



Owatonna Basketball Association Handbook

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Player, Parent & Coach Code of Conduct

The Owatonna Basketball Association:

The following pages are designed to tell you, the coach, the parent, and player what the OBA is all about: who we are, how to contact us, what programs we have, and how we interact and support you. This document should be treated as a guideline for the areas covered with emphasis on our expected code of conduct as players, parents and coaches.

OBA MISSION:

Owatonna Basketball Association is designed to provide an opportunity for boys and girls in grades 3-8 to play a more competitive game of basketball including traveling tournaments. Emphasis is placed on player development, sportsmanship, and teamwork. This is accomplished through establishing competitive teams, who are led by knowledgeable coaches, with a goal of developing the players to be ready to compete at the next highest level.

PROGRAM DETAILS:

The OBA offers a traveling program for girls and boys to participate in advanced, competitive, traveling basketball tournaments in grades 3-8. Depending on the number of players, teams, and ability levels, some interested players may not be selected for a traveling team. Players not selected are encouraged to continue their skill development through Owatonna Park and Rec (Kindergarten-6th grade), Kid's First program (7th-8th grade), or St. Mary's.

Below are details about many aspects of the program to ensure our families know what to expect from the OBA program.

Uniforms: OBA introduces new uniforms as needed. Uniforms will be an additional cost at registration when your child is in need of a new uniform. OBA works with local vendors to select updated and affordable uniform options.

Practice Times: OBA holds practices at OMS, OHS, elementary schools, and suitable for-rent facilities. Unfortunately, there is a shortage of gym space and a number of conflicting events which makes practice scheduling the single most difficult task that faces OBA. OBA strives to schedule around significant school events and schedules younger ages for earlier in the evening. We strive to publish practice schedules 30 days in advance when possible.

Tournament Selection: Tournaments are selected based on the following: - Level of competition - Location (minimize commute) - One day or two day? - History – have we received favorable feedback in the past? - Program – do we have a good relationship with their program? - Schedule – is it a weekend we're looking to fill?

Registration Fees: Registration fees are used to offset the costs of tournaments, pay coaches, buy equipment, and rent facilities.

OBA Communications: The SportsEngine app and our website (www.owatonnabasketball.com) are OBA's primary way to publish practice times, tournament info, general reminders etc. Please utilize both and become familiar with them. It will be very useful throughout the season! Please also follow us on social media. Other sites used for communication and celebration of our program: Facebook is "Owatonna Basketball Association" ; Twitter is "@OBA55050"; Instagram is "Owatonna Basketball"

Parent Meeting: The board/parent meeting lays the foundation for all parties – coaches, players, and parents – to explore and communicate their expectations and concerns. This opportunity is designed to discuss tournament selection, playing time expectations, coaching philosophy, etc. We encourage all parents to attend this meeting. The meeting time and date will typically correspond with the evaluation dates.

REGISTRATION/COMMITMENT:

OBA holds registration one time per year, typically in late September for the following fall/winter season. Registration is held as a stand-alone registration period and communicated via e-mail (for those within the OBA database) and via various advertisements. The registration deadline is communicated and is very important because OBA uses the registration deadline to decide how many teams will be formed at each grade level, and then begins to enter those teams in tournaments for the upcoming season. Teams are formed for girls and boys in grades 3 - 8 based upon number of participants and overall talent levels. If multiple 3rd and 4th

grade teams are required, it is the intent to make them equal teams in terms of talent and capability. 5th through 8th grade teams will be formed as “A” and “B” teams. Teams consist of 8-10 players using historical data, availability of gym time, and program budget to determine how many teams will be formed by OBA.

Due to the significant time commitment required, players should not participate on other sports teams during the traveling basketball season. OBA practices and games should be the priority. Failure to follow this level of commitment results in difficult situations for teams with fewer players and is unfair to your teammates. OBA strives to partner with other Owatonna based basketball opportunities to offer the highest levels of participation possible.

EVALUATIONS/TEAMS:

Owatonna High School coaching staff and OBA non-parent coaches/board members will conduct the evaluations. Evaluations will consist of various individual, small group, and team drills/scrimmages. Players will be independently evaluated by using drills, such as layups, dribbling, and shooting including 1 on 1. In addition, players will participate in 3 on 3, 4 on 4, and 5 on 5 scrimmages, with rotating teammates and opponents. Evaluators are not looking for the tallest, fastest, or players with the best jump shot. A successful and winning team includes players that can rebound, play defense, pass the ball, and be a good person/teammate. Each player must attend all evaluations sessions for his/her age group. Any deviation from this requirement must be approved by the OBA board president or high school head coach in advance. Players are expected to alter their schedules to attend evaluations. Injured players should also notify both the board president and high school head coach in advance and should plan to attend each evaluation session as an observer. Players being evaluated should wear a t-shirt with their last name on the back of the shirt. Players are encouraged to bring a water bottle - no sports or energy drinks. Parents are not allowed in the gym during evaluations. Team assignments will be communicated via the OBA website at a time to be announced at evaluations. Players who do not make a team will receive a full refund. For players that make a team, no refunds will be issued once evaluations are completed.

OBA makes use of the following strategies during evaluations: 1) equal opportunity; 2) team play and skill assessment; 3) independent evaluation.

Equal Opportunity: Team groupings for scrimmages during evaluations are changed several times so that each player will play with and against many different players. An effort is made to equitably distribute height on the scrimmage teams.

Team Play and Skill Assessment: Drills are used to provide an opportunity for evaluators to observe basic skills. Scrimmages give evaluators a chance to observe skills, along with a player's abilities to use these skills in a game-like situation. Scrimmages also allow evaluators to observe a player's approach to team play.

Independent Evaluation: Previous knowledge of a player's skills, work ethic, and capabilities based on observations at summer camps, open gyms, skills camps, or any other basketball related activities.

Team Placement: Team placement is solely based upon the evaluation process by the high school staff and non-parent OBA coaches.

PLAYER CODE OF CONDUCT:

It is important to clarify the commitment level and conduct that is required from players. **Please have your player read this section:**

ATTENDANCE: OBA expects players to attend all scheduled games and practices. Players should arrive at practices 15 minutes prior to the scheduled time to have shoes on and be ready for practice. Players should arrive 30 minutes prior to the start of a game. Although they may have other obligations, players should remember the commitment they made to OBA and to their team. Players must come properly dressed for practice & games, equipped and prepared to participate. Players should bring a supply of water to each practice and game.

CODE OF CONDUCT POLICY:

- I will respect all aspects of the game including coaches, officials, teammates, opponents, and fans.
- I will always uphold the highest standard of sportsmanship. The use of foul language, inappropriate gestures, or taunting will not be tolerated and are strictly prohibited.
- I will remember that when I play or practice the game of basketball, wherever I am, I represent the OBA, my team, and most of all, myself.
- I will practice good stewardship of the facilities and do my part to keep it clean.
- I will display self-control at all times and will not question or challenge the decisions of the official.
- As in all team sports, we win and lose as a team. I will be positive and supportive of my team at all times. Negative comments or attitudes will not be tolerated.

Players that are not able to uphold the above CODE OF CONDUCT or choose to engage in inappropriate physical contact or verbal exchanges with a teammate, coach, official, or opponent will be subject to player discipline. It is the responsibility of those who witness this behavior to report to an OBA board member or coach.

- **DISCIPLINE:** A player may be ejected by an official or benched by a coach if he/she is in violation of the rules listed above. The OBA Board or coach may also suspend the player in accordance with this policy upon review of conduct.

PARENT CODE OF CONDUCT:

Parents' continual support and involvement are necessary to OBA's success.

As a parent:

- I will learn basic rules and terminology of the game and attend scheduled parent meetings.
- I will make sure my child arrives on time and prepared for all games and practices, and to let the coach know if my child will not be able to attend a practice or game.
- I will pick up my player promptly after practice. While the coach is obligated by OBA to stay with the player until a parent or guardian arrives, I will honor their time.

- I will support my child's coach and discuss my expectations, problems or the progress of my player with the coach at the proper time. The proper time is NEVER in the company of other players and parents. If the issue cannot be resolved, the President of OBA is my appropriate point of contact.
- I will remember that children play this sport for their enjoyment. They are not playing to entertain me. My conduct reflects on the team, the OBA, and our community.
- I will never ridicule an athlete for making a mistake during a competition. I will give positive comments that motivate and encourage continued effort.
- I will respect the official's decisions and will encourage participants to do the same. I will condemn the use of violence in any form and will express my disapproval in an appropriate manner to coaches, spectators and league officials.
- I will show respect for my team's opponents, because without them there would be no game.
- I will report any conduct not in alignment with above guidelines to the OBA board.

Required parent participation:

- Assisting at home tournaments in concessions or other areas of support. Failure to work home tournaments results in forfeiture of deposit.

Parent volunteer opportunities:

- Team Parent Representative: coordinate out of town events, support hotel reservations, coordinate communications, plan end of season recognitions
- Practice assistants (ask your coach how you can help)
- Scorekeeper or livestreaming at Tournaments

COACH CODE OF CONDUCT:

Players look up to coaches as a role model on and off the court. Do not take this responsibility lightly. Coaches are representatives of the Owatonna Basketball Association and are expected to maintain a high level of integrity and responsible behavior.

As a Coach:

- I will teach the value of respect for our team, our opponent and the OBA Organization.
- I will communicate with parents so they know specific times, dates and expectations of games and practices.
- I will contact the parent with any specific concerns that arise with a player.
- I will end practice on time so parents do not have to wait for their children after practice and will wait until all students are picked up before I leave.
- I will not inappropriately engage an official during or after the game.
- I will use appropriate language and gestures in all aspects of my coaching.
- I will teach our team to leave the practice/game facility better than when they got there.