

**BYLAWS OF  
THE ROCKY HILL TRAVEL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION  
(Sponsored by Rocky Hill Parks and Recreation)**

**Article I. Name**

This organization will be known as the Rocky Hill Travel Basketball Association.

**Article II. Membership**

The membership of the organization will consist of players, head coaches, assistant coaches and other individuals on the Board of Directors and the Executive Board.

**Article III. Objectives**

The purpose of this organization will be to:

- A. Provide a forum for 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th grade boys and girls in Rocky Hill to compete against talented athletes from neighboring towns.
- B. Provide a safe, challenging and healthy environment to promote personal and athletic development for member athletes.
- C. Provide financial support through various fundraising efforts.

**Article IV. Board of Directors**

The Board of Directors will consist of head coaches and other non-coach members. On an annual basis, at the September meeting, the Board of Directors will nominate and elect candidates for head coach vacancies and new non-coach candidates as needed.

**Article V. Executive Board**

The Executive Board of the Association shall consist of the President, Treasurer, Secretary, Fundraising Director and Scheduling Director (who will be the Parks and Recreation Department Representative). The Board of Directors will elect the Executive Board members for one-year terms in September of each year.

**Article VI. Voting Procedures**

Issues to be resolved by the Board of Directors or the Executive Board must be approved by a majority vote. All voting shall be done by open ballot. To represent a quorum, one more than half of the members must be present. The Rocky Hill Parks and Recreation Representative has the authority to override any matter voted by the Board of Directors or the Executive Board.

## **Article VII. Meetings**

At a minimum the Board of Directors and Executive Board will meet in September of each year and the Executive Board will meet independently on an as needed basis.

## **Article VIII. Board of Director Responsibilities**

Members of the Board of Directors will be responsible for the following activities:

- A. Annual nomination and election of head coaches and non-coach Board of Directors and Executive Board members.
  1. Nominations and elections will be conducted at the September meeting. Members of the Board of Directors will elect head coaches based on their perception of the candidates coaching skills and ability to create a positive and healthy environment for young athletes. Coaching vacancies and requests for applications will be published in the local newspaper at least 2 weeks prior to the September meeting. Applicants must submit a letter to the Parks and Recreation Representative prior to the September meeting listing their qualifications indicating whether they are interested in participating as a head coach, assistant coach, or noncoach Board member.
- B. Removal of coaches and non-coach Board of Director members
  1. The members of the Board will act to remove coaches and non-coach Board of Directors by a majority vote as a result of conduct inconsistent with the objectives of the association as outlined in Article III. and with that expected of coaches as outlined in Article X below.
- C. Tryouts: Ratings and Attendance.
  1. Members of the Board of Directors will coordinate tryouts for all travel teams and work with the Parks and Recreation Department to ensure that all interested athletes receive adequate notice. Players will be evaluated at no less than 2 tryout sessions and will be assessed, using a scoring system of 1 to 5, with 5 being the highest and 1 the lowest, on attitude, dribbling, passing, shooting, rebounding and defensive skills. Player ratings should be kept confidential and saved for the duration of the season. To be considered for a travel team, players should attend at least one of the scheduled tryouts. However, in the interest of fairness, attendance at both sessions should be strongly recommended. However, if a potential player cannot attend either tryout session for a legitimate reason (e.g., illness or family vacation, etc.) the player's parent(s) can request a separate tryout from the head coach, which must be conducted within 10 days of the last scheduled tryout session.

#### D. Tryouts: Accommodations for injured players

1. **Injured player at the time of tryout but not under a physicians care:** If a player has an injury at the time of the scheduled tryout that the Parent/Guardian feels would negatively impact the players performance at the time of the tryout the Parent/Guardian may petition the Executive Board to request a later tryout that must be conducted within ten (10) days from the date of the last scheduled tryout for the specific team.
2. **Injured player at the time of tryout under a physicians care:** If a player has an injury at the time of the scheduled tryout that will prevent them from participating in the tryout and they are under the care of a physician, the Parent/Guardian may petition the Executive Board to request a later tryout that must be scheduled by the head coach within ten (10) days from the date that the player's physician provides written consent for the player to participate. The written petition must describe the extent of the injury and include an anticipated date that the player will be cleared to participate by their doctor.
3. An injured player may make the decision with their Parent/Guardian to participate in the scheduled tryout however, if in the Coach's opinion the players injury could negatively impact the performance of the player or the ability of other players to fully participate in the tryout, the Coach reserves the right to request that the injured player submit a written petition to the Executive Board requesting a later tryout.
4. Any player, as a result of an injury, wearing a protective device that would not be normally allowed under CIAC rules as they pertain to the sport of basketball will not be allowed to participate in the tryout. In such cases the Parent/Guardian must submit a written petition to the Executive Board to request a later tryout that must occur at the first practice for the specified team following the date that the protective device is no longer needed and the player has been cleared for participation. The written petition must include the anticipated date that the protective device will no longer be necessary and the player will be cleared by their physician to participate.
5. The Executive Board will review each petition on its merits and render a decision on whether or not the player will be allowed to participate in a tryout at a later date during the season or have to wait until the following season.

#### E. Tryouts: Evaluators

1. At each tryout session, the head coach will be assisted by at least 1 other coach from a different travel team or another Board of Director or Executive Board member to offer an additional objective opinion. ***As an alternative or supplement, the head coach may be assisted by an individual(s) who is not associated with the Rocky Hill Travel Basketball Association with the prior consent of the Executive Board of Directors. To obtain consent, a written request should be sent to the Executive Board at least 5 days in advance of the tryout date outlining the qualifications of the individual(s) that are being considered to help evaluate the players. All evaluators are expected to attend both tryout sessions.***

#### F. Tryouts: Selection of Players

1. Players should be selected for travel teams only if a coach believes the player has the ability to compete against the high level of talent that will be faced without loss of self-esteem and confidence. Selection and deselection decisions should be communicated by phone to a parent or guardian of each player attending the tryout or to the player directly. If a parent feels his/her child has been unfairly treated and is not willing to accept the coach's decision, the parent should be advised to present their complaint to the President who will at his/her discretion invite the parent(s) to present their case before the Executive Board. The Executive Board will review the grievance and vote on the player's status; however, the coach's decision should be overridden only when the Executive Board believes the judgment of the coaches present was grossly impaired. To ensure adequate playing time it is recommended that the number of players selected be limited to 10 -12 players.

#### G. Fundraising.

1. Members of the Board of Directors will establish fundraising activities to offset the operating expenses of the Association. All income generated by fund raising activities will be allocated evenly to each travel team. All association members are required to participate in pre-season fundraising activities. It is the responsibility of the 6<sup>th</sup> grade boys coach to coordinate all of the activities associated with conducting the annual fundraising campaign.

## H. 6th Grade Girls Jamboree

- 1. It is the responsibility of the 6th grade girls coach to coordinate all of the activities associated with Rocky Hill Travel Basketball hosting the annual jamboree for the 6th grade girls teams in the league.*

## **Article IX. Executive Board Responsibilities**

Members of the Executive Board will be responsible for the following activities:

- A. **Scheduling Practices and Games.** The Executive Board will coordinate gym time availability and schedules for each travel team. Gym time will be allocated among the teams on an equal basis. Once allocated, each coach is responsible for scheduling practices and league/non-league games. A total schedule of 25 - 30 games is recommended but is left to the discretion of the coach.
- B. **Obtaining Referees.** The Executive Board will schedule referees for all Home games.
- C. **Handling of Administrative Duties.** The Executive Board (namely the Parks and Recreation Representative) will handle all administrative duties such as registration for tryouts and the collection of registration fees, custodial fees and insurance.
- D. **Review of Grievances.** Any complaints about the conduct of coaches or any member of the Association received by the Parks and Recreation Representative or any other Board member should be directed to the President. It will be the duty of the President or the Parks and Recreation Representative to contact the complaining party to discuss the complaint within 5 days of its receipt and using his/her discretion, take the appropriate remedial action in a timely manner. If it is deemed that the conduct is of a serious nature, a Board of Directors meeting will be called so that the removal of the individual can be considered as per Article VIII, paragraph B. In addition, it will be the duty of the President to resolve or bring before the Executive Board any complaints resulting from player selection decisions as per Article VIII paragraph C.

## **Article X. Codes of Conduct**

### **A. COACHES:**

1. All coaches are expected to set an example for their players. They must handle themselves with a high degree of self-control at all times. Player's parents and referees should be treated with respect.
2. The primary goal of each coach should be to get the best out of each player in terms of both personal and athletic development. This objective

should be balanced with that of fielding a competitive team and creating a challenging environment for talented athletes.

3. **In the spirit of this balance, all players who demonstrate a positive attitude and strong work ethic, and also demonstrate a strong commitment to the team by consistently attending practices and games, must play a portion of each half in every game.**
4. Head coaches will be responsible for selecting their assistants as well as volunteers to handle the scorebook and clock. Assistant coaches should abide by the same conduct standards expected of head coaches.
5. Each Head Coach and Assistant Coach will be required to receive, review and sign the Rocky Hill Travel Basketball Association Code of Conduct – Coaches. A copy of the executed Code of Conduct must be forwarded to the Executive Board. Coaches can not participate unless and until the Code of Conduct has been signed.
6. *Head coaches and all assistant coaches are expected to be dressed in appropriate coaching attire at both practices and games. Particularly for games, coaches are expected to wear Rocky Hill Travel Basketball polo shirts distributed by the Association at both home and away games.*

#### B. PLAYERS/PARENT(S)/GUARDIANS

1. All Players/Parents/Guardians shall receive a Code of Conduct that MUST BE signed and returned to the Coach BEFORE the first scheduled practice. Failure to sign and return the Player and Parent/Guardian Code of Conduct shall prevent the Player from participating on the team until such time as the signed Code of Conduct has been returned.

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