

White Bear Basketball Association
Traveling Team Guidelines

I. Objectives

1. The objective of the traveling team program is to offer participation in a competitive situation.
2. The association's efforts are ultimately directed to the development of players for successful varsity programs. Based on this objective, the Association supports and works directly with the White Bear Lake Basketball Program and the varsity coaches.

II. Philosophy

1. We believe that basketball is a fun game and should always be fun. We are committed to developing our players, teams, and program yet we will not lose sight of the fact that enjoying ourselves is central.
2. Accepting roles and making individual sacrifices is important. It should be clearly understood that each player's skill level, athletic ability and attitude will determine the type of role he/she may play. More emphasis will be placed on winning in the traveling program than the Community Services program.
3. Each player will play a minimum of 40% of the game averaged over the course of a season. All players will contribute to the team's success and will be treated with respect.
4. In order for our teams to reach their potential, we must have players that are willing to work together. Friendships that develop from this experience will endure long after the season ends.

III. Player Selection

1. There is a standardized system for conducting tryouts. Players will be evaluated on a series of drills and scrimmages. Players will be evaluated by independent judges outside of the WBL School District.
2. Teams are to be selected by the coaches as defined by the player selection guideline. The proposed teams are then presented to the Board for approval.
3. The WBBA follows an equal team philosophy for 5th grade (or lower), and "A" team/"B" team philosophy for 6th through 8th grades.

4. For equal teams, player selection will be determined either cooperatively or by a coin flip. If a coin flip is used, the winner gets the first pick. The loser then picks players two and three. The winner then picks players four and five. After that, the coaches alternate one selection per round. In the case of parent/coaches, the coach's child shall always be that coach's third round selection.
5. If a player on an equal team desires to play with a different team than the team for which he/she is selected, and the coaches are able to negotiate a fair "trade" of players, a player may change teams. Otherwise, a player is required to play for the team for which he/she is selected.

If a player declines to play for a team for which that player is selected, the player shall be barred from participating in the White Bear traveling program for that playing season and the next season.

For "A"/"B" teams.

The first 5 ranked players must be placed on the "A" team. The remaining "A" team roster must be chosen from the designated team size plus 4 (e.g. team size of 8, top 5 for sure, remaining roster must be picked from numbers 6-12). This process is repeated for "B" team selection.

Exceptions to this process must confer with the board.

6. If a player declines to play for, or quits a team for which that player is selected. That player's situation will be handled by the WBBA Board. The WBBA board reserves the right to ban the player from this WBBA association.
7. We will attempt to fill two teams per grade and generally 10 players per team. If more than 10 players and less than 20 qualify every effort will be made to fill two teams, providing a coach is available. If three teams are planned for a grade, each team shall consist of ten players only.
8. For those players not selected to a traveling team, the Community Service Department sponsors an in-house program for fourth through eighth graders.
9. Coaches will select different quality level tournaments to coincide with the two tier system.

10. All attempts will be made to have rosters consist of players who reside in the White Bear Lake School District or attend White Bear Lake Area public or private schools. If a non-resident plays to help fill out a roster, they will be allowed to try-out the following year. A non-resident may not take the place of a resident or a White Bear Lake student.
11. Players who have registered for tryouts and cannot participate due to an injury or illness must submit a reason for absence prior to the tryout. If the reason is approved by the WBBA board that player can be considered for a team based on the player's past playing experience, with input from past coaches.
12. Players excused due to severe injury or contagious illness must present a signed doctor's release indicating that the player is medically fit before they will be allowed to participate in any WBBA activities.

IV. Coaching

A. Selection

1. Coaches must be able to work with youth players and have an appropriate level of knowledge and expertise for the age and ability level of the team. Demonstrated past experience in coaching and playing will be strongly considered.
2. The Board of Directors will make up the search/selection committee. It shall be the responsibility of this committee to identify potential candidates and make the final decisions.
3. Anyone interested in coaching should submit an application to the Board of Directors by the June association meeting.
4. All coaches will be selected by the July association meeting.
5. Each team will have a head coach and an assistant coach approved by the board.

B. Requirements

1. The WBBA will attempt to have all coaches certified by the National Youth Sports Coaches Association (NYSCA).
2. All coaches are required to attend clinics led by the WBL varsity head coaches and staffs.

3. Coaches must use the coaching guidelines issued by the varsity coaching staff. These may include: drills, skill development, plays, defenses, strategies, and handling of players.
4. Association coaches will receive grade appropriate guidelines in writing from the varsity coaching staff.
5. Guidelines will be distributed to coaches, players and parents.

C. Coach/Player/Parent Relations

Coaches are selected by the WBBA Board of Directors and are ultimately responsible to the Board. Most concerns will be minimal if the Bylaws and guidelines are being followed by the coaches and understood by players and parents.

1. If a player or parent has a question or concern, it should be discussed with the coach. (These discussions should take place after the “emotion of the moment” has passed and in a relatively private setting.) All discussions should be open, honest, and respectful.
2. If a resolution cannot be made, either party should contact the appropriate Boy’s or Girl’s Director. The Director will review the situation with both parties and try to resolve the issue.
3. If necessary, either party or Director can request a review by the entire Board of Directors. The decision of the Board is final.

V. (Coach/Player/Family/Expectations)

1. All players are expected to attend all practices and games. If for some reason you are unable to attend, let your coach know.
2. Be on time!
3. Treat others with dignity and respect on and off the court.
4. Be positive and embrace the team attitude. If you feel down or confused about your role on the team, talk to your coach on an individual basis.
5. No profanity.
6. Be extremely respectful to the officials and never challenge their calls or respond in a negative manner. The coaches will deal with officials.

7. Compete hard, but treat our opponents with respect.
8. All players are required to line up and congratulate their opponents after the game.
9. **SPORTSMANSHIP...** This program is aimed at giving the youth of our community the opportunity to have fun through basketball, while developing self-discipline, team spirit, physical and mental fitness, good sportsmanship in winning and losing, and respect for others. Unsportsmanlike behavior will not be tolerated and is subject to review by the WWBA.
10. A signed medical waiver is required to be kept with coaches at all practices, and games.

I have read and understand the guidelines outlined above.

This signed form must be returned to your coach before you will be allowed to practice.

Coach signature _____ Date _____

Parent signature _____ Date _____

Player signature _____ Date _____

Thank you for your support

White Bear Lake Basketball Association