

**MERRIMACK YOUTH BASKETBALL
BYLAWS
RATIFIED NOVEMBER 29, 2000
AMENDED JUNE 20, 2024**

Article I GENERAL

Section 1 NAME

This organization shall be known as the Merrimack Youth Association - Basketball, hereinafter referred to as "MYA - Basketball."

Section 2 PURPOSE

The purpose of MYA - Basketball is to promote the sport of basketball to all of the youths of Merrimack, New Hampshire including, but not limited to, developing the fundamentals of basketball, providing opportunities to play in a team environment, and developing individual player skills, all while fostering the concepts of sportsmanship and teamwork.

Section 3 STATUS

In accordance with Section 501- (c) – 3 of the Federal Internal Revenue Code, and New Hampshire Revised Statutes Annotated Chapter 292, the Local League shall operate exclusively as a non-profit educational and recreational organization providing a supervised program of competitive basketball games. MYA - Basketball Board of Directors, and their representatives or agents, shall take no action which may jeopardize the standing as a non-profit organization in accordance with the aforementioned statutes including, but not limited to,

- a) No part of the net earnings shall benefit any private shareholder or individual;
- b) No substantial part of the activities shall be carrying on propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation;
- c) nor shall activities be participation or intervention in any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office.

Section 4 LOCATION

Physical Location

The principal office of the organization for the transaction of its business is the Merrimack Youth Association Building located at 487 Daniel Webster Highway in Merrimack, New Hampshire 03054.

Mailing Address

The principal mailing address of the organization for the transaction of its business is PO Box 153, Merrimack, NH 03054.

Playing Facilities

MYA - Basketball currently uses the Merrimack School District's gym facilities during the basketball season. MYA - Basketball reserves the right to rent or purchase private additional gym space if needed, with prior Board of Director's approval.

Online Website

The organization will maintain an online website to communicate with its members. The current web address is: <http://www.myabasketball.org>. Additional online presence of MYA - Basketball may include Facebook, Twitter

or Instagram. Only MYA - Basketball related content is allowed on these social media sites. Management and posts onto these website platforms can be done by the Director or another Board of Directors member, through Board of Director approval.

Section 5 STATUS

MYA - Basketball is a direct participant and member of the overall Merrimack Youth Association (MYA).

Article II MEMBERSHIP and LEAGUE

Section 1 GENERAL

1. A MYA - Basketball member is a youth and/or their parent(s) or legal guardian(s) who resides in Merrimack New Hampshire, who's school grade level is no less than Kindergarten, no higher than (12th) twelfth grade and who has paid in full the MYA - Basketball annual registration fee. A parent is a legal guardian that must be eighteen (18) years old or older. Out of town players can register to play, but will be waitlisted as not to take away a roster spot from a Merrimack, NH youth. The out of town player will be added to a team on "as-needed basis" to improve competition or to allow for a league to maintain enough players to participate. A refund will be issued to that out-of-town player if they are not placed on a team to start the season. Board of Directors approval is required to place the out of town player on a team.
2. A youth player must register and play within their current grade school level. Exceptions need to be made in writing to the league coordinator and Director. Each case is dependent on a majority vote by the Board of Directors.

Article III BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1 GENERAL

An election of Board of Directors Members who will conduct the business for MYA - Basketball will take place each year at the June meeting. The Eighteen (18) board elected positions are:

- (1) Program Director
- (1) Treasurer
- (1) Secretary
- (1) Equipment Manager
- (1) Schedule Coordinator
- (2) Tournament / Fundraising Coordinator
- (2) Senior Advisors
- (10) League Representative (1 each for girls and boys)
 - Kindergarten Instructional Boys / Instructional Girls (1st/2nd grade)
 - Peewee Boys / Peewee Girls (3rd/4th grade)
 - Junior Boys / Junior Girls (5th/6th grade)
 - Intermediate Boys / Intermediate Girls (7th/8th grade)
 - Senior Boys / Senior Girls (9th-12th grade)

The term of office shall be for All Board positions shall be 2 (two) years.

All elected Board of Directors members will be given an assigned gmail account (example:

position@myabasketball.org) All correspondence from the current Board of Directors members to another Board of Directors member, coaches, parents or anyone else doing business with the Board of Directors and MYA - Basketball will be required to use their assigned email address. No personal email addresses will be used to conduct MYA - Basketball Board of Directors related business. Emails sent through the MYA - Basketball website are acceptable. This email address will also allow access to all Google Suites, including but not limited to Google Drive, Google Meets and other productivity tools.

A Board of Directors member may hold no more than two (2) positions at the same time, in which case his/her vote ONLY counts as one (1). In the event a board position is not filled, the Director may temporarily assume the role until the position is filled, in order to keep the program in good standing. If there are no league coordinators for a particular league, the Director may assign that league to another Board of Directors member or remove the league from participation with ($\frac{2}{3}$) Board of Directors approval.

See Section 8 for Board of Directors election process.

The MYA - Basketball Board of Directors shall be responsible for maintaining MYA - Basketball in a cohesive and accountable manner and shall assure parity amongst the various programs. This Board is the ultimate authority for anything pertaining to the MYA - Basketball, including the disbursement of funds and the governing of rules and regulations.

Section 2 MEETINGS

REGULAR MEETINGS

Regular meetings of the MYA - Basketball Board of Directors will be held monthly, or more frequently if needed. Regular meetings of the Board of Directors are open to members of the organization as well as the Merrimack people and invited guests of the Board of Directors. The meeting agenda and minutes will be made available to the public via MYA - Basketball's website. Monthly meetings may be conducted via video conference or in person at the MYA Building, 487 DW Hwy, Merrimack NH and is up to the Director on the meeting date, time, location and format. Board of Directors meeting date, times, location and format will be available to the public, via the MYA - Basketball website. Board Directors members are required to attend ALL scheduled Board of Directors meetings. If a Board of Directors member is unable to attend a monthly meeting they must contact the Director and submit an email with any updates they wish to discuss. All MYA - Basketball Board of Directors members shall attend a minimum of nine (9) of the twelve (12) monthly general meetings in a term year. Failure to meet this standard may lead to removal from said MYA - Basketball Board position.

ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting of the members of the local league shall be held in June each year for the purpose of electing a Board of Directors, receiving reports and for the transaction of such business as may properly come before the meeting.

NOTICE OF MEETINGS

Notice of each meeting shall be posted or otherwise communicated to notify each Board of Directors member and general members at least 5 days in advance thereof setting forth the place, time and purpose of the meeting, or in lieu thereof, notice may be given in such form as may be authorized by the local league board of directors, from time to time, at a regularly convened meeting. Notification of each meeting will be posted on the MYA - Basketball's website. The annual meeting will be communicated to all current MYA -Basketball members.

SPECIAL MEETINGS

Special meetings of the members may be called by the Board of Directors or Director at their discretion. Upon the written request, the Director shall call a special meeting to consider a specific subject. No business other than that specified in the notice of the meeting shall be transacted at any special meeting.

THE PROGRAM DIRECTOR SHALL:

1. Conduct the affairs of the local league and execute the policies established by the Board of Directors.
2. Present a report of the condition of the Local League at the annual meeting.
3. Communicate to the Board of Directors, such matters as deemed appropriate, and make such suggestions as may tend to promote the welfare of the Local League.
4. Countersign checks issued and signed by the treasurer
5. Prepare and submit an annual budget to the Board of Directors and be responsible for the proper execution thereof.
6. Oversee all program activities.
7. Attend all Merrimack Youth Association Executive Board meetings
8. Preside, schedule and run all MYA - Basketball Board of Directors meetings or designate an alternate. It is the director's decision to have a virtual or in person meeting.

THE SECRETARY SHALL:

1. Have the responsibility for recording the activities of the Local League and maintain appropriate files, mailing lists and necessary records.
2. Perform such duties as are herein specifically set forth, in addition to such other duties as are customarily incident to the office of secretary or as may be assigned by the Board of Directors.
3. Prepare a permanent set of the minutes of the proceedings of the meetings of the members and the Board of Directors, and cause them to be recorded in a book kept for that purpose or posted digitally on the MYA - Basketball website
4. Conduct all correspondence not otherwise specifically delegated in connection with said meetings and be responsible for carrying out all orders, votes and resolutions not otherwise committed.
5. Notify members, directors, officers and committee members of their election or appointment

THE TREASURER SHALL:

1. Perform such duties as are herein specifically set forth and such other duties as are customarily incident to the office of treasurer or may be assigned by the Board of Directors.
2. Receive all money and securities and deposit the same in a depository approved by the Board of Directors.
3. Keep records for the receipt and disbursement of all moneys and securities, approve all payments from allotted funds and draw checks.
4. Prepare an annual budget, under the direction of the director for submission to the Board of Directors at the annual meeting
5. Prepare an annual financial report, under the direction of the director, for submission to the Board of Directors at the annual meeting
6. Prepare and sign all checks for the director to countersign
7. Present a written financial statement at each board meeting

THE SENIOR ADVISOR SHALL:

Rely on past experiences to advise the Board of Directors on topics related to the progression of the Local League.

1. A senior advisor can be elected after 5 plus years of service on the MYA - Basketball Board of Directors or asked by the current Board of Directors because of their unique position within our community or current profession.

THE EQUIPMENT MANAGER SHALL:

Provide all necessary basketball equipment to run a successful and safe basketball league.

1. Conduct full physical inventory once per year and keep updated inventory available to the league Director and MYA Executive Board.
2. Ensure equipment is usable and safe, replace as necessary.
3. Respond/resolve any issues with equipment as requested by league volunteers.
4. Provide uniforms to each player.
5. Provide a list of maintenance issues to the league Director.
6. Assist in presenting any new purchases for upcoming season
7. Point person for the distribution of and collection of, all basketball equipment
8. Present invoices for ordering trophies, basketballs, jerseys and any other equipment needs to the Board of Directors.

THE TOURNAMENT / FUNDRAISING COORDINATOR SHALL:

1. Work with league coordinators, equipment manager, and respective tournament team coaching staff to ensure proper uniform and equipment needs are met.
2. Work with league coordinators and respective tournament team coaching staff to ensure registration for all tournaments are completed, along with required tournament documents, and payments.
3. Help coordinate and solicit teams to participate in the annual Merrimack Youth Basketball Tournament.
4. Solicit local business for donation and organize and execute fundraising events.

THE DIVISION COORDINATORS:

1. Communicate with managers/coaches on a bi-weekly basis about the status of their division.
2. Enforces sportsmanship rules and communicates with director on any sportsmanship issues
3. Point person of contact for anything related to their division. Not limited to questions regarding rules, complaints, sportsmanship or improvements.
4. Reports back to the board of directors at the monthly meetings. If not in attendance, an email update is required.
5. Answers all parent questions in regards to their division.
6. Uses the MYA - Basketball gmail account (example: position@myabasketball.org) for all correspondence to their division and other Board of Directors members.
7. Organizes and executes tryouts for their division and assists other division coordinators if applicable
8. Assists with scheduling and preparation for the annual Merrimack Youth Basketball fundraising tournament
9. Assign all-star players to selected teams or will organize and execute an all-star tryout if applicable.
10. Identify appropriate coaching staff for each division team and all star, if applicable
11. Assist respective tournament team coaching staff to facilitate annual tryout session(s), if needed.

Section 3 QUORUM

The presence of five (5) of the official positions of the MYA - Basketball elected Board of Directors shall be necessary to constitute a quorum. This shall allow the Board of Directors to conduct business.

Section 4 VOTING

A motion brought forth to the MYA - Basketball Board of Directors shall be seconded by a MYA Basketball Board of Directors member. If seconded, a majority vote shall pass the motion and adopt the motion. The motion is killed by (a) not being seconded or (b) non majority vote. A board member may accept the motion, oppose the motion or abstain from the motion.

Section 5 PROXIES

No absentee, proxy, or votes by mail are allowed.

Section 6 RULES OF ORDER

Roberts Rules of Order shall govern the proceedings of all meetings, except where they conflict with the Constitution and Bylaws of the MYA and/or MYA - Basketball.

Section 7 COMPOSITION

The management of the property and affairs of the Local League shall be vested with the Board of Directors. The number of members shall be not less than 5 or more than 20. The newly elected Board of Directors shall begin their term with the commencement of the next regular meeting of the Board of Directors after their election and shall continue in office until their successors have been duly elected and qualified.

Section 8 ANNUAL ELECTION AND TERMS OF OFFICE

1. All interested parties must contact an MYA - Basketball Board of Directors member to be included in the nomination process. Nominations will be closed only after ascertaining that no other nominations are forthcoming. Nominations and balloting for each office will be handled individually starting with the Director. The winner will be the person obtaining the most votes. A tie vote will be resolved by a reballoting between the tied nominees. After five reballotings, the current or outgoing director will declare a winner. The newly elected officers will assume office following the conclusion of all old business at the June meeting. All elections will be conducted by secret ballot, unless determined by unanimous choice.
2. Prior to each annual meeting in June, the members shall determine the number of directors to be elected for the ensuing term and shall elect such number of directors. The number fixed may, within the limits prescribed by the foregoing Section 1, be increased at any regular or special meeting of the members, and if the number is increased, the additional directors may be elected at the meeting at which the increase is voted, or at any subsequent meeting. The nominating committee shall present its slate of candidates who have accepted nominations for each office, at the annual meeting.
3. The Director prior to the annual meeting shall solicit nominations from all members in good standing for the offices to be filled. Nominations shall be closed when no more are forthcoming.
4. The Director or Secretary shall handle the election procedures, qualify voters, distribute and collect the ballots, tally them, and report the results.
5. Voting shall be by a single ballot for all offices. Each ballot shall be provided a number of blanks for write-ins for each office equal to the number of candidates to be elected for that office. In addition to the blanks, the names of the candidates presented by the nominating committee may be preprinted on the ballot. Candidates nominated from the floor may also be added to the pre-printed ballot. Non-paper ballots can be requested with approval from the Board of Directors.
6. Candidates shall be elected based on plurality vote count (candidate (s) with the most votes win). A tie vote shall be resolved by a re-ballot for that office. After five re-ballots, the Program Director/President shall declare a winner.
7. If a current Board of Directors member is not reelected to the Board of Directors in any capacity, they have no voting rights and must turn in all equipment, keys, passwords and MYA - Basketball immediately. Failure to do so will result in legal action.
8. Any vacant positions on the Board of Directors can be filled during a regular meeting with the appropriate processes being followed as outlined in section 8.
9. Newly elected Board Members shall not be voted into more than 1 position. Any vacancies after the annual meeting shall be filled by existing board members with a vote at the following board meeting.

Section 9 VACANCIES

If any vacancy occurs in the Board of Directors, by death, resignation, removal, or otherwise, it may be filled by a majority vote of the Board of Directors at any regular board meeting or special board meeting called for said purpose.

Vacancies can be filled by any member in good standing with the exception of Director. Director must have a minimum of 1 year of Board service or 3 years of coaching experience within the MYA Basketball Program. Should there be no suitable candidate the MYA Basketball board shall determine an appropriate set of regulations to determine a candidate's eligibility.

Section 10 DUTIES AND POWERS

1. The Board of Directors shall have the power to appoint such standing committees and appointed positions as it shall determine appropriate, and to delegate such powers to them as the board shall advise and which it may properly delegate. The board may adopt such rules and regulations for the conduct of its meetings and the management of MYA - Basketball as it may deem proper.
2. The Board of Directors shall have the power by a two-thirds (2/3) vote at any regular board meeting or special board meeting to discipline, suspend, or remove any Board of Director, coach, parent, or player member of MYA - Basketball, for just cause.
3. The board shall receive at the annual meeting of the members of the local league a report verified by the Program Director and Treasurer, or by a majority of the Board of directors, showing the whole amount of real and personal property owned by it, where located, and where and how invested, the amount and nature of the property acquired during the year immediately preceding, the date of the report and the manner of the acquisition: the amount applied, appropriated or expended during the year immediately preceding such date, and the purposes, objects or persons to or for which such applications, appropriations or expenditures have been made, and the names and places of residence of the person who have been admitted to membership in the local league during the year, which report shall be filed with the records of the local league and an abstract thereof entered in the minutes of the proceedings of the annual meeting.

Section 11 COMPENSATION

Members shall not receive salaries or any compensation, monetary or otherwise, for their services, but by resolution of MYA - Basketball Board, may receive reimbursement for expenses incurred related to the league's operations as well as for attendance at organization related meetings outside of Merrimack. MYA - Basketball shall not provide personal loans to any member.

Section 12 PLAYING RULES AND REGULATIONS

The official playing rules and regulations as published by the National Organization Affiliation shall be binding on this Local League, unless Minor Rule Changes or Enhancements are Voted on by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the MYB Board of Directors. Further playtime rules and/or coaching rules will be updated and distributed to all volunteer coaches, in the form of a "Coaching Packet", prior to the start of the season. A coaches meeting will be held for each league level prior to the start of the season to discuss the "Coaches Packet" and all rules and regulations within that document.

ARTICLE IV FINANCIAL AND ACCOUNTING

Section 1 FINANCES

The Board of Directors shall decide all matters pertaining to the finances of the local league and it shall place all income in a common league treasury, directing the expenditure of same in such manner as will give no individual or team an advantage over those in competition with such individuals or teams. Merrimack Youth Association Treasurer has full control and access to MYA - Basketball accounts.

Section 2 DISBURSEMENT

The board shall not permit the disbursement of MYA - Basketball funds for other than the conduct of MYA - Basketball activities.

Section 4 ACCOUNTING

All moneys received, shall be deposited to the credit of the MYA - Basketball (in accordance with MYA policy) in their approved accounts, and all disbursements shall be made by check. All checks shall be signed by the MYA Executive Board treasurer and such other officer(s) as the Board of Directors shall determine.

Section 5 FISCAL YEAR

The fiscal year of the MYA - Basketball shall begin on the first day of July and shall end on the last day of June.

Section 6 FINANCE/ACCOUNTING

When procuring large dollar value items in excess of one thousand dollars (\$1000.00) for capital improvement projects, said purchases shall go through a structured process to ensure that audit scrutiny can be successfully passed. The structured approach shall include the following.

1. Requests for bids shall be published and distributed to a minimum of three (3) vendors.
2. Selection criteria per procurement shall be identified prior to vendor selection.
3. Selection of a vendor shall be documented including price, quality, availability and history of the vendor and other pertinent factors.
4. The winning vendor offer procurement selected shall be documented on why they were selected and /or why others were not.

ARTICLE V SUSPENSION OR TERMINATION

Membership may be terminated by resignation or by action of the Board of Directors. If a member or Board of Directors member is terminated or resigns, that person shall turn in all keys, equipment, passwords and other MYA - Basketball property no later than three (3) days after being terminated or a resignation.

1. Conduct by any member classification deemed detrimental to the MYA - Basketball or the town of Merrimack Youth Association shall be subject to either suspension or termination as a member in good standing. Suspension or termination of their status as a member in good standing may limit the members ability to serve as a volunteer, manager/coach, or Board of Director member.
2. Any member(s) involved in conduct deemed detrimental shall be notified by the MYA - Basketball Board of Directors and requested to appear at the next scheduled meeting. Upon notification from the MYA - Basketball Board of Directors, the offending member(s) shall be informed of such action(s) deemed detrimental. The member(s) shall have an opportunity to answer such concern(s) to the conduct at the next scheduled meeting. If said member waives their right to appear before the MYA - Basketball Board of Directors, the conduct in question will be reviewed in their absence, unless the member previously requests to be present. In this event, presentation of said concern(s) will be deferred until such a time as the member can be present before the MYA Basketball Board.
 - a. In the case of a Board of Directors member who is alleged to have committed a violation of the MYA - Basketball Bylaws and/or Coaches or Parents Code of Conduct (Article IV), they are subject to immediate removal from the board and all board-related activities while a review occurs. If the resulting review confirms a violation of MYA - Basketball Bylaws occurred, the Board of Directors member will be suspended from running for any board position in the MYA - Basketball for a period of up to two (2) years and will not be eligible to serve as a member in good standing for a period of up to two (2) years, including service as a coach/volunteer.
 - b. In the case of a coach, assistant coach, interim coach who is alleged to have committed a violation of the MYA - Basketball Bylaws and/or Coaches Code of Conduct (Article VI), the MYA Basketball Board has the right to immediately remove a coach from their coaching position while a review occurs. If the resulting review confirms a violation of MYA - Basketball Bylaws occurred, the coach may receive a discipline from a written warning up to being suspended from running for any board position in the MYA - Basketball for a period of up to two (2) years and will not be eligible to serve as a member in good standing for a period of up to two (2) years, including service as a coach/volunteer. Multiple offenses will be included in the review process and will factor into the disciplinary decision.

- c. In the case of a parent observed to have violated the Parents Code of Conduct during a practice or game, the parent will receive a written warning for a first offense. A second, or any subsequent, violation will result in removal from the game and a hearing with the board of directors to determine eligibility of returning as a spectator, player, or coach to the remainder of the season's games. In the case of a parent who is found to have willfully and/or continuously violated the Parents Code of Conduct, they are subject to disciplinary action by MYA - Basketball or its delegated representative, including suspension or termination of participation, without refund of participation or other fees, suspension from running for any board position in the MYA - Basketball for a period of up to two (2) years and will not be eligible to serve as a member in good standing for a period of up to two (2) years, including service as a coach/volunteer.
 - d. In the case of a player member, the manager of the team on which the player is a member shall be notified, and said manager shall notify the parents or legal guardian of said player member and to request they appear at the scheduled meeting as set forth by the MYA - Basketball. Both the manager and parent / legal guardian shall attend the meeting as advisor(s). In the case of a player who is found to have violated the Players Code of Conduct during a practice or game, the player will receive a verbal or written warning for a first offense. A second, or any subsequent, violation will result in removal from the game and a hearing with the board of directors to determine eligibility of returning as player for the remainder of the season's games. In the case of a player who is found to have willfully and/or continuously violated the Players Code of Conduct, they are subject to disciplinary action by MYA Basketball Board or its delegated representative, including suspension or termination of participation for the remainder of the season, without refund of participation or other fees
3. During said meeting, the League Coordinator or Director, or designee, will inform the member of the violation(s). At that time, the members will be invited to discuss their thoughts and perspective before the Board of Directors. At the conclusion of said discussion, additional discussion by members will be solicited.
4. Upon conclusion of said discussion, the MYA - Basketball Board of Directors, shall by two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Board of Directors members present, have the authority to implement said penalty(ies) as outlined above. Any penalty(ies) rendered by the MYA - Basketball Board will be directly communicated to said member(s), in writing.
5. Any member, who after receiving the MYB Board of Directors decision, wishes to appeal said decision must make a formal request, in writing, within three (3) business days stating their intention to appeal said MYA - Basketball Board decision. This request must be submitted in writing to MYA - Basketball program Director.
6. Upon receipt of said request for an appeal, the program Director, or designee, will form an appeal committee consisting of no less than 3 members who were not involved in the previous decision; said committee members may include one or more representatives from the Merrimack Youth Association Executive Committee.
 - a. During the appeal process, a youth member may remain as an active participant within their respective team(s) activities.
 - b. During the appeal process, an adult member may remain as a spectator only, and are restricted from participating as board member, manager/coach, or other volunteer
7. Any member classification may, at his / her discretion, resign their respected position without prejudice. Any resignation shall be final and will remain in effect for a minimum of (1) calendar year.
8. Any member who has resigned or been removed from a position must turn in all MYA - Basketball property immediately. This includes but is not limited to, equipment, jerseys, keys to Merrimack Youth Association property and all passwords associated with various accounts used to operate the program.

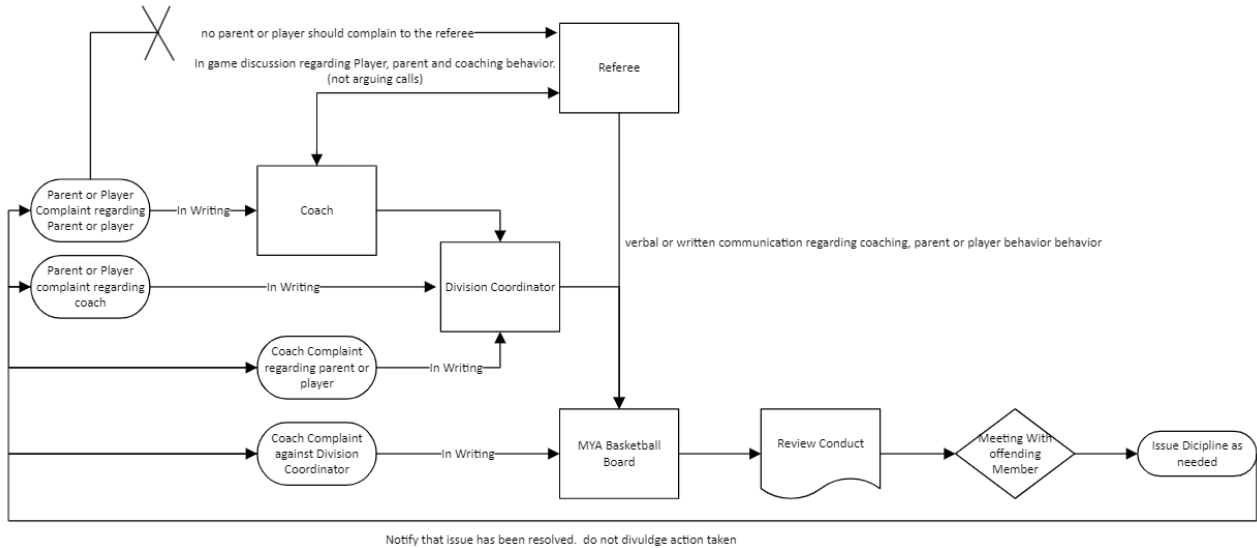
ARTICLE VI RESPONSIBILITIES

Section 1 STANDARDS OF CONDUCT

Basketball is a game that connects generations and creates memories that last a lifetime. Many adults can recall vividly their experiences playing ball when they were younger, including their teams, coaches and teammates. Our goal is to ensure that the experiences of children participating in our program continues that tradition and that the behavior of those involved in our leagues - at all levels - promotes good sportsmanship,

responsibility and the best elements of team competition. Accordingly, in order to participate in MYA - Basketball, each parent or guardian, coach, Board of Directors member, league officer and any other volunteer is required to agree to comply with this Code of Conduct. Any violation to of the Coe of Conduct will result in discipline found in Article V. If the violation occurs during a game a referee has the ability to remove a coach, spectator or player from the game. In the event that the offending member refuses to leave the game will be canceled and the results of the game will be determined by the MYA Board of directors.

Proper procedure for reporting an issue should be:



The Code of Conduct is as follows:

COACHES CODE OF CONDUCT

Coaching a youth sport program is a privilege that is not to be taken for granted. As a coach, appointed by the MYA - Basketball Board of Directors, you have an important role in the development of the young children in our community. We strive to teach each child the positive values of trust, good sportsmanship, good citizenship, responsibility, respect, fair play and teamwork – values they can use throughout their lives. Basketball coaches challenge players towards perfection of physical skills and bring into play the excitement of tactics and strategy.

Sportsmanship

1. I will promote good sportsmanship, teach good basketball skills, and have fun in the process.
2. I realize, accept and will practice the principle that a team's reputation is built not only on its playing ability, but also on its sportsmanship, courtesy and manner.
3. I understand that physical or verbal abuse of an official, coach, player, or spectator, including obscene gestures, will not be tolerated and that the offender may be removed from the gyms at the discretion of an official or MYA - Basketball board member.
4. I understand coaches will refrain from complaining about perceived bad calls to players and fans.
5. I understand all discussions will be held in conversational tones. Under no circumstances will a coach, or player yell at an official, coach, fan, player or board member. The lone exception to this rule is when a coach or player shouts to another coach or teammate during the course of a play as part of that play.
6. I understand profanity is expressly forbidden at all times during any practice, game, or other MYA - Basketball event.
7. I understand alcoholic beverages, tobacco products and the use of illicit drugs are prohibited at all games and practices, including out of town events/games.

Rules and Policies

1. I will know and understand the rules and abide by them (whether local or national). I will instruct my team members in the rules and coach my team in such a way as to motivate each player to compete according to the rules at all times.
2. I will understand the local league participation rules for my division. All coaches must ensure that each player plays the minimum opportunities to play each game. The goal of winning does not supersede each player receiving adequate playing time.
3. I will fully comply with the Player/Parents Code of Conduct.
4. I will review the MYA - Basketball website on a regular basis to make sure that I am informed of all MYA - Basketball rules and policies.
5. I will coordinate to have a volunteer ready to assist with clock and/or score keeping duties for each game. The volunteers should be identified prior to the game so as not to delay that start of the game.

The Parents and the League

1. I will maintain an open line of communication with players and their parents. I will be approachable. When approached by a parent to discuss any issue, I will interact and respond in a courteous manner.
2. I will understand and explain the philosophies, goals and objectives, and Codes of Conduct of the MYA - Basketball (i.e. MYA - Basketball is organized as a recreational league, meant for the enjoyment of all the players).
3. I will ensure that fans of the team conduct themselves with sportsmanship and maturity at all times while in attendance at game sites and will assist the officials in maintaining control of spectators during games. I will make sure that coaches and players are the only persons allowed on the court during a game.
4. I will support (through participation and organization of parents) MYA - Basketball in fundraising efforts.

The Team

1. I will conduct practices in an organized manner, with a planned agenda that focuses on specific skill development appropriate for the skill level of the players.
2. I will focus on providing instruction commensurate with players abilities so all players have the opportunity to advance their skills towards their full potential, gain confidence and develop self-esteem, as well as establish a solid foundation for further basketball competition.
3. I will teach each player, especially through personal example, to be humble and generous in victory and proud and courteous in defeat.

Non-Game Duties of Coaches

Each coach has considerable duties outside of coordinating practices and managing the games. Accordingly, if I am a coach, I will adhere to the following as well:

1. I will maintain open communication with players and parents to inform them of practices, games and other responsibilities in a timely and efficient manner
2. I will attend all required coaches meetings, safety and clinics unless I am out of town or have a significant previously made commitment. If I cannot attend, I will ensure that one of my coaches attends on my behalf.
3. I will complete, obtain and submit to the league all required paperwork, which will include required coaches training, background check documentation, and abuse/safety training, if required.
4. I will make sure that I have working knowledge of the current MYA - Basketball local and national rules
5. I understand that I am the point of contact between my team and other teams and MYA- Basketball officials. I understand that I am the person that is responsible for my team. I will take my obligations seriously and communicate effectively and in a courteous manner.

PARENTS CODE OF CONDUCT

1. Once committed to a team, I will use my best efforts to encourage and enable my child to participate fully in his or her team's practices and games and use his or her best efforts to practice, seek personal improvement in skills as a teammate and learn the game.
2. I will remember, and remind the children playing, that basketball is a challenging game and that success is measured by effort and not the individual success of a player or the outcome of a game.
3. I understand and will remember that children participate in sports to have fun, build social relationships and become better players. Accordingly, I will recognize and promote a league's appropriate emphasis on competition and accentuate the benefits derived from competing as an individual and team over the importance of winning.
4. I understand and will remember that basketball is for the children who are playing, not the adults.
5. I will be a positive role model for my child and other participants of all ages by encouraging good sportsmanship and positive support for all players, coaches, referees and spectators at every game, practice and associated activities, and will ensure the same behavior from my guests and family members. I will talk first and predominantly about the positive things in each practice and game. I will emphasize improvement and success for each individual player, and avoid comparisons to the more or less skilled players.
6. I will not engage in any unsportsmanlike conduct with any referee, coach, player, parent, or any other person, including, but not limited to, booing or taunting, or verbally criticizing referees calls, coaching decisions, plays on the court or game results, or using any profane or abusive language or gestures, and will ensure the same behavior from my guests and family members.
7. I will emphasize that mistakes, errors, bad calls and losses are part of any game (and life) and work with my child or players to develop strategies to learn from those events.
8. I will neither engage in nor enable any behavior or practice that would endanger the health or well-being of any of the participants or spectators at any game, practice or associated activity (including, but not limited to, any inappropriate physical contact or verbal attacks), and will ensure the same behavior from my guests and family members.
9. I will ensure that my family promotes respect for all players, coaches, referees, spectators, and administrators, regardless of race, color, gender, playing ability or any other category. I will not make or disseminate critical or derogatory remarks (including by email or other electronic media) that are designated to harm, or would have the likely effect of harming, another's reputation or standing in the community. I will therefore handle any issues or complaints that I may have in a constructive manner and in a private setting that is appropriate under the circumstances.
10. I will abide by and respect the calls of the referee on the court. I will not challenge or demonstrate any objection to a judgment call made by a referee during a game, and will ensure the same behavior from my guests and family members. I understand and agree that any challenge or argument with a judgment call may result in disciplinary action against me.
11. I will not question, object, challenge, or confront any coach on the court during or after any game or practice (except to prevent injury), and will constructively engage in discussion with a coach at a mutually acceptable time and place away from the view and hearing from players, parents, and others. I will not criticize the judgment or abilities of any coach before my child or other children, as this may negatively influence my child's enthusiasm for participating.
12. I will not act like a "coach from the sideline" unless I'm actually a coach of the team and will limit my comments to encouragement and support for the participants, and will ensure the same behavior from my guests and family members.
13. I will abide by the judgments of the administrators of the league (including player tryout and selection processes for competitive leagues and teams) and, if I disagree with any MYA - Basketball policy or process, I agree to constructively engage in appropriate dialogue with the MYA - Basketball Board of Directors to explore any issues I wish to discuss.
14. I understand that the MYA - Basketball welcomes my participation, and will work with me in an effort to find a suitable position as a coach, team manager, board member or other open position if I volunteer. I understand that if I am selected to serve in any such capacity, I may be subject to additional rules and regulations and behavioral requirements that I will abide by when serving in such a position.
15. I understand that if I personally observe actions by others that are inconsistent with this Code of Conduct, I may report such actions by contacting the Directors of the MYA - Basketball Board of Directors. I further understand that I may request my identity be kept confidential and with the exception of a legal requirement to disclose. MYA - Basketball will scrupulously honor such a request, MYA - Basketball may request my involvement in order to conduct a review and take any action in response to such a report.

PLAYERS CODE OF CONDUCT

Each player will ensure that his or her playing conduct is that of a young adult, competing fairly to the limit of their ability. To satisfactorily meet these responsibilities, the player is expected to:

1. Know the rules and abide by them.
2. Respect the officials and refrain from addressing them or commenting on their decisions during the play of the game. The team's coach may address the officials during the game but only within the provisions of the rules and in a courteous, respectful manner.
3. Maintain control of their emotions, avoiding the use of abusive language or profanity, humiliating remarks, and/or gestures of ill temper, and physical assault upon another player, coach, referee or league official at any time.
4. Respect the coaches and players of the opposing team and demonstrate appropriate gestures of sportsmanship at the conclusion of every game – be humble and generous in victory and proud and courteous in defeat.
5. Follow all practice or game facility rules and regulations, respecting at all times the property of others.
6. Realize, accept, and practice the principle that a team's reputation is built not only on its playing ability but also on the sportsmanship, courtesy and manners of each individual player.
7. Refrain from the use of alcoholic beverages, tobacco products or other illegal substances both on and off the court.
8. Conduct oneself in a manner befitting the founding principles and code of player conduct of the league when traveling to "away" games or tournaments.

MYA - Basketball has a "zero tolerance" policy for any aggressive or inappropriate behavior, language (verbal or written), and/or physical contact with any player, coach, official, parent, fan, Board of Directors member or other person. Any breach of this policy is grounds for immediate action, including removal from a game, practice, or position of coach, manager, Board of Directors Member, or member in good standing. Any member who is alleged to have committed a violation of the MYA - Basketball Bylaws, and/or Code of Conduct, is subject to immediate removal from their position as a member in good standing.

ARTICLE VII FEES

Section 1 FEES AND SCHOLARSHIPS

A reasonable local league participation fee may be assessed as a parent's obligation to assure the operational continuity of the local league. At no time should payment of any fee be a prerequisite for participation in the local league program. A scholarship, that would cover a portion, or full, cost of the season's registration fees may be awarded, after submission of a written request to the MYA - Basketball Board. Requests must be made no later than 30 days prior to the registration deadline, and a new submission must be submitted each season. Awarding of said scholarship(s) will be decided upon at the discretion of the MYA Basketball Board of Directors.

ARTICLE VIII AMENDMENTS

This constitution and Bylaws may be amended, repealed, or altered in whole or in part by a majority vote at any duly organized meeting of the members provided notice of the proposed change is included in the notice of such meeting. A draft of all proposed amendments shall be submitted to the Merrimack Youth Association Executive Board.