for content, media, and marketing purposes in relation to my participation in the League.
- [5] Jersey Clause: I understand that any jersey(s) I receive as part of my participation in the Maine Basketball League are a gift from the League, not a feature I pay for, and may not be resold in any way. This includes additional jerseys that I may re-gift.

- [6] Well-Being Advocacy Clause: I understand that the Commissioner may deem me ineligible to continue playing at any moment due to injury, behavior, or any other reason.
- [7] Morality Clause: I understand that all venue partners of the League also work directly with children, educators, caregivers, families, and businesses. Thus, while attending all MBL events, I, and any guests that attend on my behalf, will adamantly refrain from being under the influence or display behaviors that may endanger themselves or others. I understand the possession of legally-obtained recreational substances, illegal substances, and weapons is strictly prohibited. Lastly, I understand that violations will result in fine, suspension, removal, or banning from the League.
  
- **GYM ACCESS**
  - Nobody is allowed in the gym for MBL events more than 15 minutes before the first game is scheduled to begin unless specifically permitted by the venue. MBL players, guests, referees, and fans must respect the time and space of other parties using the venue at all times.
  
- **STARTER MINIMUM**
  - Before Week 9, each individual Player on a Team must have started at least one game where they play the first ten minutes without being subbed out. A violation of this rule will result in 1 point deducted for each Player on their Team that does not meet this criteria. A Player may willingly opt-out of this if they choose but

they must let the Commissioner know in an email.

- **MINUTES GUARANTEE**

- Aside from the Starter Minimum, there is no Minutes Guarantee. Captains and players must work out roles among themselves. Teams are advised to put together the most competitive lineups possible.

- **PLAYER ROLES**

- Draft picks from rounds 1-3/protected players are considered starters. Draft picks from rounds 4 and 5 are considered swing players. Draft picks from rounds 6-8 are considered role players. Captains may adopt any role they choose and change the role of anyone on their team independently.

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## TEAM RULES

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- **ROSTER SIZE**

- Each Team begins with an eight or nine person roster, as drafted by the Captains.

- **PLAYER REPLACEMENT SCENARIOS**

- A Team is allowed to add a Player from the waiting list in the event of a season-ending injury or uncontrollable circumstance to a current Player on that Team. The new Player must be added before Week 6 games are played. The new Player may not exceed the star rating of the original Player. The new Player will permanently replace the former Player.
- Rosters are final once Week 6 games begin.

- **FORFEIT SCENARIOS**

- A Team can start or finish a game with a minimum of four players. If a team has five players and someone picks up their 6<sup>th</sup> foul, they will not be out of the game. Instead, each foul after that functions as a technical foul but is not considered a True Technical Foul. A team will automatically forfeit a game if they cannot field at least four players at any point and the following rule may apply:
- A Team will be fined \$100 if they do not adhere to the previous rule. With a minimum 24-hour notice given to the League and the opposing team, this fine will be waived. This fine is the responsibility of each Player to pay in equal part, not just the Captain. Players that show up are not required to pay any of the \$100

team fine (\$100 divided by number of players absent).

- **LINE OF SITE ON THE SIDELINE**

- Players on the sideline are required to stand behind the line of sight of the scorers table and broadcasting setup. A verbal warning will be given for the first two offenses in a game. A third warning will result in Loss of a Timeout. Subsequent offenses will result in a Technical Foul. These will not be considered a True Technical Foul unless deemed so by the Commissioner.



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## GAME RULES

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- **BASKETBALL RULES**

- Use Maine High School rules with the following exceptions:
  - Bonus at 7 fouls and Double-Bonus at 10 fouls.
  - Can advance the ball on timeouts in the stoppage period of either half.
  - Six foul player max.
  - Jump balls are actual jump balls, no possession arrow.

- **GAME FORMAT**

- Two 20-minute halves with running time for the first 18 minutes. Stoppage in the final two minutes of both halves. Stoppage on made baskets under one minute in the second half.

- **HALFTIME LENGTH**

- 3-minutes. May be shortened if both captains agree.

- **REGULAR SEASON OVERTIME**

- Overtime is a 2-minute period with stoppage, 2OT is 1-minute period with stoppage, 3OT is no time on the clock and the first point scored wins.

- **PLAYOFF OVERTIME**

- In the playoffs, any overtime period is 5-minutes with stoppage under two minutes.

- **TIMEOUTS**

- Each team has three 30-second timeouts per game.
- If a game goes to overtime and a team is out of timeouts, they will receive one timeout. If they have any number of timeouts going into overtime, they receive no additional timeout.

- **SUBSTITUTIONS**

- Players are required to check-in with the statistician at the scorer's table anytime they enter or return to the game. They may only enter the game on a dead-ball or at the discretion of a Referee.
- No substitutions may be made on the fly and a violation of this rule will result in a technical foul. These will not be considered a True Technical Foul unless deemed so by the Commissioner.
- If the Referee stops the game due to an injury, the player(s) who were injured must be substituted, no matter what.

- **TRUE TECHNICAL FOULS**

- Two True Technical Fouls will result in an ejection from the game and a \$20 fine OR 1-game suspension (player's choice). In some cases, the amount/duration may be increased and player choice may be revoked or limited.

- In the span of a season, each True Technical Foul after the second will result in a 2-game suspension AND \$20 fine. If a player is assessed more than three True Technical Fouls in the span of a season, they will be ineligible for the remainder of the season.
- All intentional or flagrant fouls are considered a True Technical Foul and will result in two free throws and possession of the ball.
- One Technical Foul (Dangerous Play/Inappropriate Behavior) will result in immediate banning from the League.
- These rulings and all suspensions still apply to the Playoffs including the League Championship game.

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## STANDINGS & PLAYOFF SEEDING RULES

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- **PLAYOFF SPOTS**

- The top-eight Teams from across the League will make the playoffs including:
  - Sebago Division Winner (S1)
  - Atlantic Division Winner (A1)
  - Atlantic Division Runner-Up (A2)
  - Kennebec Division Winner (K1)
  - Midcoast Division Play-In Winner (M1 vs M2)
  - Sebago Division Play-In Winner (S2 vs S3)
  - Atlantic Division Play-In Winner (A3 vs A4)
  - Kennebec Division Play-In Winner (K2 vs K3)

- **TIEBREAKERS FOR REGULAR SEASON & PLAYOFF SEEDING**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Criteria: Win Percentage
  - *Number of Wins / Number of Games Played = Win Percentage*
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Criteria: Point System
  - Forfeit Loss = -1
  - Loss by 10 or more = -1
  - Starter Minimum Violation = -1 (per violation)
  - Loss = 0
  - OT Loss = 1
  - Win = 4

- Win by 10 or more = 5
- Forfeit Win = 5
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Criteria: Total Regular Season +/-
  - *Points Scored - Points Allowed = Total Regular Season +/-*

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## OTHER RULES

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- **AWARD VOTING**

- Awards will be voted upon by players and league officials towards the end of the Regular Season. Only league officials, players, and approved voters may cast official votes.
- A Player must play in at least 75% of the season's games to be considered for an award or honor. Injured players must play in at least 60% of the season's games to be considered.

- **IF YOU MADE IT THIS FAR ...**

- Anyone who sends the Commissioner an email with these rules attached as a .pdf (proving they both read and downloaded the rules) by March 15, 2024 will receive five entries in the end-of-season giveaway.

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## **RESOURCES**

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### **PRIMARY CONTACT**

Nicareece Hunter (He/They)

Owner & Commissioner

[nicarex99@gmail.com](mailto:nicarex99@gmail.com)

### **SECONDARY CONTACTS**

Josh Berard (He, Him)

Kennebec Division Liaison

[ballaboveall@icloud.com](mailto:ballaboveall@icloud.com)

Ryan Martin (He, Him)

Sebago Division Director

[ryanmartinhoops33@gmail.com](mailto:ryanmartinhoops33@gmail.com)

### **MBL LINKS**

[Website](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [YouTube](#) | [TikTok](#)

### **SPONSOR LINKS**

[Miller Fitness](#) | [Blossom Cannabis](#) | [Walker's Landing](#)

### **VENUE LINKS**

[AYCC](#) | [LRHS](#) | [MBA](#) | [MAC](#)