

3v3 Tournament Rules & Format

GAME FORMAT

- Games are **3-on-3**.
- Every game is played to **21 points**.
- The first team to reach **21 points wins**.
- All teams are guaranteed a **minimum of 3 games** through pool play.
- Tournament officials have final authority on all rules, scoring, fouls, and disputes.

SCORING

- Baskets made **inside the arc = 1 point**.
- Baskets made **outside the arc = 2 points**.
- First team to **21 points** wins the game.

POSSESSION

- A coin flip or designated pregame method will determine the first possession.
- After a made basket, possession changes to the opposing team.
- Following a defensive rebound, steal, or other change of possession, the ball must be **cleared beyond the arc** before the team can attempt to score.
- Play begins/restarts with a **check ball at the top of the arc** following dead balls.

FOULS

- Fouls will be called by tournament officials.
- Shooting fouls inside the arc result in **1 free throw**.
- Shooting fouls outside the arc result in **2 free throws**.
- Unsportsmanlike, intentional, or excessive contact may result in free throws, loss of possession, player ejection, or team disqualification at the discretion of tournament officials.
- Players are expected to compete hard while maintaining good sportsmanship.

POOL PLAY

The tournament begins with **30 pool-play games**.

Every team is guaranteed at least **3 games**.

At the conclusion of pool play, all 20 teams will be ranked based on their pool-play performance. The Top 10 teams will advance to the single-elimination playoff bracket, while teams ranked #11–#20 will be eliminated.

SEEDING

Teams will be seeded using the following order:

1. Win-loss record
2. Head-to-head result, when applicable
3. Point differential
4. Total points scored
5. Coin flip/random draw if teams remain tied

Point differential may be capped per game at the tournament director's discretion to discourage teams from unnecessarily running up the score.

PLAYOFF FORMAT

The Top 10 teams advance from pool play.

Seeds #1–#6

The six highest-ranked teams receive a **bye directly into the Quarterfinals**.

Preliminary Round

The bottom four qualifying teams compete for the final two Quarterfinal spots:

#7 vs. #10

#8 vs. #9

The two winners advance, creating an **8-team Quarterfinal field**.

Quarterfinals

8 teams — 4 games

The bracket will be:

#1 vs. Winner of #8/#9

#4 vs. #5

#3 vs. #6

#2 vs. Winner of #7/#10

Winners advance to the Semifinals.

Semifinals

4 teams — 2 games

Winners advance to the Prairie Bowl Championship.

Championship

2 teams — 1 game

The winner is crowned the **DBL Prairie Bowl 3v3 Champion**.

TOURNAMENT GAME TOTAL

The logo is a shield-shaped emblem with a yellow border. Inside, there's a stylized basketball at the top, a landscape with an oil pumpjack and a drilling rig in the middle, and the text 'DAKOTA BASKETBALL LEAGUE' at the bottom. A large, stylized 'DBL' is in the background.

Round	Game
Pool Play	30
Preliminary Round	2
Quarterfinals	4
Semifinals	2
Championship	1
Total Playoff Games	9
TOTAL TOURNAMENT GAMES	39

SPORTSMANSHIP & CONDUCT

The Prairie Bowl is intended to be competitive, physical, and fun. Fighting, threatening behavior, harassment of officials, or repeated unsportsmanlike conduct will not be tolerated.

Tournament organizers reserve the right to **eject a player or disqualify a team** when necessary to protect participants, officials, spectators, and the integrity of the tournament.

39 Games. One Champion. Welcome to the Prairie Bowl.