



CAYBBA Traveling Basketball Philosophy and Guide Book

CAYBBA Mission, Vision and Values

Travel Philosophy:

For those players desiring a more competitive level of play, a traveling league is offered. Traveling basketball is for those individuals who exhibit a higher commitment to developing their basketball skills while competing at a higher level. It requires greater commitment, in that each participant is expected to attend all practices and weekend tournaments. The goal is for continuous improvement of both the team and individual skill sets.

Traveling basketball is offered in grades 3 through 8 (if numbers permit). Traveling basketball brings more focus on competition and skill development. As registration numbers allow, up to four teams will be formed per grade with an A-B-C format with eight to ten players per team. Teams are formed according to age guidelines set by the MYAS (Minnesota Youth Athletic Services). The boys and girls varsity basketball coaches conduct tryouts and are responsible for team placement. At no point does any CAYBBA Board member have any influence on team placement.

Program Goals:

1. Understand that I am part of a team and the team is a part of a larger community.
2. Teach individual skills.
3. Focus on development of team concepts and ideals.
4. Teach players to be respectful to each other, opponents, officials and the game.
5. Learn to win or lose with class and good sportsmanship.
6. Develop players and teams with the ability to consistently compete.
7. Prepare players for high school basketball
8. Foster an environment that teaches the importance of the team over individual players.
9. Facilitate an environment where each team member feels they serve an important role on his/her team.

Level of Commitment

CAYBBA has high expectations for our organization, its teams, coaches, and players. Here's what you can expect when playing Traveling basketball:

- Traveling basketball is a more competitive program, with significantly more practice and game time than in-house / rec / development league play.
- The season begins in mid-to-late October with practices, tournaments starting in early November with the season ending in late February / early March.
- There are generally two weeknight practices per week from 75 to 90 minutes and on weekends when the team is not participating in a tournament.
- Most teams will participate in two or three tournaments per month, many of which have adopted a single day model but two-day tournaments will still occur, with multiple games per day. Teams will generally always play three games in a tournament with some playing four and occasionally five.
- Friday evening games are a potential for larger tournaments; most all tournaments will have games on either Saturday and Sundays throughout the day.
- Parents must volunteer at CAYBBA tournaments.
- Every effort is made to provide you with a schedule of practices and games early in the season. The expectation is that you will be able to eliminate most scheduling conflicts if provided with



adequate time to make adjustments. The goal should be to attend every practice and game. If a conflict does exist, it is the parent's and/or player's responsibility to inform the coaching staff as soon as possible.

Registration

Registration is an online process at www.chaskabasketball.com. We aim to provide payment options to families paying by credit card. Late registrations will only be accepted with the permission of the Board.

Traveling Basketball Organizations Expenses / Where the Money Goes

Significant expenses include:

- Gym rental
- Insurance
- Tournament Registration Costs
- Storage fees
- Equipment
- Coaches' and player apparel
- Website

Financial Assistance

If a family cannot afford the full registration fees, the family can apply for partial or full financial assistance. If approval is granted, a discount code can be provided for you to register online. Scholarships are limited and on a first-come, first-serve basis. For those who are given scholarship approval, a discount code will be provided for the online registration. The scholarship form is available online at chaskabasketball.com

Travel Tryouts

Evaluations

Travel tryouts / evaluations are required for all registered players in the program, regardless of the number of players registered per grade level.

The purpose of evaluations is to assign players to teams based on an objective assessment of skills and abilities and where maximum development will happen. It is impossible and impractical to accommodate individual parent requests for team assignments. Evaluations, therefore, rely on evaluators to assess players' skills and abilities as they perform drills and scrimmages.

Tryouts for Travel Teams are held between early September and early October, shortly after the player registration deadline so that teams can be formed as quickly as possible. The varsity staff of the boys and girls high school basketball programs will conduct the tryouts when possible. Tryouts typically run for two sessions. Check the Association website, social media and email for schedule details.

Injury or Absence from Evaluations

Tryouts are mandatory. Not attending all of the scheduled tryouts could affect your placement. Failure to attend any of the tryouts may eliminate you from taking part in the Traveling program.

Players who have registered for tryouts and cannot participate due to an injury or illness will be excused upon delivery of a doctor's note describing the player's limitations. Players excused due to injury or illness must present a signed doctor's release indicating that the player is medically fit before they will be allowed to participate in any CAYBBA activities.



In the event of an injury or absence that cannot be avoided from missing both evaluation days/sessions, a player will be considered for a team based on prior evaluations, seasons, and coach's feedback from previous teams. Generally, a player in this situation would be considered for the same, or lower level of competition as the previous year.

It is important that parents and players understand that the evaluators are looking for the players that will make up the best basketball teams and not just the tallest players, the fastest players, or the players that have the best shots. A successful basketball team includes players that are coachable, can rebound, play defense, pass the ball and are willing to play within a team framework with maximum effort and a positive attitude. Parents should encourage their children to attempt to demonstrate all of their basketball skills during evaluations. Players demonstrating abilities in all facets of the game and that demonstrate the ability and willingness to play as a member of a team, and not as an individual, will be more highly-rated in the evaluations than say players concerned only with shooting the ball on every touch. Players are assigned to a team based on the above subjective criteria determined by the staff. Prior year travel coach feedback is leveraged accordingly and as necessary.

Evaluation (Day of) Logistics

Each grade level will have two evaluation sessions. The evaluation sessions will be no more than three hours in total. Players will be pre-assigned an evaluation number to wear for both evaluation sessions. These numbers are assigned either randomly or based on timing of registration or alphabetically, they are not based on any prior level of play and have no bearing on evaluations other than identification.

Players should arrive 30 minutes prior to their evaluation time to allow for adequate time for the check-in process which will involve jersey sizing generally on the first day of the evaluation.

Evaluations are a closed session, open to only players and evaluators. No Board Members are present during the tryout process unless special circumstances require it (e.g., disciplinary action, injury, escorting in late arrivals, etc.).

Example Tryout / Evaluation Activities:

- Warm Up
- Skills & Drills
- 3 on 3
- 5 on 5

Player Assignments

Team placements are determined by evaluation results and also include input from previous coaches. The goal of this process is to place players at the correct competitive level where they can be the most successful.

Pairings or Special Selection

When a family has multiple players at the same age level (ie. twins), the family has the option to elect to have both players placed on the same team. If electing to place both players on the same team they will still receive individual evaluation scores, and if those scores would otherwise place them on different teams, the player with the higher evaluation score will be moved to the team in which the player with the lower evaluation score was placed.



Alternatively, the family may opt to allow their players to be evaluated as individuals with the understanding that they could be placed on separate teams or that one player is cut while the other is placed on a team.

The family's preference must be determined before evaluations

Announcement of Results

CAYBBA will communicate results by posting team placements on the CAYBBA Website. All teams are final once they are posted.

Rosters are posted for all teams even if a head coach has not been identified. Teams without a head coach at the specified deadline on the results web site will be cut and receive a refund.

Player Expectations

As noted in the Player Expectations document linked from above, the below are the stated expectations of all players with CAYBBA

- Players are expected to conduct himself / herself on and off the court in a way that exhibits respect for others including ALL teammates, opponents, coaches, officials, fans, and oneself.
- Players are expected to maintain positive support and encouragement of all other players while participating in CAYBBA
- Players will place the emotional and physical wellbeing of all players ahead of any personal desire to win
- Players will be responsible to do their best to ensure that all play is in a safe and healthy environment
- Players are expected to demonstrate good sportsmanship before, during and after all games
- Players will be responsible for team issued uniforms and equipment
- Players are responsible for their attitude and effort and must exercise self-control

Player Removal/Violation Process

- Violations to the code of conduct may result in a warning, suspension or removal from the Association.

Team Descriptions

As numbers allow, CAYBBA may form up to four teams at each grade level, but not to exceed 32 travel teams (boys and girls) overall due to gym space constraints.

As a general rule of thumb, CAYBBA will form an "A" team with the top players at each grade level, followed by a "B" and then "C" team. These are guidelines. The top team at a grade level may be a "B" team which would be at the determination of the coaches during the evaluation process and prior year results where available and representative.

These teams may be numbered "1," "2," "3," "4" if there are more than 3 teams per grade to allow for appropriate tournament scheduling.

***CAYBBA reserves the right to move players down from "A" to "B" or from "B" to "C" teams if the player is not meeting their obligation to the team. The decision will be made by the Travel Coordinator and the



criteria for the decision will be numerous unexcused absences, numerous missed games, etc. The player will be given the opportunity to correct any issues before a move is made.

Coaches

The primary goals of the coach should be teaching and improving fundamental skills of basketball, encouraging and facilitating team play, and developing an environment of continuous improvement of both the individual and the team. Head coaches will be selected based on the following criteria:

- Coaching philosophies similar to the goals of CAYBBA.
- Parent survey evaluations from previous years (if applicable).
- Knowledge of basketball.
- Previous coaching experience.
- This team must be the coach's top priority and only Travel team.
- Willingness to facilitate a team where each player makes a meaningful contribution to the team.

After a head coach is selected, they will select 1-2 assistant coaches to help them with the team. Each head coach will have a parent meeting before the season begins to discuss expectations, philosophy, goals, and answer questions.

Coach selection is independent of the player tryout process and has no bearing whatsoever on his/her son/daughter's team placement. Players are placed on teams agnostic of who potential coaches are.

Refunds

Refunds, if necessary, can be obtained by contacting the CAYBBA President. The rules for refunds are:

- Full Refund prior to the first tryout.
- Full Refund Less \$50 Administrative Fee if requested after the first tryout but before teams are posted.
- No refunds after teams are posted due to uniform and administration costs. The exception is if a participant is moved up to the high school team. If the move is made after the season has started, the refund may be prorated.

Problem Resolution

If a problem arises, CAYBBA has the following escalation process:

1. Approach the head coach first with questions or concerns. This should be done, in private, in person, and away from any team setting.
2. If a parent feels that the coach is not addressing their concerns, the issue should be brought to the attention of the Travel Coordinator.
3. If a parent still feels that their concerns are not being addressed, they should contact the CAYBBA President.

**Playing Time**

The CAYBBA traveling program does not guarantee equal playing time. However, it is the goal of the program that each player participates in a meaningful fashion with regard to all aspects of the program. Among the criteria that will be considered in determining who will be a head coach will be the willingness to ensure that all players participate meaningfully.

The head coach will make all the decisions for that given team. Playing time will be based on ability and other intangibles, such as commitment to the team, attendance and being on time to practices and games. Each player should be given an opportunity to make a meaningful contribution to each game. Encourage your child, work with him/her, and tell them to ask the coach what they can do to improve.

Gym Space

Gym space in the school district is at a premium. CAYBBA is a tenant of the schools that we practice in - we rent space that is allowed to us. High School teams have priority and there are other events and activities that we work around. We not only work around their practice times but also their home games which does decrease the gym space that is open to us to rent. We will continue to leverage as much gym space as we can during the season. It is the responsibility of all coaches, athletes and parents to respect the gyms, hallways, staff, etc. in the schools in which we operate. Any reported concerns from the District staff can result in disciplinary action as determined by the Code of Conduct committee at CAYBBA.

Space allocations are determined by Chaska Community Education and are subject to change. The CAYBBA program will try and obtain as much space as possible in the district to fulfill all of our programs