**USCAA RECREATIONAL**

**BOYS BASKETBALL PROGRAM**

**RULES & REGULATIONS**

**IN HOUSE RECREATION BASKETBALL PROGRAM**

**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.

**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 Basketball Recreation Program is administered by the USCAA in cooperation with the Upper St. Clair Township Department of Recreation and Leisure Services (the “Department”. The Department will register all participants, collect fees, and provide uniforms, game balls and scorebooks. The Department will obtain permits for the gym time required. The Township will pay the costs of game officials.
* A fee per participant will be established by the Department each year and payment must accompany the registration form submitted to the Department. There will be a registration date deadline and a maximum number of participants per grade group set annually by the Department.
* Any registration received after the deadline or above the maximum number will be subject to placement on a waiting list.

**Grade Groups:**

* Boys only will be permitted into the Boys program.
* The Boys Basketball Program is structured based on the grade the child is registered in school. All players must play in their own grade level. A player may not play up or down in another grade level.
* The following leagues will be formed annually, pursuant to minimum registration requirements: 3rd/4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th and 9th-12th. In the event that the minimum requirements are not met, the USCAA and Department reserve the right to combine age groups.

**Program Administration:**

* The USCAA Board of Directors appoints a Boys Basketball Commissioner (the “Comissioner”) to be responsible for the overall administration of the Boys Basketball Program. Such responsibility includes, but is not limited to, the following:
1. Equipment requirements, including uniforms, balls, etc…

1. Assigning gym times provided by the Department to the age group directors for scheduling of practices and games.
2. League structure and grade levels.
3. Referees.
4. Compliance with rules and disciplinary procedures.
5. Clinics may be provided for players, coaches and referees.
6. Make modifications to the rules and regulations, which become effective immediately, and are to be presented to the USCAA Board annually prior to the beginning of each season.

* To assist in this effort, the Commissioner may appoint Assistant Commissioner(s) from the USCAA Board of Directors. The Commissioner will propose on an annual basis, individuals to act as League Directors for the various age groups to be approved by the USCAA Board of Directors.

**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 – Every registrant will be assigned to a team so long as the paid registration was received prior to the end of the registration period and prior to the maximum number of players being met. A listing of late registrants will be maintained by League Director in the order in which the paid registrations are received and players will be placed on teams from the waiting list if and when space becomes available.

1. League Balance – The League 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 player 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 League Director will make all efforts to ensure that the talent of the participants is divided equally to avoid unusually strong teams and weak teams. Teams should have an equal number of similarly related players.
2. Coach Selection – The League 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. All coaches must be in compliance with the USCAA Background Screening Policy. From the available pool of volunteers, priority will be given to coaches who satisfy the following criteria:
	1. Have demonstrated good sportsmanship and mature behavior in handling young people.

* 1. Have exhibited a proper understanding of the purpose and objectives of the Boys Basketball Program and the USCAA.
	2. Have the potential to enhance the Boys Basketball Program, in general, and contribute to the positive development of the participants, in particular.

Based on the League Directors recommendations, the Commissioner will present all coaches to the USCAA Board for approval. Upon approval from the Board of Directors, the League Director will be responsible for contacting the coaches.

All coaches must abide by the USCAA Code of Conduct.

1. Administration – The League Director will be responsible for ensuring that the participants adhere to the rules and regulations of the facilities and the leagues set forth annually by the Commissioner and Assistant Commissioner(s) including, but not limited to the following:

* 1. Ensuring that each team has no more than 12, and when possible, no more than 10 players on a team to allow for each player to play a minimum of at least one half of each game.

* 1. Ensuring that all participants adhere to the use of the facilities in accordance with the requirements of the permits issued. The requirements include:
		1. adhering to the beginning and ending times of the permits

* + 1. ensuring that activity is restricted to the permitted portion of the facility only (i.e. other than obtaining entry and exit to the gymnasiums and the restrooms, there should be no participants or guests in other parts of the facilities
		2. adhering to the requirement that basketballs are not permitted to be thrown, bounced or otherwise used anywhere in the facilities other than in the gymnasiums
	1. Coordinating a single or double elimination tournament as a culminating activity for the end of the recreation season.

* 1. Communicating all violations of rules and regulations to the Commissioner(s).

**RECREATION BASEKETBALL DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE**

* The Disciplinary Committee will consist of the Commissioner and Assistant Commissioner(s).
* The League Director and Coaches are responsible for reporting any violations of rules to the Commissioner and/or Assistant Commissioner(s).

* The League Director/Coach shall report any dispute, violation of rules (including but not limited to technical fouls and adherence to the rules/regulations related to permitted facilities), and any game protests as soon as possible after the incident or dispute arises in order to resolve the problem as soon as possible.
* The League Director/Coach will be advised promptly of any disciplinary problem that has occurred within the Boys Basketball Program; however, all such matters shall be adjudicated by the Disciplinary Committee.
* The Disciplinary Committee will address any incidents relating to coach, assistant coach, player, fan or team misconduct either before, during or after a game or practice or at a permitted facility during the time that the facility is permitted.
* Any abuse of referees by a coach, assistant coach, player or fan may also be reviewed by the Committee.
* Incidents involving playing time disputes, game protests or game forfeitures will normally be handled by the League Director/Coach and only referred to the Disciplinary Committee if the “USCAA Code of Conduct” is violated.