

Osseo Maple Grove Basketball Association

Traveling Team Tryout Guidelines

I. Purpose

The purpose of these guidelines is to establish a uniform process and set of criteria for the Osseo Maple Grove Basketball Association (OMGBA) to ensure that each player is given a fair and just opportunity to demonstrate his/her ability. These guidelines are further intended to promote the integrity of the selection process by requiring the traveling coaches to be accountable for their selection decisions.

II. Application

These guidelines apply to all traveling tryouts.

III. Tryout Times and Guidelines

- A. The times for the tryouts will be determined by the OMGBA Traveling Committee. The tryouts, at a minimum, shall be conducted over two days. Each tryout session may last up to three hours.
- B. The first part of the tryout on **Day 1** will be devoted to evaluating each player as they perform drills intended to assess the player's skill and ability in four separate areas, including shooting, dribbling (speed and controlled), rebounding, and 1-on-1. The evaluations should be performed by six independent evaluators, having one evaluator per station evaluating one skill.
- C. The second part of the tryout on **Day 1** will involve 3 on 3 scrimmages of all players. The independent evaluators will stay at one basket while the players rotate until they have been at each basket. During this section, the independent evaluators will assess each player's skill and ability in one scrimmage area (1-5pts) of offense (with and without the ball) and defense. Three evaluators will evaluate offense and three evaluators will evaluate defense.
- D. At the completion of **Day 1**, all skills scores will be tabulated, and a ranking of all players will be completed. On **Day 2** players will be grouped on 2 or 3 courts based on their skills scores only. Evaluators will be 2 or 3 to a court and will evaluate 3 on 3 on 3 for 10-15 minutes and will then switch courts until they have been at all courts. After about 30 min, the evaluators do the same thing for 5 on 5. (Evaluators should sub players so all players play equal time) After this process, evaluators can get together and move players between courts as they continue to play 5 on 5. Potential coaches may be asked to sit in on **Day 2** only.

- E. Once all evaluators have their score sheets completed, the scores will be input and added to the skills scores. A final ranking is then determined, and CAN NOT be changed. The independent evaluators will be required to sign-off on the final ranking sheet approved by the Association. This sheet will identify the player's rank based upon all scores derived from both the drills and the scrimmages on both days of the tryout.
- F. The Osseo Maple Grove Basketball Association prohibits parents from observing the tryouts. This is for the comfort and safety of the players. The Association takes this stance because the parent's attendance may place additional stress or pressure on some players.
- G. Players will be notified of team placement on the OMGBA web site. (See X. Player Notification Section)

IV. Tryout Non-Participation Policy

In order to most effectively place players on the appropriate traveling basketball team, it is necessary that all players take part in the respective traveling basketball tryouts, receive an evaluation by the independent evaluators, and be considered for a traveling team based on their tryout score.

Under certain circumstances approved by the OMGBA Traveling Basketball Committee (for example - injury or illness when accompanied by a doctor or school nurse note), an "excused player" may be eligible and placed on a traveling basketball team even though they were unable to participate in the respective tryouts.

In such situations, the following procedures will be followed by the OMGBA Traveling Basketball Committee in an effort to place players appropriately within the OMGBA basketball programs (traveling or house league):

- Excused players prior year rankings will be reviewed.
- OMGBA basketball coaches familiar with the excused player will be consulted to obtain perspective of the players basketball abilities compared to others at the same age / gender.
- Others familiar with the excused player may be consulted to obtain additional perspective when deemed necessary.
- The current year's traveling basketball coaches will be consulted to gain their perspective of the excused player's abilities in advance of the tryout.

Based on the perspectives gained above, excused players will be placed on a traveling or house league team as follows:

- A player ranked in the "Top 5" for their respective team the previous year and whose current basketball ability is confirmed by other means listed above, will be placed on the same team as a "Top 5" player for the current year.
- A player ranked in the "Top 5" for their respective team the previous year but whose current basketball abilities are not confirmed as "Top 5" by other means listed above, will be eligible to be placed on the same team at the coach's discretion.
- A player ranked "6 thru 15" for their respective team the previous year and whose current basketball abilities are confirmed by other means listed above, will be eligible to be placed on the same team at the coach's discretion. If not selected on the same team, the player will be placed on the next level team as a "Top 5" player for the current year.

- A player ranked “6 thru 15” for their respective team the previous year but whose current basketball abilities are not confirmed by other means listed above, will not be eligible to be placed on the same team. Such player will be placed on the next level team but not as a “Top 5” player for the current year.
- Any player who did not participate in traveling basketball tryouts the previous year will only be considered for a traveling team if overwhelming evidence is obtained by the Traveling Basketball Committee about the player’s basketball abilities. In such situations, the Traveling Basketball Committee has the authority to designate what team a player will be eligible to participate. Such designation will be communicated to the respective traveling basketball coaches during the current year tryouts in advance of team selections.
- The Traveling Basketball Committee has the authority, when overwhelming evidence is available, to place an excused player on what is deemed the most appropriate team (traveling or house league) based on such evidence.

V. Independent Evaluators

- A. In order to ensure the independence of the evaluators, the Traveling Commissioner will assign 6 evaluators to the respective tryouts. Evaluators assigned to the girls traveling team tryouts will consist, at a minimum, of the coaches that have been assigned to coach the boys traveling teams. The evaluators assigned to the boys traveling team tryouts will consist, at a minimum, of the coaches that have been assigned to coach the girls traveling teams. To the extent that additional evaluators are needed, they will be members of the Board or approved by the Traveling Commissioner.
- B. The specific evaluators assigned to a tryout site will be made in accordance with the following rules:
- i. The evaluator may not have a family member trying out for the traveling team.
 - ii. The evaluator must have a general lack of familiarity with the players trying out for the team; and
 - iii. A coach may not be assigned to evaluate players at the same grade at which he/she will be coaching – unless there is no familiarity with the players..

VI. Player Selection

The “Team I” coach is responsible for selecting those players who will play on the “first-team.” Likewise, the “Team II” coach is responsible for selecting those players who will play on the “second-team,” etc. The final player ranking as determined by the independent evaluators will be used by the respective coaches, in their discretion, in selecting players to the respective teams, subject to the following rules:

A. Team I Selections

- i. The “Team I” coach can select, without explanation, any player who ranked 1 through 15.
- ii. If the “Team I” coach intends on selecting a player who ranked below 15, the coach must obtain majority approval from the independent evaluators evidenced by signatures on the final rankings form specific to the request. Approval will only be granted if the request is based upon a valid and reasonable basis. This approval must precede any posting of team results.
- iii. If the “Team I” coach does not intend to select a player that ranked in the top 5, the coach must obtain majority approval from the independent evaluators evidenced by signatures on the final rankings form specific to the request. Approval will only be granted if the request is based upon a valid and reasonable basis. This approval must precede any posting of team results.

B. Team II Selections.

- i. The “Team II” coach can select, without explanation, any player who ranked 1 through 25.
- ii. If the “Team II” coach intends on selecting a player who ranked below 25, the coach must obtain majority approval from the independent evaluators evidenced by signatures on the final rankings form specific to the request. Approval will only be granted if the request is based upon a valid and reasonable basis. This approval must precede any posting of team results.
- iii. If the “Team II” coach does not intend to select a player in the top 5 remaining after the “Team I” team has been selected, the coach must obtain majority approval from the independent evaluators evidenced by signatures on the final rankings form specific to the request. Approval will only be granted if the request is based upon a valid and reasonable basis. This approval must precede any posting of team results.

C. Team III Selections.

- i. The “Team III” coach can select, without explanation, any player who ranked 1 through 35.
- ii. If the “Team III” coach intends on selecting a player who ranked below 35 after the “Team I” and “Team II” teams have been selected, the coach must obtain majority approval from the traveling coordinator, “Team I” coach, and “Team II” coach evidenced by signatures on the final rankings form specific to the request. Approval will only be granted if the request is based upon a valid and reasonable basis. This approval must precede any posting of team results.
- iii. If the “Team III” coach does not intend to select a player in the top 5 remaining after the “Team I” and “Team II” teams have been selected, the coach must obtain majority approval from the traveling coordinator, “Team I” coach, and “Team II” coach evidenced by signatures on the final rankings form specific to the request. Approval will only be granted if the request is based upon a valid and reasonable basis. This approval must precede any posting of team results.

D. Additional-Team Selections.

- i. Additional teams will be selected following the above “Team III” procedures allowing for an adjustment to the range of eligible players based on which team is being selected.

VII. Individual Player Evaluations

- A. All players trying out will receive an individual player evaluation form. This form will reflect all scores given by the independent evaluators in the areas of ball handling, shooting, rebounding, 1-on-1, offensive ability, and defensive ability. This evaluation form may also include comments from the respective coaches.
- B. The evaluation form will be sent to each player by the respective coaches or, in the case of players making a traveling team, given at one of the first practices.

VIII. Record Keeping Requirements

- A. At the conclusion of the first and second dates of the tryouts, the evaluators will give their forms to the traveling commissioner. They cannot take them with them. The assessments of the independent evaluators will be recorded and entered into a master spreadsheet.
- B. The travel committee members, at the conclusion of Day 1, are responsible to collect all the pinnies in order to make sure they are returned and wash them and return the next day.

- C. The traveling commissioner will keep all evaluators score sheets and the final sign-off sheet. The commissioner will then email each selected travel coach the scoring detail for each of their players so they can fill out the player evaluation forms. The travel committee will email scoring information for players that did not make a team to their parents.

IX. Evaluation Criteria – Drills and Scrimmage Scoring

Each Player will be evaluated by the independent evaluators in six separate areas, including ball handling, shooting, rebounding, 1-on-1, offense, and defense. With regards to each of these skills, the players will be evaluated in accordance with the following:

- A. **Ball Handling**. Players will be asked to participate in two dribbling drills. Players will be evaluated on their ability to dribble with both left and right hand. One drill will involve speed dribbling, while the other drill will involve a controlled dribble with offensive moves. The drills will be designed to evaluate the players' form and ability.

Speed Dribble will require the players to dribble as fast as they can to the half court and back and to the end court and back. The players will be required to change hands at every change of direction. The player will receive the best of two times in this drill. The score (1-5) will be based on ball control and keeping the head up, as well as time.

Control Dribble will require the player to dribble between cones placed in a zig-zag pattern. The player will switch direction at each cone using various offensive moves. These moves will consist of crossovers, reverse spins, between the legs, and behind the back. The drills should recognize the respective player's age and ability. Proper technique requires that the player keep his/her head up with the eyes focused down the court instead of on the ball, knees should be slightly bent; finger and thumb tips contact the ball - not the palms of the hands. The dribbling hand is positioned on top of the ball and towards the back. When dribbling, the wrist and fingertips should be flipped. The lower arm should move in a pumping action to propel, receive, and propel the ball again. The dribbling should be kept low – sock to knee high. The opposite hand and leg should be used to protect the ball as if being guarded. The ball should be in the players control at all times. The scoring is (1-5) for the ability to complete all 4 moves and (1-5) based on being smooth, quick, and using the proper techniques listed above.

- B. **Shooting**. Players will be evaluated on both form and accuracy. Players will be asked to participate in two separate shooting drills, including Catch and Shoot and continuous V lay-ups (both right-handed and left-handed). Each of the drills will be given two scores (1-5).

Spot Shooting Players will be evaluated in form & footwork (1-5) and range & accuracy (1-5). For form, the player is square to the basket with proper footwork.

Their upper arm should be parallel to the floor, forearm should be at a 90-degree angle, the wrist should be cocked with the shooting hand under and behind the ball, the ball should rest on the pads of the fingers (not on the palms of the hands), feet should be shoulder width apart, and the elbow should be kept in close to the body and placed directly under the ball. On the shot, the arm should be pushed up and through the ball with good follow-through. Check for back-spin. The 2nd (1-5) will be for accuracy and range or ability to shoot well from all 6 spots. Players will have 2 chances to shoot from all 6 spots. **Spots include R Block, L Baseline, R Elbow, L wing, 3-point, and end with a free-throw.**

V lay-ups, players will be evaluated on whether they explode off the proper foot, shoot the ball with the proper hand, keep their head up as they approach the basket, and whether the ball makes contact in the proper area on the backboard. Players in 4th - 6th start at the right elbow (Players 7th/8th start at the 3 pt wing) and go from right to left dribbling with their outside hand, pivoting, and scoring with the right hand on the right side (1-5) and left hand on the left side (1-5). Players will shoot 6 – 8 shots.

- C. 2 on 2 box-out drill is to assess the player's rebounding ability. In this drill, the offense players line up on the wings. A defensive player will be assigned to guard each of the offensive players and will be positioned at the low post to start. The ball will be passed to one of the offensive players who will shoot the ball. The defensive players must defend and then box out. The offensive players will attempt to rebound and score. Play will continue until the defense rebounds the ball. Players will be evaluated and given a score (1-5).

Players will be assessed on their ability to properly position themselves on the court (both offense and defense), player's ability to make and maintain contact with their opposed player until the ball comes off the rim, player's ability to jump-up and maintain control of the ball, and the player's aggressiveness in going after the ball and ability to make moves against the defender who is attempting to box out.

- D. One-on-One Rollout. In this drill players will form a straight line under the basket. The first offensive player will start at the top of the key. The first defender will roll the ball to the offensive player and follow the ball to a close out defensive position. The offensive player will have a maximum of five dribbles to score. Play stops on a score or a defensive rebound. Play is reset on an offensive rebound. It is make-it, take-it for the offensive player up to a maximum of three different defenders. The next player in line becomes the next defensive player. The defensive rebounder becomes the offensive player on a defensive rebound. (1-5) points will be given for offensive ability and (1-5) points will be given for defensive ability.
- E. Offensive Ability. The player's offensive skill will be evaluated while the players participate in 3 on 3 and 5 on 5 scrimmages. Evaluators will be assessing the player's overall offensive ability in three areas, with a score (1-5) given for each

area. The first area is ball handling, court awareness, and passing. The second area is the ability to score (outside and/or inside) and drive to the basket. The third area is off-the-ball movement and talking.

- F. **Defensive Ability.** The player’s defensive skill will be evaluated while the players participate in 3 on 3 and 5 on 5 scrimmages. Evaluators will be assessing the player’s overall defensive ability in three areas, with a score (1-5) given for each area. The first area is defensive stance, shuffle, denial, and help-side. The second area is defensive pressure, aggressiveness, and anticipation. The third area is defensive positioning, rebounding, and boxing out. Overall, the evaluators will assess how hard the player is working on defense and how well they communicate with their teammates.
- G. **Team Placement.** The evaluators will each provide a score of (1-20) to reflect which team they feel the player is best suited for based on all players trying out. Evaluators will be assessing the player’s overall basketball abilities, team play, and presence as well as attitude, effort & athleticism. The average of these scores is taken from all evaluators.

H. The score card used by the independent evaluators is shown below

Evaluation Scale
5 - Player demonstrates exceptional ability.
4 - Player demonstrates proficient ability.
3 - Player adequately completes the skill.
2 - Player demonstrates emerging skills.
1 - Player demonstrates limited ability in this area.

Skills	Evaluation Criteria	Pts
Ball Handling		15
Speed Dribble	Under Control/Head-up/Use of both hands	1-5
	Recorded best of two times	
Cone Dribble	Under Control/Head-up/Use of both hands	1-5
	Ability to complete moves at cones	1-5
Shooting		20
V-lay-ups	Form/Right Hand/Accuracy	1-5
	Form/Left Hand/Accuracy	1-5
Spot Shooting	Square-up/Form/Footwork	1-5
	Accuracy/Range	1-5
Rebounding/Match-Up		15
2 on 2 Box-out	Positioning/Contact/Boxing Out	1-5
1 on 1 Roll-out	Ability to Score with Defense	1-5

Ability to Defend	1-5
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Skill Points **50**

<u>Scrimmages</u>	<u>Evaluation Criteria</u>	<u>Pts</u>
Offensive Ability		15
3 on 3 & 5 on 5	Ball Handling/Passing	1-5
	Scoring - Outside/Inside/Drives	1-5
	Off-Ball Movement	1-5
TEAM PLACEMENT (All Score)		20

Top 3 = 20 & Not a travel player = 1-4 Boys: T1(17-19), T2(14-16), T3(11-13), T4(8-10), T5(5-7) Girls: Team1(15-19), Team2(10-14), Team3(5-9)	1-20
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Defense **15**

3 on 3 & 5 on 5	Defensive Stance/Shuffle/Deny/Help D	1-5
	Positioning/Rebounding/Box Out	1-5
	Pressure/Aggressiveness/Anticipation	1-5

Scrimmage Points **50**

Total Points	100
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X. Player Notification Guidelines

- A. After a minimum of two tryout dates have been completed, all final rankings are signed by the independent evaluators, and all necessary approvals are granted by a majority of the independent evaluators, the teams may be chosen. The Traveling Committee designate will then post the team with jersey number and initials (in jersey number order) on the web page in the respective section. This process is repeated for all teams selected per grade / gender.