

Grayson Athletic Association – Basketball League
General Policies and Procedures
Revised 11/08

I. Organization

1. Director – Shall, in consult with their respective board member, special needs director and committees, be responsible for all matters related to the playing and scheduling of their respective sports and shall consider the needs of individuals with special needs and the special needs program. The Directors will also be responsible for coordinating post season activities, shall attend all necessary district and state sport meeting, shall be that sports representative on the Board of Directors, shall have the responsibility for coordinating with the Board of Directors the policy for field and gym assignment, coach selection process, budget approval process, equipment manager process, and concession stand operation, as well as the implementation of other policy-making decisions rendered by the Board.

The Director shall act as the Chief Executive Officer for that sport and shall have the right to make day-to-day decisions regarding that sport subject to the policy making decisions set by the Board of Directors. Each Sport's Director shall be the Chief Executive of each sport's committee. Each sport's committee shall be responsible for selecting and training the coaches for their respective sports. Each Sport's Director in conjunction with the Treasurer will prepare an annual budget for each sport within 60 days upon the completion of the sport, for approval by the Board.

2. Assistant Director – Shall assist the Director of that sport in the furtherance of his/her duties as might be requested by the Director of that sport. Shall have all such powers and duties as generally are incidental of the position of Assistant Director of that sport as may be assigned to him/her by the Director of that sport or the Board of Directors. Shall assume the duties of the Director of that sport when the Director cannot perform them.
3. GAA League Commissioners – Shall assist the Director and/or Assistant Director of that sport in the furtherance of his/her duties as might be requested by the Director and/or Assistant Director of that sport. Shall be responsible for communicating to coaches during the season matters relating to basketball operations shall include but is not limited to practice, game, playoff and championship scheduling and other items as seen fit by the Director of that sport, Assistant Director and/or Board of Directors.

4. The Basketball Commissioner positions are as follows:

K Coed and 1st/2nd Grade Girls
1st/2nd Grade Boys
3rd/4th Grade Boys
3rd/4th Grade Girls
5th/6th Grade Boys
5th/6th Grade Girls
7th/8th Grade Boys
Senior Girls (7th - 12th)
Senior Boys (9th - 12th)

5. Coach - Responsibility includes but is not limited to:

- a) Overseeing practices and games
- b) Teaching proper skills and techniques
- c) Practicing good sportsmanship and physical fitness
- d) Providing an opportunity for fun and enjoyment
- e) Coordinating any and all communication to Team parents regarding practice, game and any scheduling events that may occur during the season.

6. Team Mom - Responsibility includes but is not limited to:

- a) Communicating with Team parents regarding practice, game and any scheduling events that may occur during the season.
- b) Providing a Team Roster
- d) Coordinating the Year-end Team Gathering

II. Uniforms

1. The Association will provide one reversible jersey and one pair of shorts. Numbers will be issued at the Association's discretion.
2. No jewelry (watches, rings, bracelets, etc.), or other hard objects (cast, external braces, etc.) may be worn during games or practices.
3. Players must wear appropriate shoes with non-marking soles in all gyms.

III. Team Responsibilities

1. Both teams are responsible for providing someone from their team to keep the official scorebook for their team during games. Failure of team to provide someone to keep the official scorebook will result in that team not being eligible to protest the game.

2. The visiting team is responsible for providing someone to operate the clock/scoreboard during games, if the Association does not provide one.
3. All teams are responsible for cleaning up their own trash after all practices and games. Only water is allowed in the gyms. This is very important at school gyms, since a good relationship with the school is necessary for the Association to continue to using the gyms. Both teams of the final game of the day are responsible for picking up all trash following their game or practice.
4. No outside balls are allowed in the gyms. Only GAA practice balls are allowed inside the gym during games.
5. Only current game players are allowed on the gym floor at any time during the game.

IV. Playing Rules

1. All games will be played with Georgia High School Athletic Association rules as guidelines, except for rules adopted by the Association.
2. A team may start a game with four players. If a team has less than five players at game time, a five-minute grace period will be given before starting the game. If a team has fewer than four players present after five minutes have passed on the game clock, the game will be declared a forfeit.
3. Games will be four 8-minute quarters. The clock will continue to run at all times except:
 - 1) During the last two minutes of the game (the clock will stop on all whistles.)
 - 2) During free-throws.
 - 3) At approximately 4:00 minutes of each quarter for substitutions.
 - 4) At the request of a referee for any situation such as a player injury, rules/score clarification, etc.

In the event a team is leading by 15 points or more going into or during the fourth quarter, the clock will continue to run until the lead has been decreased to 14 points or less.

One two-minute overtime period will be played in the event the game ends in a tie after regulation play during the regular season games. During overtime, the clock will stop on all whistles. If the overtime period ends in a tie, the game will be considered a tie for both teams. No additional overtime periods will be played during the regular season. Overtime rules during tournament play will be two minute periods until a winner is decided. There will be a two-minute break between quarters and over-time and a five-minute break between halves.

4. Each team will have two 45-second time-outs per half with no carry over from the first half to the second half. There will be one 45-second timeout per overtime period per team.

5. Defenses are allowed as follows:

Man-to-man defense is encouraged in all leagues, as it is the foundation to all defenses. Boys' and Girls' Leagues for 5th/6th Grade and higher are allowed to use any type of defense including back court pressing and half court pressing except as noted below. Leagues 3rd/4th and younger may use man-to-man or zone defenses; however, the defense may not extend past the designated floor markings or the three-point line (or the top of the key extended when not marked.) Each defender must be guarding a specific player or a specific area. Players will not be allowed to chase the ball over the entire court. Double-teaming/Trapping is not allowed except in the lane or in the event of "helping out." Back court pressing and/or full court man-to-man will not be allowed except as noted below. Upon change of possession, the defensive team must move to the appropriate defensive area as noted above.

In leagues where there exists a designated defense area, the offensive team must make an attempt to advance the play into the defensive area. If in the referee's discretion, the offensive team is "stalling," he will issue a warning. Subsequent violations will result in a turnover and the ball will be given to the defensive team.

6. Back court pressing will be allowed under the following conditions:

Boys' and Girls' Senior Leagues and Boys' 7th/8th and 5th/6th are allowed to back court press at all times unless the pressing team is ahead by 10 or more points. If a team is leading by 10 to 14 points, they may press at half court. If a team is leading by 15 points or more, they are not allowed to back court press nor to half court press. The leading team shall pick up defense just above the three-point line.

Girls' 5th/6th and Boys' and Girls' 3rd/4th will be allowed to back court press during the last two minutes of the game and the entire overtime, unless the pressing team is ahead by 10 or more points. If a team is leading by 10 to 14 points, they may press at half. If a team is leading by 15 points or more, they are not allowed to back court press nor to half court press. The leading team shall pick up defense just above the three-point line or the appropriate area as noted above.

Leagues 1st/2nd and K Coed Instructional are not allowed to press at anytime during the game. See rules for Fast Breaking in section 7.

See Section XII for Coed Instructional League Rules.

7. Fast breaking is allowed in all leagues at all times with the following modifications. Coaches are asked to use good judgment with regards to fast breaking with a large lead.

In the Seniors, 7th/8th and 5th/6th leagues, a team may defend a fast break in the back court at any time; however, it is up to the referees judgment as to whether such defense is in violation of the “no pressing” rule should the defensive team be leading by 10 or more points.

In the 3rd/4th leagues and under, a team may defend a fast break in the back court at any time; however, if a turnover occurs in the backcourt or around midcourt, the offensive team will retain possession, with the referee allowing the defense to set up inside the appropriate area as noted above. Coaches and referees will be asked to insure that no child dominates play.

8. There will be no dunking or hanging on rims or net during practices or games at any gym.
9. Each player must play a minimum of 16 minutes per game, equivalent to two full quarters. This can be accomplished by playing two full quarters or by playing four 4:00 minute half quarters. A player cannot accomplish the minimum playing time requirement by any other means. To assist with the rotation of players, the game clock will be stopped at the 4:00 minute mark during each quarter to allow for substitutions. Once a player has entered the game at the beginning of a quarter or at the 4:00 minute mark, that player can not be taken out of the game via substitution for the remainder of that quarter. However, once a team has met the minimum play level for all players, they may substitute at any normal stoppage of play per Georgia High School Athletic Association rules. A player must play a minimum of 16 minutes, unless the player is injured or has four fouls and is removed at the coach’s discretion. Every player **MUST** leave the game for a minimum of at least one (1) four (4) minute period unless the team has only five (5) players. No player may play the entire game, unless another player has been removed from the game due to injury, foul trouble or ejection, leaving the team with only five (5) players. The intent of this rule is to allow each player to participate in each game as much as possible. If properly protested by another coach, violation of this rule will result in a forfeit for the violating team. Subsequent violation of this rule may result in suspension and/or dismissal of the responsible coach. The official scorekeeper should note quarters played to help ensure adherence to this rule.
10. A coach may sit out a player for major disciplinary reasons, if the coach notifies the commissioner and/or director prior to the game, and approval is given.

11. In the event a coach cannot attend a practice or a game, the coach must appoint a responsible adult to take their place during their absence.
12. Practice must start and stop at scheduled times.
13. There will be no league scheduled practices during Thanksgiving or Christmas Holidays.
14. Coaches should not leave a child alone at any gym. Parents should not leave children unattended at the gyms for practice or games.
15. At the end of the regular season, there will be a single elimination tournament for each age group. (There may not be a tournament for the K/1/2 Coed League.) Teams will be seeded for the tournament based on their rankings after the regular season. In the event of a tie for a seed, the League Commissioner will be allowed to break the tie based on his/her own formula/discretion.
16. In the 1st/2nd and 3rd/4th Grade Leagues, a liberal 5 second lane violation will apply. In older age groups, the standard 3 second lane violation applies.

17. Basketball Size

Boys 7th/8th and Sr. Boys - Official Size (29.5)
 All Other Leagues - Women's/Intermediate (28.5)

18. Basket height

K Coed and Girls 1 st /2 nd Grade League	8'
Boys 1 st /2 nd Grade	8' 6"
3 rd /4 th Grade Leagues	9'
All other Leagues	10'

19. Foul line: K through 4th Grade Modified (12') foul line with 5th through Sr. Grades Standard foul line
20. There will be a minimum of one referee per game.
21. Later arriving players must still play two full quarters, if time permits.

V. Protests

All protests during the regular season must be submitted to the league Commissioner in writing within 48 hours of the game in question. Protests on judgment calls will not be accepted. The protest must clearly state the reason for

the protest, and must be accompanied by \$50.00 in cash. If the protest is upheld, the money will be returned, the protesting team will be awarded the victory by a score of one (1) to nothing, and any other appropriate action will be taken at the discretion of the League Director. If the protest is not upheld, the money will be placed in the Association's treasury. During tournament playoffs, the League Commissioner must receive the protest within 2 hours of the completion of the game in question. This is due to the compressed time frames during playoff tournament.

VI. Schedules

All practices and game schedules will be set by the Director, subject to final approval by the Board. No changes may be made without the approval of the Director and the Board.

VII. Gate Fee

The Association reserves the right to collect an admission fee to games, if the Board deems it necessary.

VIII. Rule Changes

The Board reserves the right to modify any rules it deems necessary to insure the integrity of the program.

IX. Ejection Rules

Any individual who has been ejected from the game will be required to leave the gym immediately. In the event a player, coach or spectator is ejected from the game, that individual will be required to appear before the Board for appropriate disciplinary action including suspension for the next game(s) and/or expulsion from the program. Disciplinary actions are at the discretion of the Board.

X. Blood Rule

A player, coach or referee who is bleeding or who has blood on their uniform shall be prohibited from participating further in the game until appropriate treatment can be administered. If medical care or treatment is administered in a reasonable length of time, the individual will not have to leave the game. The referee shall:

1. Stop the game and allow treatment if the injured player would affect the continuation of the game.
2. Immediately call a coach, trainer or the authorized person to the injured player.
3. No player, coach or referee will be allowed to continue in that game until the bleeding has been stopped and the bloody uniform removed.

XI. Game and Practice Cancellations

GAA Basketball Association will follow the Gwinnett County School policy for school closing, early school closure or release of classes due to inclement weather Monday through Friday by automatically canceling all games and practices that are scheduled that day and subsequent days if necessary, if Gwinnett County Schools cancels classes or closes the schools the following days also. Saturday and Sunday cancellation will be at the discretion of the League and will be final. Canceled games or practices may not be made up.

XII. K Coed Instructional League Playing Rules Supplement

The purpose for the K Coed Instructional League is to instruct the players on how to play basketball, not winning. The intent of the K Coed Instructional League playing rules is to facilitate the instruction of the players and to insure full participation and enjoyment by all players.

1. One (1) Coach for each team will be allowed on the court during the game to assist with instruction.
2. Teams may use man-to-man or zone defenses; however, the defense may not extend past the designated floor markings. Each defender must be guarding a specific player or a specific area. Players will not be allowed to chase the ball over the entire court. Double-teaming/Trapping is not allowed except in the lane.
3. Back-court pressing will not be allowed. Upon change of possession, the defensive team must move to the defensive area as designated by the floor markings.
4. Fast breaks will be allowed. In the event a team is running a fast break, the defending team may play defense on the entire court; however, if a turnover occurs in the backcourt or around midcourt, the offensive team will retain possession, with the referee allowing the defense to set up inside the appropriate area as noted above. Coaches and referees will be asked to insure that no child dominates play. If a team has a ten (10) point lead or greater, they may not fast break.
5. Traveling, double-dribble, etc. violations will be not called in the backcourt and will be called in the front court only if the violation gives the offensive team an advantage.
6. Change of possession cannot occur in the back-court.
7. Lane violations – liberal lane violations.
8. The coaches should allow each child the opportunity to bring the ball down the court. It is the responsibility of the coach to enforce this rule.

XIII. Gwinnett Basketball League (GBL)

Participation in the Gwinnett Basketball League (GBL) is intended to develop a highly competitive youth basketball program designed specifically to enhance the skills of the most serious minded basketball players. All GBL games will be played at Suwanee Sports Academy in Suwanee, Georgia. The Grayson GBL teams will be under the umbrella of GAA. In doing so, the GBL teams will receive all privileges and rights of the GAA Basketball league. This will include the use of GAA designated practice facilities.

1. GBL Organization

The GBL teams would be a single team, one boys' and one girls', for each grade level starting at 5th grade and running through 7th grade. Additional teams may be added at the discretion of the GBL Director. The GBL will be organized as followed:

GBL Boys'

5th Grade Boys' Coach

6th Grade Boys' Coach

7th Grade Boys' Coach

GBL Girls'

5th Grade Girls' Coach

6th Grade Girls' Coach

7th Grade Girls' Coach

- a. Head Coaches will be selected via majority vote from the GAA Basketball Board. Circumstances may arise in which a coach can not fulfill his or her responsibilities and may have to step down as Head Coach. At such time, a new Head Coach will be selected by the GAA Basketball Board. To maintain consistency with the coaches, players and parents, the Head Coach would likely remain with their team for all three years (5th through 7th grade). The GAA Basketball Board will evaluate any and all grievances or complaints concerning GBL Coaches and determine the proper disciplinary action required. These actions can include a written warning, temporary suspension, or dismissal from the Grayson GBL program. The GBL Coaches should all come together along with the Schools' Coaches and develop a consistent coaching philosophy as it relates to: running specific offensive and defensive schemes; fundamentals; lingo; attitude; etc. It will be up to the Head Coaches' discretion to select his or her assistant coaching staff.

2. Tryouts

GBL teams will be selected via tryouts. The tryouts will be well publicized throughout the schools. Final team roster and number of players will be at the discretion of the Head Coach. Tryouts will be held prior to the GAA Recreational League tryouts. This will allow those who did not make the GBL teams to participate in the GAA Basketball League.

3. Finances

Player costs will be determined by the GBL Director and submitted by each player directly to GAA. These costs will cover playing expenses including but not limited to uniform (jersey and shorts) and gym rental for practice. Each team may collect additional fees in order to provide for additional uniform pieces (t-shirts, shoes, sweat suits, etc) and/or additional practice space outside of the normal gym space provided by GAA Basketball. Additional fees along with the use of the fees must be approved by the GBL Director. Each respective Head Coach will be responsible for administering any separate funds.

4. Practices:

GAA will assist the GBL teams in securing practice time at Grayson Cluster school facilities.

5. Uniforms:

Uniforms will be selected at the discretion of the GBL Director and included in the player registration fee. The style of uniforms will be consistent for all teams.

6. Rules:

Games will be played according to the rules and regulations as established by GBL.

7. Participation:

There are no guarantees of playing time for players. Coaches are allowed to play whoever they deem appropriate. However, Coaches are “expected” to play each player a minimum of a quarter (6 to 8 minutes) each and every game. The time can be split up throughout the game. A Coach can waiver from this expectation in the event of poor attendance, poor effort, or some other infraction disciplinary action. Coaches are encouraged to consider the development of all players as a more important goal than the development of a select few players, and to consider “winning” as a secondary goal to player development in general.

8. Playing Up:

A fourth grade player can play in the fifth grade GBL league. All other players will play in their designated age bracket, unless approved by the GBL Director. The desire of GAA is to develop the players within each age group as a team. The best way to accomplish this is by having the players together for all three years of GBL.