39th Annual Best in the West AAU Girls Basketball Tournament

Dates: May 7-9, 2027 (Friday, Saturday & Sunday) / All teams are guaranteed 4 games.

Location: Yakima, WA

Contact: Carrie OHara-Gutierrez / PO Box 9757, Yakima, WA 98909
CALL 509-453-2696 - TEXT OR CALL 509-388-1722 / Email: carrie@ieaau.org

Deadlines & Fees: **REGISTER & PAY ONLINE BEFORE**: FRIDAY April 23, 2027 Early fee of $375
LATE REGISTRATION FEE STARTS: SATURDAY, April 24-28, 2027 $400
NO ENTRIES ACCEPTED AFTER APRIL 28, NO EXCEPTIONS, SIGN UP EARLY!
AAU membership is not included in the price of the entry fee. Payments can be made online with VISA, Discover Card, MasterCard or American Express

Online Registration: **https://basketball.exposureevents.com/store?storeorganizationid=31359#events**

Game Times: Friday: 5:30, 6:50, 8:10, 9:30pm (possibly 6:00, 7:20, 8:40pm)
Saturday & Sunday: 9:00, 10:20, 11:40, 1:00, 2:20, 3:40, 5:00, 6:20

Divisions: Girls: 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th Grade, HS Same School
*Note: Graduating seniors (class of 2027) can only participate in the 12th Grade division.

AAU Membership: This event is sanctioned by the Amateur Athletic Union of the U.S., Inc. All participants must have a current AAU membership before the event begins. Visit the AAU website (www.aausports.org) to obtain membership. BE PREPARED! Please allow 10 days for adult memberships to be processed.

2027 AAU Membership Fees: Player $22 / Coach $55 or $75 for 2 years
All players and coaches must have an AAU Card. If it is found that a player is participating without a current AAU card, your team will be subject to forfeits of games with no refund of tournament fees paid. **REMEMBER: Membership cards don't get you into the game for free. Only players that are playing are allowed into the game free must be in uniform.**

The Lystedt Law Washington State has passed a law requiring youth coaches, athletes and parents/guardians complete certain criteria regarding the recognition and treatment of head injuries during sporting events. ALL PARTICIPATING TEAMS must complete the attached form and return it to the Inland Empire AAU office with the tournament entry form. We only need 1 form per team per year!

Tournament Rules:

1. **Players can only play for ONE team during tournament play. They cannot play in multiple grade divisions and or on multiple teams. Your team will forfeit, please inform your parents**. Girls cannot play on boys teams and boys cannot play on girls teams.
2. Players cannot wear jewelry of any kind during games, even if it is taped and/or covered up.
3. Players must be enrolled in kindergarten or older. **NO PRE SCHOOLERS.**
4. Players cannot switch teams once games have started.
5. We reserve the right to refuse a team's entry into our events.
6. Entry fees will not be refunded after the final deadline if you drop from the tournament.
7. Scorekeepers – each team is to have ONE person to keep the individual score sheet that is provided in your coaches' packet. One scorekeeper per team will be allowed into the game free of charge. Please leave scoresheets with the gym supervisor after your game.
8. Coaches – Only ONE coach per team is allowed into the game free, but more than one may coach.
9. Admission – The gyms are run by clubs and the proceeds from admissions goes back to their clubs for youth activities. Friday: Adults $7, Students $5. Saturday: Adults $7, Students $5. Sunday: Adults $7, Students $5 - PLEASE INFORM YOUR PARENTS!

Rules of Play

2026-2027 High School Federation Rules will be used with the following exceptions:

1. **Warm Ups:** 10 minutes or until the next game time, whichever is longer. Gym will be open 30 minutes before the start of the first game. Officials **cannot** start games early! Fans who arrive on time would like to see the start of the first quarter, not the start of the second quarter!
2. **Forfeits:** Forfeit time is game time. No exceptions. If a team shows up late, the officials will work a short game with running clock in order to be ready for the next scheduled game.
3. **Basketballs:** 1st – 3rd Grade teams will use the 27.5" ball (junior size). 4th – 6th grade boys and 4th grade girls teams and up will use the 28.5" ball (women's size). Boys 7th grade and up will use the 30" (men's size) ball.
4. **Quarters:** 1st – 4th Grade: 6 min / 5th – 8th Grade: 7 min / all other divisions: 8 min
5. **No 30 second shot clock.** Over and back line in use with a 10 second backcourt count.
6. **Press Rule: NEW 1st 2nd and 3rd Grade, 8 points**
   4th – 8th Grade: 15 points / all other divisions: 20 points. No full court press once your team is up by more than 8/15/20 points. Your team must retreat back inside the 3-point arc until opponent crosses the center line with the ball, then you are allowed to play defense. The offense has the option to cross the center line at any time, however the 10 second backcourt count only starts when the defensive team is behind the 3-point arc.
7. **Free Throw Violations:** 5th Grade Girls and below and 4th Grade Boys and below:
   a. When shooting a free throw, the shooter must start from behind the free throw line. If the shooter steps on or over the line before the ball touches the rim, it is NOT a violation.
   b. The shooter cannot rebound the ball at any time during a free throw.
   c. A player other than the shooter must have control of the ball before the shooter can handle the ball. If the ball is in control of the shooter after the free throw, this is a violation and the opponents will receive the ball out of bounds.
8. **Technical Fouls:**
   a. Each count as 1 of 5 personal fouls on a player and 1 team foul.
   b. Automatic 2 points and the ball awarded out of bounds. No free throws.
   c. One sportsmanship technical on a coach or fan and they are ejected from the gym. One sportsmanship technical on a player and they are required to sit on the bench for the remainder of the game.
   d. If a coach or fan that has been ejected from the game does not leave the gym (including standing in the doorway and watching the game) or continues to question the official after the foul has been called, he/she will receive a second technical foul and will not be allowed to coach or watch the next league game. The team will be subject to disqualification from the league with no refund of fees paid if the coach or fan returns.
9. **NEW 2023 foul shot rule**: On the fifth foul and any other foul in the quarter, for either team in any quarter, two foul shots will be shot. The fouls in the fourth quarter will be carried over into overtime if there is overtime.
10. **Intentional Fouls:** Two points and the ball awarded out of bounds.
11. **Half Time:** 5 minutes
12. **Overtime: NEW 2023** One - 2 minutes overtime. If no team wins during overtime, teams go into sudden death, first point scored is the winner.
13. **No running clock when a team is up by 40 or more points.**

Reminders

1. No jewelry or hair clips are allowed during games, **No Exceptions**. Taping earrings or hair clips is **NOT OK**. Be sure to take out all earrings and hair clips and take off necklaces and bracelets.
2. We reserve the right to refuse any team's entry into our events.

Rosters: FINAL Rosters are due by TUESDAY MAY 4, 2027

Rosters must be fully completed including current 2027 AAU membership # for your entry to be accepted into the tournament and placed on the schedule, so they can be properly verified.

We know you have planned for this great event for a while Yakima Valley Sports Authority and AAU prides itself of sportsmanship and fair play.