

Barnyard Basketball Rules

Welcome to Barnyard Basketball! In this exciting twist on the classic game, teams will compete 3-on-3 while incorporating barnyard animals into their gameplay. Animals are randomly assigned for each game. Below are the official rules for this unique event:

General Gameplay Rules

1. **Team Composition:** Each team consists of three players on the court at a time. Substitutions are allowed during the game.
 2. **Animal Assignment:** Animals are randomly assigned before each game. Options include mules, donkeys, goats, llamas, alpacas, and sheep. Teams must use the assigned animals.
 3. **Game Duration:** Games are 15 minutes long or until one team reaches 21 points. Each game has a running clock.
 4. **Court Setup:** The court is a standard half-court setup. Two games will be played on a full court at the same time.
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Animal Interaction Rules

1. **Riding Rules:**
 - Only mules can be ridden. Riders must remain seated on the mule while dribbling or attempting to score.
 - Players may dismount a mule to retrieve loose balls but must remount before continuing play.
 2. **Non-Riding Animals:**
 - Donkeys, goats, llamas, alpacas, and sheep cannot be ridden. Players must lead these animals by halter or leash.
 - Animals must remain under control at all times. Excessive pulling or inappropriate handling is prohibited.
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Scoring and Ball Handling

1. Players must dribble the ball while leading or riding animals.
 - For ridden mules, dribbling can occur from the saddle.
 - For non-ridden animals, dribbling must be done while walking alongside the animal.
2. **Passing:** Players may pass to teammates but cannot throw the ball over an animal's head to prevent confusion or distress.

3. **Shooting:**

- Players may attempt shots while riding or leading an animal.
 - Players leading non-riding animals may step away momentarily to shoot but must return to the animal immediately after.
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Fouls and Violations

1. **Animal Handling Fouls:**

- Rough handling or improper use of animals results in a turnover and possible ejection from the game.

2. **Traveling:** Players leading animals must continue moving with the animal while dribbling. Stopping movement without dribbling results in a turnover.

3. **Technical Fouls:** Unsportsmanlike conduct, such as distracting animals or opposing players, results in one free throw for the opposing team.

Additional Game Rules

1. **Timeouts:** Each team is allowed one 2 1-minute timeout per game.

2. **Animal Substitutions:** If an animal becomes distressed or uncooperative, a handler will assist, and a replacement animal may be provided.

3. **Handlers:** Volunteer handlers are present to assist with animals as needed but cannot interfere with gameplay.

Safety Guidelines

1. Players and animals must wear appropriate safety equipment. Helmets are mandatory for all players and riders.

2. Animals must be treated with respect and care at all times. Any abuse or neglect results in immediate disqualification.

3. Animal handlers will be on-site to ensure animal welfare.

Enjoy the game, embrace the chaos, and have fun while raising funds for the El Paso County Fair & Events Center!