

Upper St. Clair Girls Travel Basketball Principles

The aim of the Upper St. Clair Athletic Association (USCAA) is to create excellence through competition, participation and through the development of young male and female players. The USC Girls Travel Basketball Program seeks to further this goal through implementation of competitive teams from 4th through 8th grades. The program has enjoyed success in this endeavor while maintaining a tradition of sportsmanship and winning through the commitment and positive involvement of many players, coaches and parents.

Coaches for the USC Girls Travel Basketball Program have been carefully selected and commit significant time to their role throughout the year (season and off-season) to develop the teams at every level. The goal of our coaches is to develop the entire team while focusing on skill development in a competitive environment. While the nature of the travel program may not allow for equal playing time in all games and situations, coaches will strive to balance playing time over the course of the season.

Travel basketball players serve as young representatives of their community and are expected to exhibit sportsmanship in the way they interact with teammates, coaches, opponents and officials at all times. This responsibility is one that will benefit the player as well as the program in the long term and is one of the primary benefits of competitive sports. Additionally, participation in practices and games is crucial to development of the players and the team and as a result USC Travel Basketball is expected to take priority over other elective activities (including other sports and teams) during the season. Poor sportsmanship or absences from practices and/or games is likely to impact a player's time on the court with adjustments at the discretion of the team's coach.

As with all USCAA sports, parents are critical to the success of the team and the positive experience of all involved with the program. Parents are required to adhere to the organization's Parent Code of Conduct (available online at www.USCAASports.org) and set a positive example for players before, during and after games as well as practices. Coaches welcome communication regarding their players, but parents must wait at least 24 hours to pass prior to reaching out to coaches regarding game situations.

Volunteer support of the program by the parents is also critical to the success of the organization. Over one weekend in February, the program traditionally hosts an annual tournament for local teams. This being the primary annual fundraiser for the program, the tournament's success requires involvement of all travel basketball parents in various volunteer roles before and during the event.