

# **Northwest Metro League**

## **Articles of Operation**

**June 1, 2018**

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## **ARTICLE I. PURPOSE**

To provide and administer an organized basketball program available to young men and women of traditional middle school and high school consistent with the player eligibility requirements contained in these articles.

## **ARTICLE II GEOGRAPHIC SCOPE OF THE LEAGUE**

The Northwest Metro League serves eligible players within the Osseo Maple Grove Basketball Association boundaries. Other communities and associations may be considered for participation depending in part upon the available resources.

## **ARTICLE III ADMINISTRATION OF THE LEAGUE**

OMGBA shall designate board members (OMGBA House Board) to administer the Northwest Metro League on an annual basis responsible to:

- Update rules
- Establish fees, rates, and schedules
- Coordinate other community and association invites / participation
- Administer / oversee team formation and drafts
- Administer program and enforce rules on all players, coaches, and fans
- Other activities as necessary

Each respective participating community's basketball association shall designate and maintain 1 or 2 members to be the liaison between their basketball association and the OMGBA House Board.

In the event of situations that may impact each participating community's programs more broadly than Northwest Metro League normal operation, the acting Presidents of each participating community program will be offered an opportunity to address the OMGBA House Board.

## **ARTICLE IV STATEMENT OF PLAYER ELIGIBILITY**

The Northwest Metro League is open to all players who are registered with their respective participating community's basketball association, except those participating in high school basketball programs (i.e. freshmen, sophomore, junior varsity, and varsity teams) or traveling basketball (5<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grade).

A player who has quit or has been otherwise removed from a participating community's high school basketball program (i.e. freshmen, sophomore, junior varsity, or varsity team), may join a Northwest Metro League team before the end of the calendar year in which the season started, subject to approval of the OMGBA House Board.

## **ARTICLE V TEAM FORMATION**

All persons who are eligible and registered with their respective participating community's basketball association will be selected for or placed on a Northwest Metro League team, subject to open positions. When two or more teams will be formed from a community, a draft will be conducted to govern team formation. OMGBA House Board representatives and community liaisons will be present and ensure that a "snake draft" is conducted and non-present participants are placed on rosters alphabetically in draft order. The overriding goal of the draft process and non-present participant team assignments is to distribute participant talent equally across the respective community-based teams.

Players may not move from one community program to another once player rosters have been set. Player rosters are set prior to the first game and must be submitted to OMGBA House Board for cross-reference to verify player eligibility among all participating community programs.

- 1) The Northwest Metro League will be operated in multi-level divisions.
  - a) Middle school boys divisions will align with grade levels.
  - b) Senior high boys divisions will align with grade levels.
  - c) Girls will be divided into mixed grade divisions: 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> grade division, 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> grade division, and 9<sup>th</sup> thru 12<sup>th</sup> grade division depending on registered numbers supported by all communities.
- 2) The OMGBA House Board reserves the right to alter divisions to meet the needs of the league depending on actual player registrations.
- 3) There will be no playing up or down by teams or players.
- 4) Each team will consist of an adult head coach and can have one additional assistant on the bench. Adult coaches and assistants are defined as anyone 21 years of age and older as of January 1 of the year the games are played.
- 5) Teams will consist of same gender players.
- 6) Team rosters are required to have a minimum of eight players and maximum of ten players unless approved by OMGBA House Board.
- 7) Player "trades" after the required draft must be approved by the OMGBA House Board prior to the first game. Such "trades" shall only be approved if they do not conflict with the overriding goal to distribute participant talent equally across the respective community-based teams.

#### **ARTICLE VI                      UNIFORMS / EQUIPMENT / REFEREES / COACHES**

- 1) Each respective participating basketball association is responsible for providing each of their players with at least one light color and one dark color jersey, or one reversible jersey. Player numbers on the back of each jersey are to be a minimum of eight inches in height, with a three-inch minimum height in the front (Minnesota High School League).
- 2) Each association "hosting" Northwest Metro League tournaments is responsible for providing clock and scoreboard at the facilities, qualified, referees, and awards. Game balls are provided by the teams.
- 3) There will be two qualified referees per game, although any game may be played and counted with one referee, given prior mutual agreement by both head coaches. Referees may not be players or coaches for games in their respective divisions within the Northwest Metro League.
- 4) Referees are to be scheduled and paid in accordance with existing procedure and rate as established by the OMGBA House Board.

#### **ARTICLE VII                      PLAYER, COACH AND FAN CODE OF CONDUCT**

Occasionally, an individual's actions may fail to live up to the league's expectations. It is up to the league, the players and the fans to make sure the rules are enforced in a way that honors the game. In doing so, the Northwest Metro League fulfills its responsibilities to players, officials and fans. It ensures that the tradition, character and reputation are passed on and we preserve the game.

The Players, Coaches and Fans are expected to conduct themselves with good sportsmanship to other players, coaches and fans in accordance with the Minnesota High School League "Sportsmanship Pledge," the OMGBA Code of Conduct, and OMGBA Behavior Code.

Anyone that violates the OMGBA Code of Conduct and/or Behavior Code can be barred from further participation (fan, player, or coach).