

East Girls Basketball Association Youth Basketball Program Player Evaluation Policy

(effective May 2025)

East Girls Basketball Association (EGBA) is planning to offer youth basketball teams for players in grades 3-8 (Note: Offering of an 8th grade team will be dependent on registration numbers and high school team needs, as determined by the Varsity Coach). The exact numbers of teams per grade level and players per team (typically 8-10) will depend on both the number of players who sign up at each grade level, numbers of players interested in each level of competition (travel team v. rec team), and the results of evaluations. The EGBA Youth Basketball program will strive to maximize the number of players who are able to participate in the basketball program at each grade level. It is the intention of EGBA to place all players interested in playing basketball (everyone that registers and attends the evaluation session) on a team. Teams will be based on skill level assessed at the evaluation sessions.

What should players and families expect? Families wishing to register for a youth basketball team will be required to pay a \$100 evaluation fee. This fee is non-refundable and will be applied towards team registration fees upon team placement.

Each grade level will have 2 days of evaluations (final dates and time TBD). All players who want to play on an EGBA Youth Team will be required to attend both evaluation sessions. Exceptions will only be granted with the prior authorization of EGBA Board of Directors (email: eastgirlsbasketballassociation@gmail.com). Each Evaluation will take place over a two-day period in which players will be run through a variety of basketball drills and scrimmages. Independent evaluators with a deep understanding of the game and the fundamentals required of successful players and teams will be selected to oversee the evaluation sessions. The program's goal is to be impartial, professional, and as fair as possible by placing players based on skill level, ability, attitude, and athleticism.

There will be drills focusing on players skills as well as full contact drills including but not limited to 1-on-1, 3-on-3, 5-on-5, etc. Teams will be finalized and posted within a reasonable time following evaluations.

What levels of play are available?

Travel Teams: Travel teams will play a higher level of competition predominately in MYAS "B" Division tournaments. Tournaments are typically played in the Twin Cities Metro area.

Travel teams are for players that are able to demonstrate a 'travel-ready' proficiency in the game of basketball. 'Travel-ready' proficiency will be determined by independent evaluators selected by the EGBA board, in consultation with the Varsity Coaching staff.

Rec Teams: Rec teams are for less experienced players or those still developing basic basketball skills. Rec teams will play in regional/local leagues and/or GNBL "C" Division tournaments.

If a player is not considered 'travel-ready,' we will recommend that player participate in our rec program. We believe that the rec program will provide such players a better opportunity to enjoy the game of basketball and to develop their basketball skills. Any players who are not placed on a travel team will be placed on a rec level team. To accommodate all registered players, certain rec level teams may be composed of players from multiple grades (i.e., 5th/6th combination team which would play in 6th grade level rec tournaments).



What do we do if our player is too sick or injured to participate in evaluations? If a player is unable to participate due to illness or injury the parent or guardian of the player must contact the EGBA board BEFORE the first evaluation session. The placement of players who are unable to participate will be determined on a case-by-case basis.

What do I need to know about the day of evaluations? You should arrive 15-20 minutes prior to the session as the player will need to check in. All players should wear shorts, t-shirts, and basketball shoes. Players SHOULD NOT wear uniforms from previous years or t-shirts with their names on them. A numbered shirt will be provided upon check-in. Once checked in, players may need to wait in the hallway before their session begins. Please ask them to be patient.

Evaluations are closed to parents. The evaluators and players need to focus on the task at hand. Having spectators is distracting to all parties. It is important that we let them do the job they came to do. Individuals that do not respect this rule may cause their player to be removed from the process. EGBA thanks you in advance for your cooperation. The only spectators who will be allowed in the gym are EGBA board members. Coaching candidates for that grade for the upcoming season will be allowed to observe the second day of evaluations. These coaching candidates may observe quietly from the sidelines.

How will players be evaluated? Your player is required to **attend BOTH evaluation sessions** for their grade level. Independent evaluators will score the athletes based on how they perform in individual skills (scoring scale of 1-5, where 5 represents highest proficiency in a skill), basketball drills, and team scrimmage situations. On Day 1 players will participate in a set of drills designed to assess their individual skill level. These individual drills will be followed by a small number of scrimmages. On Day 2 players will again participate in drills and can expect to be divided into groups for scrimmaging. A larger fraction of time will be dedicated to scrimmaging on Day 2.

Players will be evaluated on the following criteria:

Shooting: Form, mechanics, lay-ups, range, accuracy, catch and shoot.

Dribbling: Ability to use both hands see floor while dribbling, dribble under pressure, protect ball, speed, change of direction.

Game Play:

- Passing - Form, velocity, control, proper passing and catching of passes.
- Defense – (viewed via 1 on 1, 3 on 3 half-court, and 5 on 5 full-court) – On the ball defense, help defense, footwork, stance, positioning, close out, aggressiveness without fouling, anticipation, deny defense, hustles back on defense, blocking out, blocking shots, rebounding.
- Offense – Good decisions, court vision, passes to open player, triple threat position, shooting, faking, ball handling, penetration, scoring, off the ball v-cuts, moves without the ball, sets picks, rolls the proper way.
- Intangibles – Positive attitude, hustles, plays hard, speed, quickness, team play, strength, size.

Each player's overall evaluation rating will be determined from their performance in these basketball drills and scrimmage situations. These ratings in addition to the coach candidate feedback will be predominant factors used in making team selections.



What is the team placement process?

- Evaluators will rank players for each grade level based on a scoring system (1-5 for each skill, with 1 representing lowest proficiency of a skill and 5 representing highest proficiency of a skill), they will also identify each player as ‘travel-ready’ or ‘rec team’. EGBA Board will compile the individual evaluators’ rankings into a final ranking by grade level. The players with the highest scoring will be ranked 1, 2, 3, and so on.
- Candidate Coaches for each grade level will then be asked to provide input based on past and current experiences for players ranked higher than 5 (i.e., rank 6, 7, 8, etc.)
- EGBA will strive to have each travel team comprise 8-10 players. The number of players on each team will depend on the total number of players who are rated as ‘travel-ready’ by the evaluators, and on the number of players considered ready to succeed at MYAS level tournaments.
- The EGBA board will oversee the team selection process. If any of these individuals has a child participating in a certain grade, that board member will recuse himself or herself from the team selection room until after the child is placed on a team.
- The top 5 ‘travel-ready’ players, as determined by the evaluators, are automatically placed on the grade level travel team. The remaining travel team roster spots will be determined based on evaluator rankings and input from Coaching Candidates.
- Coaching Candidates: If a coaching candidate is affiliated with a player, that player needs to be ranked 1-10 in order for the coach to be considered as a candidate for coaching a travel team.
- The aforementioned player selection process will continue until all players are placed on either a travel team or a rec team. Depending on the number of players registered, each grade level could have multiple teams. There could be one or more travel teams, a travel team and a rec team, or only a rec team depending on evaluations and determination of ‘travel-ready’ players. Each team will need a coach, if there are no volunteers to fill a coaching position for a specific team, there is a risk of not being able to move forward with a team.
- Our primary goal is to do what is best for the player’s development and success as an athlete.
- Policy on ‘playing up’ to a higher grade. Players attempting to ‘play up’ to a higher grade need to notify EGBA board of intent prior to evaluations in order to be eligible to “try out” for the higher grade level.
- **Eligibility for ‘playing up’ a grade level:** Players may only ‘play up’ on a higher grade’s travel team if the player is ranked amongst the top 3 players at the higher grade level, as determined by the Evaluators. Players ranked outside the top 3 would be placed at their current grade level. Players interested in playing up should attend both the evaluation session for their own grade, and the session for the higher grade.



After Evaluations: Upon the completion of evaluations and team selection, team rosters will be emailed to families as soon as possible. Typically, rosters will be communicated within 10-15 days of the completion of the evaluations. We will not answer any questions regarding the placement of players on teams for 48 hours following the announcement of team rosters.

What if I have questions about the process? Questions or concerns about the evaluation process should be directed to EGBA (eastgirlsbasketballassociation@gmail.com). Please do not raise questions directly to the travel coaches or evaluators.

We understand that the outcome of evaluations might not always be what the parent or the player had expected. However, selections will be made in accordance with this EGBA evaluation policy and are final.

What if we don't accept this placement? If you turn down your team placement (opt not to play), you will not receive a refund of the \$100 evaluation fee.

Thank you for being involved in our EGBA basketball community. Please contact us with any questions you may have.

