

Gopher State High School League

Articles of Operation

7/23/2025

Article I. GSHSL Purpose

The purpose of the Gopher State High School League is to provide an opportunity for high school students who were cut from their respective basketball teams to continue developing their skills and potentially earn a spot on their school teams in the future. The league aims to foster growth, improvement, and confidence among these young athletes who are passionate about the sport of basketball.

Article II. Administration of the League

The league is overseen by MYAS staff members, and they will be responsible for making decisions regarding league operations, rule changes, and dispute resolution.

Responsibilities include:

- a. Organizing league operations, including scheduling games, securing facilities, and managing finances
- b. Developing and enforcing league rules and regulations
- c. Addressing disputes and disciplinary issues
- d. Overseeing the recruitment and training of referees and other league officials
- e. Promoting the league within the community and fostering partnerships with sponsors or other organizations

Article III. Geographic Scope of the League

The Gopher State High School League serves those who are not members of their high school basketball team in the state of Minnesota. The games are played at various metro area locations.

Article IV. Statement of Player Eligibility

Participation in the Gopher State High School League is open to high school students who have been cut from their respective school basketball teams or who are currently not members of any school team.

Eligible players must meet the following criteria:

- a. Must be currently enrolled in high school
- b. Must have been cut from their school basketball team or are not currently members of any school team
- c. Must adhere to league rules and regulations, including those regarding conduct and eligibility

Article V. Team Formation

Teams in the Gopher State High School League must comprise high school students who have been cut from their basketball teams or are not currently on any team. Complete registration, including form submission and fees, is required.

Divisions: Freshman, Sophomore, and Upperclassmen—are structured based on grade levels. Teams must meet the league's minimum player requirements, and players must be high school students meeting eligibility criteria. Each division has its game schedule provided by the league.

Players cannot move from one team to another and must stay on one team once the rosters are set. Intact teams follow the policy of trying out for the team and staying in prospective areas for the roster unless additional players are needed.

Team Formation & Team Name: Intact teams must be an approved sport organization. The approved sport organizations are listed on the GSHSL webpage. Intact teams also must take the name of their affiliate, which would be the sport organization or their community, or both. We do NOT accept team names which do NOT represent their approved sport organization and/or their community.

Article VI. Uniform/Equipment/Referees/Coaches

- a. Uniforms and equipment in the Gopher State High School League must adhere to league regulations. Players must wear appropriate basketball attire, including jerseys, shorts, and athletic footwear, during all league games and practices. No sweatpants or jeans will be worn. Additionally, teams are required to provide their own basketballs for warm-ups and practices.
- b. Referees appointed by the league shall officiate all games, ensuring fair play and enforcing league rules.
- c. Coaches are expected to conduct themselves in a professional manner, promoting sportsmanship and positive behavior among their players. They are responsible for guiding their teams during games, providing instruction, and fostering a positive and supportive environment for player development. The league emphasizes the importance of proper equipment, officiating, and coaching to ensure a safe, fair, and enjoyable basketball experience.

Article VII. Player, Coach, and Fan Code of Conduct

The Gopher State High School League upholds a strict code of conduct for players, coaches, and fans. Players are expected to demonstrate respect, sportsmanship, and fair play on and off the court, while coaches must lead by example and provide positive guidance to their teams. Fans are encouraged to support their teams in a respectful and sportsmanlike manner, creating a positive atmosphere for all participants. Together, these codes of conduct foster a culture of integrity, respect, and enjoyment within the league.

Anyone who violates the Gopher State High School League Code of Conduct can be barred from further participation (fan, player, or coach).