

Hopkins Royals Boys Basketball Association  
Program Guidelines



The guidelines set forth in this document are considered best practices. HRBBA will strive to meet these guidelines, however, in some cases exceptions may be made.

**Guideline #1 – Tryout Guidelines**

- Separate tryouts will be held over a minimum of a two day period prior to team selection.
- Players must be registered to participate in the tryout.
- Players shall begin the tryout with their own grade.
- Players that have a schedule conflict may participate in a tryout with another grade level with prior permission.
- Tryouts are organized by the HRBBA Board.
- Tryouts are closed to the public. Parents will not be allowed in the gym during tryouts. This applies to board members with children in the age group being evaluated. An exception to this may be made for evaluating grades where a parent coach has been identified prior to tryouts to coach a team.
- Evaluations are conducted by coaches, the coaching directors, development director, president, vice president and the Hopkins Varsity Basketball coaching staff.
- Coaches select their teams with approval from the president and Hopkins Varsity Basketball coaching staff.
- Final decisions on player selection will be made by the Coaching Director for that age group.
- Registration fees must be paid or commencing under an approved HRBBA payment plan in order for a player to be placed on a team.

**Guideline #2 – Playing at higher grade level**

- Players of exceptional talent may play at a higher grade level.
- If a player is identified as a player that has the potential to play at a higher grade level during the tryout for their actual grade level, they will be asked to try out with the grade that they are being considered for.
- Players will be evaluated on a yearly basis. Playing at a higher level during one season does not mean a player will play at a higher level the next season.
- Players may play at a higher level if needed to field a team. Example, if not enough players register to field a fourth grade team, the fourth graders that registered may be considered for the fifth grade team.

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- Third graders may try out for a fourth grade team.

**Guideline #3 – Team Formation**

- Teams should consist of no fewer than 8 and no more than 10 players.
- Upon completion of tryouts and team formation, no additional players will be added to a team without Board approval.
- If a player has a preference to be on the Silver or White team, they should notify the HRBBA President, Registration Director or Coaching Director prior to the completion of tryouts.

**Guideline #4 – Substitute Players**

- A team can use substitute players from within the program if a team is short players for a scheduled game.
- The coach of the team using the player must receive permission to “borrow” the player from the coach of that player’s team.
- A team may not borrow a player if they will have eight or more players.
- With board approval, a coach may borrow a player from the Park & Rec league.
- Park & Rec league player would need to complete registration forms prior to participation.
- If a substitute player is required for more than one tournament, the coaching director will work with the board to address the situation on a case-by-case basis.

**Guideline #5 – Coach Eligibility**

- Volunteer Coaches are preferred for grades 4-5.
- Paid Coaches are preferred for grades 6-8.
- Coaches are expected to attend a pre-season coaching meeting.
- Coaches may coach one team at a time.
- Volunteer Assistant coaches are recommended.

**Guideline #6 – Playing Time**

- Playing time guidelines apply to players who are in good standing. Players who miss practice or are determined to be disruptive at practice may not receive the minimum playing time as prescribed in this guideline.

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- Guidelines are designed over the course of a tournament, some players may receive more or less playing time during a specific game, however, playing time over the course of a tournament is what this policy is designed for.

- For grades 4 through 6, players should play a minimum of 50% of the minutes available during the first 75% of each game of a tournament.

Example, for a tournament of three games that are 28 minutes in length, a player should receive 50% of the playing time of the first 21 minutes of each of the three games. Over the course of the tournament, the player should play a minimum of 31.5 minutes combined over the three games.

- For grades 7 and 8, players should play a minimum of 25% of the minutes available during each game of a tournament.

Example, for a tournament of three games that are 28 minutes in length, a player should receive 25% of the playing time of each of the three games. Over the course of the tournament, the player should play a minimum of 21 minutes combined over the three games.

#### **Guideline #7 – Team Discipline**

- Suspension from school will result in suspension from HRBBA basketball. The length of the suspension is equal to the length of the suspension from school, or a minimum of one calendar week -- whichever is greater.

- HRBBA supports coaches' expectations as long as team rules are defined, the consequences of the breaking of the rules are clearly stated, and both are communicated to the team members and their parents, as well as enforced equally and consistently.

#### **Guideline #8 – Offseason team formation**

- Players may use HRBBA jerseys for offseason competition.

- Offseason teams are parent-organized.

- HRBBA will aid teams consisting of all current HRBBA players in scheduling practices. Teams are responsible for reimbursing HRBBA for costs of practice.

- HRBBA will not schedule tournaments or games.

- HRBBA coaches are eligible to coach during the spring or fall season.

#### **Guideline #9 – Eligibility for Financial Aid**

- Players who qualify for the free or reduced lunch program at their schools qualify for the reduced enrollment fee.

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- Players will be expected to share proof of eligibility to receive reduced enrollment fee.

**Appendix A**

Audit History

Date	Description of Changes
September 9, 2015	Approved by board.
July 29, 2016	Guidelines 1,2,4,5 and 9 updated to reflect approved changes.