TEWKSBURY BOYS BASKETBALL LEAGUE

CODE OF CONDUCT

Tewksbury Boys Basketball League (TBBL) provides a safe and balanced learning environment for players of all abilities that develop athletic skills, character, sportsmanship, and teamwork for Tewksbury children in grades K through 12 through their participation in competitive basketball.

TBBL wants to promote the physical, social and emotional development of youth participants. It is therefore essential for parents, coaches and officials to encourage youth athletes to embrace the values of good sportsmanship. Moreover, adults involved in youth sports events should be models of good sportsmanship and should lead by example by demonstrating fairness, respect and self-control.

As a parent or guardian of a TBBL player, participants will be responsible for their (and any other parent, guardian or guests of my child) words and actions while attending, coaching, officiating or participating in a youth sports event and shall conform to the following code of conduct:

- Children participate to have fun and that the game is for the youth participants, not adults.
- Will be a positive role model and encourage sportsmanship by showing respect and courtesy, and by demonstrating positive support for all players, coaches, officials and spectators at every game, practice or other sporting event.
- Will not engage in any kind of unsportsmanlike conduct with any official, coach, player, or parent such as booing and taunting; refusing to shake hands; verbal or physical threats; or using profane language or gestures.
- Will not engage, or encourage a child or any other person to engage, in any behavior which would endanger the health, safety or well-being of any coach, parent, player, participant, official or any other attendee.
- Will treat, and insure their child treats, any coach, parent, player, participant, official or any other attendee with respect regardless of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, game play or ability.
- Will not initiate, and will not tolerate any child initiating a verbal or physical fight, abuse, negative comments or scuffle with any coach, parent, player, participant, official or any other attendee.
- Will not embarrass a child by calling attention to him through loud or rude behavior.
- Will encourage children to practice good sportsmanship.
- Will never ridicule or yell at any child or other participant for making a mistake or losing a competition.
- Will promote the emotional and physical well-being of all the athletes ahead of any personal desire to win.
- Will respect the officials and their authority during games and will never question, discuss, or confront coaches at the game, and will take time to speak with coaches privately at an agreed upon time and place if there is an issue or concern.

Anyone failing to conform to the foregoing while attending, coaching, or participating in a TBBL event will be subject to disciplinary action by the TBBL Disciplinary Committee as outlined in the TBBL Bylaws, including but not limited to a formal warning, suspension, or expulsion from the program.

- **Travel Players & Coaches**
    - While all TBBL Travel Participants are subject to the rules, regulations and codes of conduct of the Merrimack Valley Basketball League, or any other host league, TBBL reserves the right to institute stricter codes of discipline and take action separate from any host travel league.
    - Any disciplinary action enforced by a host Travel League will have no bearing on the deliberations of the TBBL Disciplinary Committee
- **Technical Fouls**
    - All Technical Fouls received must be reported by the Head Coach to the appropriate Division Representative, the Director of Certified Officials or Junior Officials (whichever is relevant), and the TBBL Vice President as Chair of the TBBL Disciplinary Committee.
    - After receiving the second technical foul within a season, the player, coach, and parents/guardians of the player will receive an email outlining the technical foul policy, and will meet briefly with a designated member of the TBBL Disciplinary Committee to discuss the incidents that led to the technical fouls given, and the potential disciplinary action that will follow with any subsequent infractions.
    - Any player or coach who receives a third technical foul within a season, shall be suspended for one game.
    - Any player or coach who receives a fourth technical foul, shall be suspended for two games and will initiate an automatic review by the Disciplinary Committee and possible additional disciplinary action.
    - A fifth technical foul will result in a minimum of a four game suspension plus a review by the Disciplinary Committee. The Disciplinary Committee will institute additional discipline that may include additional games suspended to expulsion from the program.
    - A player or coach that receives six or more technical fouls within a season will be expelled from the program and will require a review by the Disciplinary Committee prior to submitting any future registrations with the TBBL Board of Directors making a final decision on the member's disposition based on the DC Review.
- **Suspensions**
    - If a player or coach is ejected from a game for any reason (poor sportsmanship, 2 technical fouls, a flagrant foul, etc.), the member will be suspended from their next game. Any player ejected for fighting will receive a two game suspension. Any player or coach that is ejected from a second game within the same season will be suspended for the balance of the season, requiring a full review by the DC prior to registering for future seasons.
    - If a player is suspended, that player must serve his suspension by attending the game for which he is serving his suspension and be present for the entire game. Said player should be dressed in street clothes. The suspension will remain in effect until the player attends the number of games for which he is suspended. If a player chooses not to attend a game for which he is suspended, an additional game will be added to the suspension.
    - If a coach is suspended, the coach is not allowed inside the gym where their team is playing.

  - If a suspension is ignored by a player, two games will be added to the current suspension and will be subject to additional discipline from the TBBL Disciplinary Committee.
  - If a suspension is ignored by a coach, two games will be added to the current suspension and will be subject to additional discipline from the TBBL Disciplinary Committee.
  - If a player's suspension is ignored by a coach and the player is allowed to participate in a game, the team will forfeit the game (for in-town games) and the coach will be suspended for two games and be subject to additional discipline from the TBBL Disciplinary Committee.
  - Players and coaches that have been suspended are permitted to participate in practices, scrimmages, and pre-season tournaments (travel) unless specifically prohibited from doing so by the TBBL Disciplinary Committee.
- **In-town Coaches**
  - If a coach is found to have violated the playing time rules, they will be subject to review and discipline by the Disciplinary Committee.
  - If a coach is found to have violated the league rules with regards to margin of victory and appropriate sportsmanship, they will be subject to review and discipline by the Disciplinary Committee

Method of Enforcement:

The Member involved shall:

1. Be notified in writing of the time and location of the Disciplinary Committee Hearing where the violation will be discussed;
2. Informed of the specific nature of the allegations leveled at said member; and
3. Given an opportunity to appear at the meeting to answer those allegations.
4. The committee will notify the subject of the hearing of their decision regarding disciplinary action.

Appeals Process:

Anyone who has been disciplined by the Disciplinary Committee can appeal that decision by submitting a request for review to the President and the appropriate Division Representative within 48 hours of the notification by the DC, stating their grounds for the appeal. A special meeting of the Board of Directors will be called to hear the appeal at which the subject of the discipline can petition the Board to modify or overturn the decision. A 2/3 vote of Board Members present is required to overturn or modify a decision of the Disciplinary Committee.