



**GRAYSON ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION
BASKETBALL OPERATIONAL HANDBOOK**

www.gaasports.org

Dear Coaches, Parents and Participants,

Welcome to the Grayson Athletic Association (GAA) Basketball Program. This handbook has been written to assist you in better understanding the policies and expectations set forth by the GAA Basketball Board.

The GAA Basketball Program fields both boys and girl's teams from kindergarten through the 12th grade which are divided by grade. GAA also participates in the Gwinnett Basketball League (GBL) which is a highly competitive youth travel program for boys and girls in the 4th-7th grades with advanced basketball skills.

To ensure the success of the GAA Basketball program we need the support of parents and volunteers. All GAA Basketball board members and coaches are volunteers, and are not compensated for their time. To make your child's basketball experience the most enjoyable, we encourage you to help our coaches and team moms provide a positive experience and atmosphere for all of our participants. A positive environment with positive role models will benefit your child and instill confidence.

We encourage you to read through the handbook so you can become familiar with the program. We are very excited about the upcoming season and the positive memories that will be created for your families throughout the year. Thank you for choosing the GAA Basketball Program!

Sincerely,

The GAA Basketball Board

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ORGANIZATION

Grayson Basketball is the Basketball organization of Grayson Athletic Association (GAA) and will be governed by the GAA By-laws. These operational guidelines are intended to provide direction for the basketball organization. Should there be any discrepancy between the by-laws of GAA and the operational guidelines of Grayson Basketball, the laws of GAA shall prevail.

GAA Basketball is a not-for-profit organization. All monies received from registration fees, fundraisers, sponsorships, etc., shall be placed into GAA Basketball account. Any expenses required to run the day to day operations will be funded through this account. At the end of the season, any remaining funds shall remain in the account to be used for ongoing basketball related expenses and improvements.

Mission: GAA Basketball program is a youth basketball program operated by the GAA. GAA Basketball focuses on skills development, teaching the value of teamwork, emphasizing sportsmanship and prioritizing academic excellence for all program participants.

GAA Basketball recognizes the importance of Academics, as our motto is . . .
“**ACADEMICS ABOVE ATHLETICS**”

All participants, 4th Grade and above, with a “B+” grade point average or higher, will be recognized during an Academic Ceremony held at the conclusion of basketball season

Communication: Information regarding GAA Basketball will primarily come from three sources; website, email and your coach/league director. GAA Basketball information will be posted in the basketball section of the GAA website at www.gaasports.org. Mass emails may also be sent to parents to inform them of important events and activities such as evaluations, clinics & pictures. Email address provided through registration process will be used to communicate. If your email address should change, please contact league director or any of board member with updated information. Additional information is also available at www.quickscores.com/grayson where you will find real-time schedules, scores and standings: and additional documents related to GAA Basketball.

You can also receive information at our Facebook page at “Grayson Athletic Association” and “GAA Basketball”.

Operational Guidelines: Per the by-laws of GAA, annual elections for the Basketball Board shall occur as required. Upon completion of election, elected board member may revise operational guideline as necessary. If changes are made on operational guidelines or rules, changes must be voted and approved by Basketball Board and must be approved by a majority vote of Executive Board.

Basketball Board of Directors

Basketball Board Members:

- Basketball Director (Elected Position)
- Assistant Basketball Director (Elected Position)
- Secretary (Appointed)
- League Directors (Appointed)

Other Positions such as but not limited to Scheduling Coordinator, Uniform Coordinator, All Star Coordinator, and GBL Basketball Director can be filled with volunteers as deemed necessary by the Basketball Director

Elected positions have an equal vote on all matters include disciplinary actions. Should any elected board member decide to resign during the course of the season, the Basketball Director, with consent from the GAA Executive President, will have unilateral authority to appoint a replacement to that position. Should any appointed board member decide to resign during the course of the season, the Basketball Director will have unilateral authority to appoint a replacement to that position.

The full board shall meet monthly during the basketball season.

Roles & Responsibilities

Each member of the board shall be responsible for ensure that GAA Basketball is run as safely, smoothly and effectively as possible. Specific roles and responsibilities are determined by the Basketball Director at the start of the season, and can be changed at any time. There will be times where a board member will be asked to manage events, such as, but not limited to, Uniform Distribution, Evaluations, Drafts, Jamboree, Picture Day, End of Season Tournament.

Basketball Director: This position shall govern all activities related to GAA Basketball. This includes establishing and maintaining the rules and regulations, handling issues of gym utilization, fund raising events, uniform purchase, tournaments, and All-Star participation, unless delegated to another Basketball Board Member. This position is also responsible for overall management of the GAA Basketball finances, Oversight of the Basketball portion of the GAA web site as well as Quick Scores, communication with community on events and milestones for each season.

Assistant Basketball Director: This position shall be the backup to the Basketball Director, and shall assume responsibilities for all or portions of the Basketball program that the Basketball Director may need assistance with. The primary responsibility will be to support the execution of each basketball season, ensuring that all elements of the program are supported appropriately and effectively.

Secretary: This position shall assist and facilitate to all events for GAA Basketball, and working with Basketball Director and Assistant Basketball Director. Their position ensures timely payment for all vendors servicing GAA Basketball as well as ensure all player registration fees are collected by communicating coaches and parents.

League Directors: League Directors will manage the execution for each season for their respective leagues. Their responsibilities include, running evaluations, drafts, communications with league's coaches, periodic presence at games and practices, posting scores, and being first point of contact for all questions related to their league. Periodically to monitor games and practices occasionally to that coaches are fulfilling responsibilities, and promote safe and fun environment for our players.



Code of Conduct

Members of GAA, including all Coaches, Assistant Coaches, Board Members, Directors, Age Group Coordinators, Officials, Parents, Spectators, and Participants shall at all-time conduct themselves in such a manner so as not to bring discredit on GAA. or any of its members. GAA's goals include the teaching of proper skills and techniques, instructing the principle of good sportsmanship, emphasizing physical fitness, providing an opportunity for fun and enjoyment, the development of a teamwork attitude, promotion of pride in one's sense of accomplishment, recognition in one's shortcomings, the acceptance of defeat, and the joys associated with winning. GAA recognizes that each player has a varying degree of skill, and that participation should be fun, but that the values of persistence and hard work are to be emphasized. It should always be realized by all adults associated with GAA that its programs are designed as a recreational outlet solely for the enjoyment of youngsters. It is not intended as a hobby for adults seeking to inflate egos or to live vicariously through the child. GAA's intent is also not to produce future professional athletes. GAA's emphasis is on participation rather than on perfection. Derisive conduct by spectators or coaches, including without limitation outbursts that demean or belittle the players or those officiating the game, has no place in GAA's program and will not be tolerated. All who are associated with GAA, including Coaches, Assistant Coaches, Board Members, Directors, Age Group Coordinators, Officials, Parents, Spectators, and Participants hereby agree that such goals constitute the Code of Conduct of GAA. and understand that actions of contravention of this Code of Conduct may in the sole discretion of GAA Board of Directors, constitute grounds for suspension or expulsion of the Coach, Assistant Coach, Board Member, Director, Age Group Coordinator, Official, Parent(s), Spectators, and Participants.

Coaches Code of Conduct

- All GAA basketball head and assistant coaches are expected to provide a positive and enriching atmosphere for our player
- All coaches will make every effort to correct any behavior issues on the court. However, if there are issues a coach cannot resolve, they will seek parental involvement to resolve the situation or conflict.
- Coaches will notify their League Director if there are any ongoing problems with a child or parent.
- Coaches will promote, encourage and teach your child to the best of their ability all aspects of basketball and working together as a team.
- The head coach will ensure all players receive their required number of plays as required by the GAA. Additional playing time is earned by the player and is at the head coach's discretion.
- The head coach is the communication point of the team. All issues should be raised to the head coach and not assistant coaches.

Divisions & Age Groups

GAA Basketball divided the athletes by grade (K-12). We expect to have the following age groups, however, two or more grades may be combined to form a league with the decision being based upon a review of the number of registrants each year:

Coed K-1ST

Boys 2ND/3RD

Boys 4TH/5TH

Boys 6TH/7TH

Boys 8TH/9TH

Boys 10TH-12TH

Girls 2ND/3RD

Girls 4TH/5TH

Girls 6TH-8TH

Note: Girls Divisions may be adjusted based on participation rates

Determination of Division and Age Group

The division in which a child participates will be determined by the child's age and birth date. The playing age is the age of the player as of September 1st of that year. If necessary, age will be verified by the GAA Basketball Board via a birth certificate.



Registration

Registration Fees

Registration fee shall be set in accordance with GAA guidelines as a non-profit organization. Fees shall be used to offset all costs associated with running the league. All excess funds that remain at the end of the season shall be used on going basketball related expenses or to support Park Partnership projects.

All non-county residents will pay an out of county fee to be determined by Gwinnett County Parks and Recreation. These fees are collected by GAA Basketball and then paid directly to Gwinnett County in entirety.

The cost to register in GAA REC League Basketball is due at the time registration. This fee covers the cost of uniforms, gym rental, game officials, season ending award, and league overhead. Remember, additional fees apply for registering late!!!!

Registration Dates

Registration dates will be determined by GAA Basketball Board. Registration date shall be consistent with the need to start practices around the beginning of November, and the games around the beginning of December.

We will also accept registrations if spots are available at the Skill Evaluation (an additional \$35 late fee.) If you are registering at a Skill Evaluation, be sure to arrive 15 minutes early.

Registration Process

Announcement of Registration dates shall occur at least 14 days prior to registration. Announcement methods may include school mailings, school electronic posting, newspaper announcements, web page messages, and/or email blasts. Registration will be placed on wait list once league is considered full by Basketball Director. Anyone that registers after the cutoff date must pay a late registration fee; will be placed on wait list; and will be considered for acceptance depending on the number of registered players, and teams. In all cases, acceptance of children registering after the cutoff date is at the sole discretion of GAA Basketball Board.

Payment Method

On-Line registration shall accept Visa or Master Card. Cash or check payment can be only accepted during walk-up registration. There will be at least 1 walk-up registration to be held at a location with Public Access.

Refunds

Refunds shall only be allowed for players making the high school team, making middle school team, or experiencing an injury prior to the start of the season that prevents that player from participation for the entire season will be permitted a refund. In case of injury or medical reasons, a letter from a registered physician shall be required for verification purposes. Refund is made back to credit card or check less \$20.00 handling fee.

In normal circumstances besides noted above, it is GAA Basketball policy that refund will not be made after registration.

The final rosters for the 8th Grade, Grayson HS Freshman, JV, and Varsity teams are not announced until mid to late October. If your athlete would like to play GAA REC Basketball in the event they are not selected for these teams, you have two (2) options:

1. Register them for GAA REC Basketball by the closing date in late October. If your athlete is selected for the school teams, GAA Basketball will refund the registration full including the \$20 handling fee, which is normally not refundable.
2. Walk-in the day of Skill Evaluations. The late fee at that point raises to \$35, however, your will still be permitted to register.

NOTE: Athletes on the roster of a GBL, Middle School, or Grayson HS team at any point during the season are not eligible to participate in GAA REC League Basketball.



Coach Selection & Responsibilities

Application Process

GAA and the Basketball Program are completely staffed by volunteers. Youth Basketball in the Grayson Community will not be possible without you. Prospective Head Coaches, Assistant Coaches, and League Directors must register online using the Basketball Coaches Application Tab. Online registration is open at the same time as player online registration. If you would like to be a Team Mom or just offer to help in any way, please indicate such when registering your athlete.

Selection Process

Selection of head coach position consists of; coaching experience, playing experiences, feedbacks, technical fouls, demonstration of commitment to the players and parks / community, physical interview, and previous coaching experiences in GAA Basketball and prospective age league at the other parks. The selection of head coach, assistant coach and team mom is sole discretion of the GAA Basketball Board and reserves the right to reject any application / selection. Assistant Coaches and Team Moms are discretion and responsibility of the Head Coach.

Background Checks

All coaches and league directors are subject to a criminal background check. Please fill out the application properly; incomplete applications may disqualify you from a coaching position. Should background checks reveal any information that may be considered an issue, the GAA Basketball Board reserves the right to reject coaching applications.

Responsibilities

All head coach volunteers are responsible for attending league meeting (if league director sets coaches meeting), player evaluation, GAA Coaches Meeting, draft, practices & games, picture day and any other requirement set forth by GAA Basketball. All head coaches are also responsible for assigning assistant coaches and team mom for the team, organize practices, communicate with team player & parents, reporting scores, and any other activities that require team to effectively and efficiently go through the seasons.

Player Evaluation and Selection Process

Skill Evaluations

The GAA REC Leagues hold “Skill Evaluations” during the last week in October. Although all players in the GAA REC Leagues will be placed on a team, it is required that players attend their grade skill evaluation. The goal of the GAA REC League is to provide the most balanced and competitive set of teams possible in all leagues. To accomplish that goal, all players must attend and be assessed so that players can evenly distribute players of each skill level across all teams. Players not attending the skill evaluation will cause the player to go in a higher round, which in turn negatively impacts the talent and experience mix on their team.

During “Skill Evaluations” players will demonstrate their basketball ability based on pre-defined categories defined by league director (ie. Dribbling and/or ball handling skills, Shooting and/or Free Throws, Passing, and Running). Coaches will rate each player from 1 to 5 in each category.

The rating scale is as following;

1. No Skill
2. Little Skill
3. Average Skill
4. Good Skill
5. Excellent Skill

Player Ranking

Each player’s scores will be averaged and draft package will be generated. The draft package will include all the players ranked from highest to lowest, hat picks (no shows / no evaluation data), and draft tiers. Draft package will be distributed before the draft, giving coaches an accurate ranking of each player and allow 5 minutes to review the package. Draft ranking and tiers are final, and GAA will not accept any negotiations of rankings and / or tiers.

Coach’s Children

Coaches are automatically assigned to their child. The overall rankings will determine what tier the child is placed in. The coach’s child is assigned to the coach in draft package, according to appropriate tier based on skill evaluation during try-outs. Coach will not draft another player in the tier their child is selected /locked.

Unrated Players / Hat Pick

If a player does not attend the Skill Evaluation the League Director is responsible for determining a draft position for that player based on past player assessments along with coach feedback. If a draft position cannot be determined by the League Director for any player/s said player/s will be considered Hat Picks:

- Hat Picks can only be picked in the final round of the draft. No moving down to add a hat pick player.
- If a coach chooses to draft a hat pick player in the final round of the draft, that coach must randomly draw from a group of all remaining hat pick players.
- No Coach may draft a hat pick player by name.

Draft Day

To start the draft. The coaches each draw a number. The coaches with the smallest number (one) will begin by selecting a player within the 1st draft round. Each coach, in turn, will select a player within this draft level according to the number they have drawn. Then, the next round begins in reverse order of the first round. The coach with the highest first round selection number begins the second round selection process. The second round proceeds from the highest number to the lowest. New numbers would be drawn to begin the remaining rounds of the draft.

Coaches will have one (1) minute to make a selection. If the time limit is exceeded, the League Director / Board Member in charge of the draft can automatically assign the highest rated player available to that coach's team.

Siblings are automatically assigned to the same team. Once the first of two siblings is drafted, the second child is assigned to the same coach as that coach's pick in the tier where the second sibling was rated.

Once all players have been selected, the hat picks are assigned to teams. The next coach to draft will randomly draw a hat pick player.

If a Head Coach and Assistant Coach both have players rated as a first round pick, they will NOT be allowed to coach together under any circumstances.

League Director may ask motion to all coaches about specific players to be placed on the same team (ie. Carpool, etc). However, GAA Basketball does not guarantee special request, so coaches do not have to honor this request. GAA Basketball tries to accommodate all special needs of player's family, so we request coach to consider it, but is not required.

Trades

Trades are at the discretion of the league director and all trades must be made within 10 minutes of the draft ending. Both players must be ranked within one round for a trade to be approved. All trades must be approved by a majority vote of all coaches in the league as well as league director / board member.

At the end of the draft, all teams will be considered final selections and cannot be changed without the approval of the GAA Basketball Board.

Player Notification

All coaches shall notify their players within 3 days of being drafted. Should they be unable to reach those players within 1 week, they may be awarded a replacement player. Replacement players will be selected from a waiting list.



Player Participation

Player Participation Rules

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 periods. 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 approximately 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 cannot be taken out of the game via substitution for the remainder of that 4:00 minute period. 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.

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. Late arriving players must still play two full quarters, if time permits.

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 periods played to help ensure adherence to this rule.

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.

Exceptions

The exceptions to this rule of participation are as follows;

- Player is injured or become ill
- Player has 2 fouls in 1st quarter, 3 fouls in 2nd quarter, 4 fouls in 3rd quarter
- Player has been disciplined by the official or parent
- Player arriving at a game after the start of the second quarter (then, player is not required to play one full quarter, but must meet equivalent of one quarter playing time)
- GAA Basketball Board approved reduction in playing time participation to practice is required and consented by parents during registration process. Excessive absences from practices affect building cohesive team. Coach is permitted to follow procedure for reporting excessive absences and allowed to grant reduction in player playing time.

- 1) If a coach determined player is having excessive absences from practices, and affecting team practices / building cohesive team, coach must notify parents first.
- 2) If absence continued after parent notification, coach is permitted to report such to respective league directors and request approval of reduction in playing time.
- 3) If such request is approved, said coach must notify the player's parents of the outcome / decision (copy the communication to respective league directors)
- 4) League directors must notify basketball director of outcome / decision.

- Reduction in playing time will not be permitted if proper procedure is not followed.

Violation of Participation Rule

GAA Basketball is recreational basketball, and we require all player's participation. Winning a game at all cost is not the vision of GAA Basketball, and fun, learning and healthy competitive basketball is #1 priority.

The rule is set forth to provide team's greater flexibility during the season and to allow a coach the opportunity to spread playtime throughout the game to keep all players in the flow of the game. However, every coach is expected to provide amicable playtime to all players.

In the event of violating the participation rule, following disciplinary action may be taken by GAA Basketball Board.

- | | | |
|----------------------------|---|--|
| 1 st Violation: | - | Warning |
| 2 nd Violation: | - | Coach will be suspended for one game and required to submit a player substitution plan for all remaining games to the opposing coach and scorekeeper |
| 3 rd Violation: | - | Dismissal of the coach for the remainder of season |

This rule is strictly intended to protect our player's best interest, and as recreational basketball coach, GAA Basketball requires all coach to adhere to the rule and play fair throughout the league.

Reporting Incidents

If you witness or feel that your child or any player is not receiving two (2) quarters of playing time per game, you are encouraged to contact one of league directors or GAA Basketball Board members to discuss the matter. When you report the incident, please include game date/time, team, and player(s) information.

General Rules

The Georgia High School Association Rules will be guideline for GAA Basketball. However, there are age specific rules in play for the Grayson Basketball league published within this document. These playing rules can be changed or updated at any time by the basketball board, without approval from the Grayson Athletic Association Executive Board. Grayson Basketball rule exceptions take precedence over GHSA. When a rule is not specifically stated within the GAA Basketball Operational Guideline & Rules, GHSA Rules will apply.

Attire

- GAA Basketball will provide Reversible Game Jersey (with matching shorts). All players are required to wear provided jersey on the game. GAA Basketball also provides coach's shirt to head coach, and this shirt must be worn every game. Any color t-shirts are allowed to be worn under jerseys. It is recommended that similar color t-shirts are worn in comparison to the color of your jersey for the day
- The Designated Home Team will wear white jerseys and the Designated Visiting Team will wear dark jerseys.
- No jewelry of any kind will be allowed during practices and games. Bracelets that are worn for medical reasons must be covered by protective material such as sweatband to ensure the safety of other players, and excluded from this rule.
- No metal, plastic or wood hair adornments will be allowed. Only soft elastic bands should be worn in a players' hair.
- All jerseys must be tucked inside the shorts while playing in a game.
- Athletic shoes, preferably basketball shoes are recommended.
- GAA Basketball will allow players to wear armbands, headbands and shooter sleeves, contrary to GHSA rule.

Number of Players required to start a game

Normally a game shall begin and be played with 5 players from each team on the court. In the event that a team has less than 5 players to start a game, 4 players will be allowed to start for official play. It is not required for the other team to comply and only start 4 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.

Referees

There will be a minimum of one referee for each game in all leagues.

Post Season Tournament

At the end of the regular season, there will be a single elimination tournament for each age group. Teams will be seeded for the tournament based on their rankings after the regular season. In the event of two team's record being the same, the first tie-breaker will be head-to-head results with the second tie-breaker being random draw.

Time Outs and Halftime

Regulation Game 2 x 45 Seconds Time Outs with no carry over to 2nd Half

Halftime 5 Minutes

Overtime 1 x 45 Second Time Out

There will be a two-minute break between quarters and over-time and a five-minute break between halves.

In every age group, each team is allowed 4 total timeouts consisting of two (2) forty-five second time outs per half. If a coach calls a time out and play is stopped, when there were no more timeouts remaining, a technical foul will be called by the official.

Team will have one (1) forty-five second time out regardless of timeouts remaining during overtime play. (Timeouts do not carry over).

Technical Fouls

The following guidelines may be applicable to determine disciplinary action toward coaches and/or players that receive technical fouls during the season:

Two (2) technical fouls on a coach or player will result in automatic ejection. 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 miss the next scheduled game. The individual is required to appear before the Board to discuss the disciplinary action which may allow for a reduction in the required penalty. Multiple ejections will result in expulsion from the remainder of GAA Basketball season. Disciplinary actions are at the discretion of the Board. All technical fouls must be recorded in the official scorebook and reported to the Director of Basketball. Excessive technical fouls in a season may be subject to disciplinary action.

Zero Tolerance Policy

GAA Basketball strongly supports a safe and fun playing environment, and we adhere to a “Zero Tolerance Policy” when it comes to abusive nature of conduct. GAA Basketball board will assess each situation and will determine disciplinary action, up to permanent suspension from the league. This “zero tolerance policy” is in addition to the GAA Code of Conduct Rules. Deliberate fouls or intentional violations will be reviewed by GAA Basketball Board and may be imposed to an additional disciplinary action other than the guidelines listed below.

Technical Fouls

- Player using abusive language
- Player shouting on a shot (Bench Technical)
- Player engaging arguments with spectators
- Judgement Call up to Automatic Ejection & Suspension
- Intentional & Flagrant Foul

Automatic Ejection & 3 Games Suspension

- Player throwing punch during or after play is dead.

6 Games Suspension

- Player engaging in altercation after the game

Season Suspension

- Coach engaging in altercation (on or off the court)

Protest

All protest during the regular season must be submitted in writing to the League Director and Director of Basketball within 24 hours of the game in question. During tournament playoffs, the protest must be submitted in writing to the League Commissioner and Director of Basketball within 2 hours of the completion 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 in cash. If the protest is upheld, the money will be returned and the appropriate action will be awarded at the discretion of the Director of Basketball. If the protest is denied, the money will be placed in the Association’s treasury.

Overtime

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 run continuously for the first minute and during the final minute 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.

Mercy Rule

In the event a team is leading by 20 points or more going into or during the fourth quarter, the clock will continue to run until the lead has been decreased to 15 points or less.

Game / Practice Cancellation

GAA Basketball 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. Saturday and Sunday cancellations will be at the discretion of the Board and will be final. Any such cancellations will be posted on the Basketball website at www.gaasports.org. Canceled games or practices may not be made up.

Sportsmanship

GAA Basketball Board expects its coaches to abide by good sportsmanship when a team is clearly dominating a game. If a team is ahead by more than 20 points, the GAA Basketball Board expects the winning coach to show good sportsmanship with the players he/she chooses to play. The GAA Basketball Board will periodically review games where a team wins by more than 25 points. If the GAA Basketball Board believes good sportsmanship was not exhibited, the coach will be called before the GAA Basketball Board to state their case. Disciplinary actions include warnings and possible suspension.

Concussion Observation Rules

Any player, during the games or practices, who hits their head on hard surface, such as floor, or collides between player involving head, knee or elbow, the player must be substituted and sit down on bench for minimum of 2 minutes' observation. During the time, player needs to be evaluated for any sign of concussion. Furthermore, head coach needs to keep close eye on the player for the rest of the game, after his/her return.

If any sign of concussion is observed, player must not return back to the practice or game. The player needs to be taken to hospital by parents, for professional / medial evaluation of concussion.

Age Specific / League Rules

Kindergarten – 1st Grade Coed

Goal Height	8 foot
Ball Size	28.5”
Free Throw Line	10 foot
Lane Violation	Liberal 5 seconds
3 Point FG’s	Not allowed
Game Quarters / Time	Four (4) – 8 minute quarters
Clock Type	Running Clock (Stopped only for Timeouts and Free Throws)
Restricted Defense	Defenders are allowed to play half-court defense as the defenders are allowed to extend to the 3-point arc or if no 3-point arc is present then the defense must be played from behind the top of the key extending out to the sidelines.
Pressing	No pressing allowed. Defenders are restricted to areas noted above. However, a team may defend a fast break in the back court or open area.
Scoring	<u>All players</u> from each team will shoot one foul shot at halftime (after the cheerleaders have performed.) A made free throw will count as one point for that team in the official scorebook and scoreboard. No team will be penalized for having more players in attendance and participating during any game.
Coaches	The Head Coach from each team is allowed on the floor for instruction for the first half of the season. The second half of the season will require coaches to coach from their respective bench. While coaching on the floor, coaches should not impede the flow of the game or stop play unless instructed by the official.
Foul Calls	Officials in this age group will only call major violations and will explain any violations called to the children on the court.

2nd – 3rd Grade Boys and Girls

Goal Height	Girls – 8 foot 6 inches Boys – 9 foot
Ball Size	28.5”
Free Throw Line	12 foot
Lane Violation	Liberal 3 seconds
3 Point FG’s	3 point shots will be recognized if the court is marked with a 3pt line. Otherwise, all baskets count as 2 points.
Game Quarters / Time	Four (4) – 8 minute quarters
Clock Type	Start and Stop on all whistles
Restricted Defense	Defenders are allowed to play half-court defense as the defenders are allowed to extend to the half-court line.
Pressing	No full-court pressing allowed at any time. However, a team may defend a fast break in the back court or open area.

4th – 5th Grade Boys and Girls

Goal Height	10 foot
Ball Size	28.5”
Free Throw Line	15 foot
Lane Violation	3 seconds
3 Point FG’s	3 point shots will be recognized if the court is marked with a 3-point line. Otherwise, all baskets count as 2 points.
Game Quarters / Time	Four (4) – 8 minute quarters
Clock Type	Start and Stop on all whistles
Restricted Defensive Area	Restricted defensive area extends to half court
Pressing	Boys – Last four (4) minutes of the game and OT Girls – Last two (2) minutes of the game and OT

If a team is leading by 15+ points, the defense must remain behind half court and extended to the sidelines. However, a team may defend a fast break in the back court or open area.

6th – 12th Grade Boys and 6th – 8th Grade Girls

Goal Height	10 foot
Ball Size	Girls - 28.5” Boys - 29.5”
Free Throw Line	15 foot
Lane Violation	3 seconds
Three Point FG’s	3 point shots will be recognized if the court marked with a 3pt line. Otherwise, all baskets count as 2 points.
Game Quarters / Time	Four (4) – 8 minute quarters
Clock Type	Start and Stop on all whistles
Pressing	Boys - Full-court pressing is allowed the entire game Girls – Full-court pressing is allowed the entire game.

If a team is leading by 15+ points, the defense must remain behind the half court line.

Facility Rules

GAA Basketball rents the participating gyms from the Gwinnett County Schools and each individual school reserves the right to revoke our rental contract if certain rules are not followed. The following rules are mandatory and must be adhered to at any GAA Basketball practice, game or function:

- No smoking in or around the gym area
- No chewing gum in the gym
- Only WATER allowed in the gym – NO FOOD OR DRINKS IN THE GYM
- No foul language
- No climbing on or destruction of the gym property
- No dunking or hanging on rims or nets at any gym
- No Heeley’s or Roller Shoes permitted in the gym
- ALL TRASH MUST BE PICKED UP AND DISPOSED OF PROPERLY
- GYM Attendants have FINAL AUTHORITY

ALL GAA Board members, coaches and officials have the authority to enforce these gym rules.

Official Scorekeeper & Bookkeeper Duties

Each participating team must have a representative available to keep the scorebook and clock/scoreboard. The home team shall be responsible for the scorebook, and the visiting (away) team shall be responsible for keeping the clock/scoreboard. These volunteer positions must remain mutual during the entire game. Cheering and encouragement to your child or your child's team may be allowed, however, all official scores, individual fouls, team fouls, scoreboard must be kept by the book. These positions are considered part of officiating crew, and must remain on mutual stance.

No person other than the official scorekeeper and bookkeeper, officials, and GAA Board Members are permitted to sit at the scorer's table during a game.

The scorebook will be used as the official record for every game and must be kept with accuracy. In the event of any discrepancy, the scorebook overrules the scoreboard. The officials for the game in question will review the official scorebook and sign the official scorecard. It is recommended that the clock operator and the scorekeeper periodically check to make sure that the score reflected on the board is the same as the running score in the book.

In occasion, scoreboard and scorebook represents discrepancy, we encourage parents NOT to approach scorer's table or yell at scorer's table, before they can rectify the issues on hand. Game is going on simultaneously, and scoreboard and bookkeeper cannot stop to rectify the issues right there and then. If the issues will not get resolved after a quarter, discuss the matter with your head coach, instead of approach scorer's table individually.

Bookkeeper Responsibilities

- Individual and team scoring / running scores
- Individual and team fouls, both personal and technical, and alerting coaches when a player is in foul trouble.
- Providing the official information on bonus (on 7th team foul and thereafter), and double bonus (on 10th foul and thereafter) situations.
- Number of time outs per team.

Clock/Scoreboard Operator Responsibilities

- Keeping track of the possession arrow as designated by the official.
- Keeping track and displaying quarter being played.
- Keeping track and correctly displaying running score as designated by the official.
- Keeping track of the time as indicated by the official and in accordance with the age division rules.

All Star Player and Coach Selection Process

Player Eligibility

- Any player that is in good standing with GAA sports and has participated in the current GAA basketball season is eligible to be nominated for all-stars.
- Players or coaches currently suspended under GAA Code of Conduct violations are not eligible to participate.
- GRABB has specific rules that may exclude a player from eligibility such as playing GBL, middle school, High School, or AAU basketball. Please see www.grabb.org for the most up to date eligibility rules for all-star players.
- Players must submit a copy of their birth certificates and parental permission slip for the certification process.
- Players must be able to participate all practices and games. This is mandatory and not optional.

Player Selection

- Coaches will be asked to submit the names of the players from their team for consideration for all-stars to the age specific League Director(s). The coach must submit information about each player such as positions played during the regular season.
- It is important that each coach submit position information. Many times the 5 best players in a league may be a point guard or a center. Basketball all-stars cannot realistically field a team of 5 guards or 5 centers. Positions are considered when selecting each team.
- All-star tryouts/evaluations are required by age group. Nominated players will be invited to an evaluation date for players that will be published one (1) week prior to the evaluations where they may be evaluated performing drills and/or scrimmaging against other candidates. Any coach that wants to attend and observe the evaluation process is encouraged to do so. The all-star coaches will then have final determination of the players that best fill the roles of guard, forward and center for a basketball team.
- Players should wear their game jersey to the evaluations.
- When rosters are complete, the coach must take his roster, parental permission slips and birth certificates with him when he/she attends the certification process.

Selection of Coaches

Coach selection for each age group is the responsibility of the League Director(s) assigned to each specific age group.

The League Director may consider the all-star coaching position(s) based on coaches' coaching ability and performance during the regular season as well as code of conduct during the regular season. Violation of GAA basketball rules or any unlike sportsmanship conduct will result in disqualification from this consideration.

The League Director will take into consideration "the best interest of GAA Basketball" when selecting coaches to represent our league during all-stars.

"The Best Interest of GAA Basketball" –

As a member of the GAA Basketball League, coaches and players are expected and required to act in the best interest of the league, as well as the children and young adults playing at GAA. Coaches should provide positive support to the league and its players. League business will be conducted in a professional and ethical manner. We are here for a common goal: mentoring our youth and promoting and teaching basketball. This program is for boys & girls with their safety and welfare being the main concern of GAA. All coaches must conduct themselves in a sportsmanlike manner at all times when they are in the presence of the boys & girls in the program. To insure the success of the program, if the League Director feels that any particular coach regardless of record) best represents these qualities to lead our youth all- star team(s) and represent GAA; the League Director may make his selection based upon his observations throughout the regular season.

Gwinnett Basketball League

The Grayson Travel League Basketball program is a highly competitive youth basketball program affiliated with the Gwinnett Basketball League (GBL). The Grayson GBL Travel program strives to develop boys and girls in the 5th, 6th, and 7th grades with advanced basketball skills to compete against the GBL programs from other Gwinnett School Clusters. These teams are managed to prepare players for more advanced competition in the future. Players interested in playing on a GBL Team should be willing to commit to a more intense practice and game schedule.

Note: Playing time is not guaranteed and is at the coach's discretion. Athletes desiring a league where they are guaranteed playing time should register for GAA Rec League Basketball.

Eligibility

To be eligible to play on a Grayson GBL team, a player must:

1. Must be currently enrolled in a Grayson Cluster school. Players attending private school must live within the geographic boundaries of the Grayson Cluster.
2. Teams are fielded for Boys and Girls at the 5th (4th Graders may participate on 5th Grade Teams), 6th, and 7th grade levels. Players must try out for the team at their grade level. The general rule for playing up is only when no team exists for their grade level may a player "play-up" at the next higher grade level. Any players playing up must be approved by the GAA Basketball Director. Availability of teams for each grade level is based on participation levels and may result in GAA not fielding teams for certain grades.
3. Players must meet the same academic eligibility requirements as the Middle School 8th Grade teams.

Note: GAA REC League Basketball has leagues for any athlete from Kindergarten through their Senior year of High School who do not meet these eligibility requirements.

The GBL Travel League restricts eligibility for teams based on High School Clusters; therefore, individuals wishing to play in the GBL Travel League who live in the Grayson Cluster must play GBL for Grayson Athletic Association while students attending another High School Cluster must play GBL for the same High School Cluster Athletic Association. If a player attends a private school or is home-schooled while living in the Grayson Cluster, he/she is eligible to participate in the Grayson GBL Program by providing proof of residence. Alternatively, REC League Basketball is open to all students regardless of school or residence. GAA REC Basketball is open to all individuals.

Cost

The GBL Registration Fee will be \$285 for each player plus an additional \$90 uniform fee. The registration fee includes GBL team fees, gym rental and referees. The \$90 uniform fee includes travel-ball quality jersey, shorts and shooting shirt. In an effort to minimize cost, the GBL uniforms will be used in returning years when possible. Additional cost, at team discretion, may apply for items such as uniform accessories, trophies, etc. There are no multi-player discounts and no scholarships available for Travel League Basketball. Families interested in those arrangements must register their athlete for GAA REC League Basketball.

Registration

Players DO NOT pay registration fees prior to trying out for GBL Travel Basketball. Players wanting to tryout must pre-register and arrive to tryouts 10 minutes early to check-in with coach and provide name, contact information (phone numbers), school, and grade. Players may also pre-register at the try-outs.

After teams are selected, a mandatory team meeting will be held where players will take care of the following:

- Register for GBL and pay \$285 Registration Fee and \$95 Uniform Fee
- Fitted for Uniform
- Provided Birth Certificate and Current Report Card

Tryouts

There will be tryouts sessions for each grade. *Athletes are expected to attend all tryout sessions if possible; however, we will conduct a minimum of two tryout dates for players with conflicts.* Tryouts will be held in September and the dates will be posted on the GAA website. Athletes should be pre-registered prior to tryouts. Arrive early to check-in, obtain a name tag, and be ready to begin at the time shown below for their grade on each tryout date.

Practices / Games

The start of practices will vary by team, but in most cases teams will begin practicing once per week on Sunday afternoon/evening in September. Towards the end of October, practice will increase to two times a week. Here are key dates for the GBL Season:

Mid-November (no games during Christmas Break)	Games Begin
Last Week of Jan-First Week of Feb	Tournament

After the season begins, teams will practice a minimum of 2 times per week and play 2 games each weekend (one Saturday, one Sunday.) GBL Basketball is a big commitment of time by the player and their family! Players are expected to attend every practice and game (and arrive early to each.)

Practices are held at the Grayson Cluster elementary or middle school gymnasiums, with some practices being held at auxiliary sites as communicated by your coach. There may be occasion where the team travels to another location because of some available gym time or for a scrimmage against another team. The coach of each team will coordinate this and communicate with as much advanced notice as possible.

All games are played in Gwinnett County at either Suwanee Sports Academy or several participating High School Gyms within the County.

Insurance

GAA provides additional athletic insurance for every registered player. The registration fee covers these costs. If there is a possible claim, please contact your league director or any of our Board Members.

