

USCAA
BOYS BASKETBALL PROGRAM
RULES & REGULATIONS
(Revised April, 2005)
(Approved September, 2005)

Purpose:

- The purpose of the Upper St. Clair Athletic Association's (the "USCAA") Boys Basketball Program is to provide an opportunity for boys of township residents to learn and play the game of basketball.
- The emphasis of the program is to create a recreational environment in which the participants can have fun and enjoy the experience of a team sport.
- A league format is structured to introduce the participants to competitive team play. AT ALL TIMES THE RECREATIONAL ASPECTS OF THE PROGRAM WILL REMAIN THE PRIMARY OBJECTIVE WITHIN THE COMPETITIVE FRAMEWORK OF THE LEAGUES.
- Equal playing time for all participants is stressed and exposure to all court positions is encouraged. Minimum playing time, in terms of quarters or minutes played, is established for all age groups and must be adhered to by all coaches. EVERY PLAYER MUST PLAY A MINIMUM OF TWO (2) QUARTERS IN EVERY GAME PLAYED.

Eligibility:

- Boys of current residents of Upper St. Clair are eligible to participate. In addition, boys of families who can substantiate that they are moving into the township during the season are eligible to participate.
- The Boys Recreation Basketball Program is administered by the USCAA in cooperation with Upper St. Clair Township, Department of Parks & Recreation. The Township Department of Parks & Recreation will register all participants, collect fees, provide team shirts, balls, score books and equipment. The Township will obtain permits for the gym time required to provide at least two (2) sessions per week per team. The Township will pay the costs of a game official.
- The Boys Basketball Program is structured based on the grade the child is registered in school.
- A fee per participant will be established by the Parks and Recreation Department each year and payment must accompany the registration form submitted to the Parks and Recreation Department. There will be a registration date deadline and a maximum number of participants per grade group.

- Any registration received after the deadline or above the maximum number will be subject to placement on a waiting list.
- High school players on the Freshman, Junior Varsity or Varsity teams may, at times, be prohibited by the high school Basketball coach from participating in the USCAA Winter program. The registration period will be extended for high school students who do not make the high school teams but wish to play in our program.

Grade Groups:

- Boys only will be permitted into the Boys program.
- Age groupings will be based on the age groups stipulated by the current grade level. In order to participate in our program, a player must be at least in the third (3rd) grade level of the current school year.
- All players must play in their own grade level. A player may not play up or down in another grade level.
- Leagues are formed for each grade level for 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th, and mixed leagues for 3rd/4th and also for 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th.

Program Administrator:

- The USCAA Board of Directors appoints a Boys Basketball Commissioner who is responsible for the overall administration of the Winter Boys Basketball Program. Such responsibility includes, but is not limited to, the following:
 1. Equipment requirements including uniforms, balls, etc.
 2. Gyms availability for practices and games through the Township Parks & Recreation Department.
 3. League structure and Grade levels.
 4. Referees.
 5. Compliance with rules and disciplinary procedures.
 6. Clinics may be provided for coaches and players.
- To assist in this effort, the Commissioner, approved by USCAA, will select on an annual basis, individuals to act as League Directors for the various age groups. The Commissioner may also appoint an Assistant Commissioner from the USCAA Board to assist in the administration.

League Director Responsibilities:

- The League Directors are assigned the following responsibilities within their respective age group:
 1. Formation of teams as determined by the size of the league – The Commissioner will determine the appropriate number of participants in each league based on registration received and projected late registrants. Every player will be assigned to a team so long as he was registered prior to the end of the registration period and prior to the maximum number of players being met. Late registrants will be maintained by the League Director in the order in which the registrations are received and players will be placed on teams from the waiting list if and when space becomes available.
 2. League Balance – The Director will strive to achieve competitive balance among all the teams within the age group. Players will be distributed among the various teams based on their ratings from the annual tryouts. If the child chooses not to participate in the tryout format, previous basketball experience or other known facts about the playing ability of the child will be used. The talent of the participants will be divided equally to avoid unusually strong teams and weak teams. Teams should have an equal number of similarly rated players.
 3. Coach Selection – The Director will identify individuals who have noted on their child's registration form or otherwise indicated a desire to coach or to assist in coaching a team. From the available pool of volunteers, priority will be provided to coaches who satisfy the following criteria and USCAA approval, in the listed order of preference:
 - a. Have demonstrated good sportsmanship and mature behavior in handling young people.
 - b. Have exhibited a proper understanding of the purpose and objectives of the Boys Basketball Program and the USCAA.
 - c. Have the potential to enhance the Boys Basketball Program, in general, and contribute to the positive development of the participants, in particular.
 - d. All coaches must abide by the USCAA Code of Conduct.
 - e. The Boys Basketball Commissioner and USCAA Board will review and approve all coach selections prior to notification of the coaches.
 4. Gym Time – The Directors will be responsible for selecting coaches and preparing weekly game schedules and practice times.

- a. Each recreation team will have no more than 10-12 players.
- b. Each player will play at least two (2) quarters per game. (Including play-off games.)
- c. 3rd/4th, 5th and 6th grades – When the ball changes hands, the defense must permit the offense to bring the ball across mid court. (No back court violations.)
- d. Each Director will be responsible for a single or double elimination tournament as a culminating activity for the end of the recreation season.
- e. All results of these tournaments should be given to the Commissioner.
- f. Pregame Practice – About the first twenty-five (25) minutes each week will be used for practice and warm-up.
- g. All players will wear uniforms that have been issued by the Parks and Recreation Department. These uniforms shall not be altered.

TRAVELING BASKETBALL RULES

Purpose:

- The purpose of the traveling program is to provide the better players the opportunity to participate at a higher level. Selecting a coach who will teach the boys the game of basketball and cause them to have a positive experience is of primary importance. In addition, selecting a coach who properly represents the USCAA and follows the guidelines of the USCAA is important. The size of the teams is small so that all the participants receive significant playing time. The Traveling Coaches are given playing time guidelines they must follow.
 1. Commissioner will select travel coaches for each grade level – 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, and 8th with USCAA board approval.
 2. There will be 10 to 12 traveling players on each team. These players will be selected from the recreation rosters after a series of tryouts. These tryouts are conducted by unbiased evaluators and/or high school coaches including selected varsity players. This selection process will be held in November prior to the recreation season.
 3. During the regular season each player will play at least one (1) full quarter or equivalent minutes per game.
 4. During tournaments the coaches will use their own discretion to the amount of playing time per player. All players should play in every game.

5. Traveling coaches will be responsible for the distribution of uniforms and collection of these uniforms at the end of the season.
6. Traveling coaches will collect all registration fees and forms and birth certificates.

Any false or misleading information contained in the Winter Boys Basketball registration form, particularly regarding the birth date of the Participant and residency, will affect the child's eligibility for USCAA's Boys Basketball Program. Birth certificates will be required for any registrant whose birth date on the registration form is not consistent with previously submitted data or other available records.

7. Traveling coaches will be responsible for assistant coaches' and all players' actions and at home and away games.
8. A fee will be assessed for each player for traveling games and tournaments.
9. Maximum number of tournaments per grade level per year is four (4).
10. Teams are not to enter any tournaments starting after April 15th.
11. Commissioner will make all decisions for the traveling teams concerning practices, games and tournaments.
12. Players are not permitted to play with any cast.
13. There are no all-star teams.

Disciplinary Committee:

1. The League Director will provide a report to the Basketball Commissioner of any dispute, game protest or game forfeiture that occurs within his league. Such report should be communicated (verbally or in writing) as soon as possible after the incident or dispute arises in order that the problem can be resolved as quickly as possible. Disciplinary problems involving an action which occurs during or after games will normally be reported by the game official. The League Director will be advised promptly of any disciplinary problem that has occurred within the boys' league; however, all such matters will be adjudicated by the Disciplinary Committee which will consist of the Boys Basketball Commissioner and Assistant Commissioner.
2. The Committee will address any incident relating to a coach, assistant coach, player, and fan or team misconduct either before, during or after a game or practice. Any abuse of referees by any participant in the Basketball Program will also be reviewed by the Committee. Incidents involving playing time disputes, game protests or game forfeitures will normally be handled by the League Director and

only referred to the Disciplinary Committee if the "USCAA Code Of Conduct" is violated.

USCAA Boys Basketball Tournaments:

- USCAA has traditionally held tournaments for 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th grades during the month of March. The tournaments are held at the Eisenhower, Boyce and High School gyms.
- The Basketball Commissioner will appoint a Tournament Committee.
- The Tournament Committee duties shall include:
 1. Preparing a tournament budget, which includes team entry fee, admission fee, referee fees, anticipated concession revenues and awards. The budget must be approved by the Basketball Commissioner.
 2. Establishing a list of teams to invite and extending invitations.
 3. Determining the number of teams in each grade level.
 4. Tournament administration to include receiving team fees to forward to the Basketball Commissioner, scheduling of games, referees, concessions, announcers, scorekeepers, clock operators and gym cleanup.
 5. Providing a report of tournament income and expenses to the Basketball Commissioner.