

DRACUT RECREATION COMMISION BYLAWS
DRACUT BOYS BASKETBALL

Article 1. Name

This organization will be known as the Dracut Boys Basketball Program.
The mailing address shall be:

C/O Dracut Recreation department
11 Spring Park Avenue
Dracut, MA 01826
978-458-4478

Article 2. Purpose

The purpose of this organization is to promote sportsmanship and a sense of fair play while providing an opportunity for residents of Dracut to increase their skill and knowledge of the game of basketball. This will be accomplished by teaching fundamental skills in an organized effort that will develop comradery in a fun and stress-free atmosphere.

Article 3. Meetings

Section 1. The Board of Directors

Membership is open to any person with a sincere interest in active participation to affect the purpose of the organization. Members of the board will elect officers.

Section 2. Meeting Dates

The Board of Directors will meet at least once per month at the Recreation Department Office (when available). The President of the board may call other meetings, as needed. All meetings must consist of a quorum of at least 50% of the board members for the meeting to proceed.

Section 3. Annual Meeting

The annual meeting will take place immediately preceding the regularly scheduled Board of Directors meeting in June. At that time, the board will review the activities of the previous year. The Treasurer (or finance committee) will deliver the financial report. The President will report on the state of the program and there will be a nomination and election of new officers. Other business can be addressed after the new officers are elected.

Section 4. Attendance and Voting

All meetings of the board will be open to the public. Only board members may vote on issues before the board, although input on

those issues are welcomed from any person in attendance. The President of the Board may call for an executive session to deal with a particular topic. At that time, only board members will be allowed to remain at the meeting.

Article 4.

Members of the Board

Section 1. Membership Eligibility

Membership to the Board of Directors of this organization is open to any resident of the town of Dracut who wishes to adhere to the purpose of the organization, as stated in Article 2.

Section 2. Election of Officers

All officers of the league must serve on the Board of Directors. Each term is for a one-year period. New elections will be held at the annual meeting each June. The officers include a President, Treasurer (or finance committee), Vice-President of Recreation, Vice-President of Travel, and Secretary.

Section 3. Removal of Officers

If there is just cause for removal of an officer, a special meeting of the board must be called, and a $\frac{3}{4}$ vote of those present at the special meeting is necessary for removal.

Section 4. Travel Coaches

Due to the competitive level of travel basketball, coaches must be voted in on a yearly basis. This vote will take place in the same meeting as the election of officers in June. Anyone wishing to coach a travel team may submit their name prior to the June meeting to the President of the board. The board may request to interview each candidate. Once a coach has been selected they are required to serve on the Board of Directors for a term of one year.

Section 5. Other Members

Any board member can put forth the names of potential new members of the board during the new business portion of any regularly scheduled Board Meeting. A $\frac{2}{3}$ vote by those members attending is required for admittance of new members of the board.

Section 6. Duties of Officers

The President shall preside at all meetings of the board. The President, or a designated representative, shall serve as a liaison between the board and the other Dracut Recreation programs. The President shall sign and execute all contracts for the board. The Vice Presidents shall assist the President in his or her duties and serve in their stead when the President is not available. The Vice-

Presidents will secure bids for such items as balls and uniforms, as needed for their respective programs, and present all pertinent items to the board in a timely fashion. The Treasurer (or finance committee) shall have custody of all the funds of the organization and shall maintain the financial account in a local bank. The Treasurer (or finance committee) shall also provide a detailed account of the organization's funds at each Board Meeting. The President or the Treasurer (or finance committee) must sign all checks for disbursement of funds. In the case of a Finance Committee, the President must approve and two finance committee members must sign each check for disbursement of funds. The Secretary shall keep the minutes of all meetings, send out notices of the organization to all appropriate groups and attend to all correspondence to and from the organization.

Article 5.

Fiscal Year

The fiscal year of the organization will run from July 1 of the current year to June 30 of the following year.

Article 6.

Fees and Dues

There are no dues required for membership of this organization. The fee structure for youths to participate each year in the program are recommended by members of the board and are set by the Dracut Recreation Department. These fees should be approved at the annual meeting each June and confirmed at the first Board meeting in the fall.

Article 7.

Participation

The Dracut Basketball Program is only open to Dracut residents. There are no exceptions. If residency of a player is called into question, written certification of town residence must be provided to the board. If it is found that a player has participated in the league while living outside of Dracut, the matter will be turned over to the Board for investigation. Further, the team on which he played, may have to forfeit those games in which that player participated, and further disciplinary actions may be taken against the coach of his team if deemed necessary.

Participation at the Clinic 1, Clinic 2, Junior, Senior, or High School League is based on grade level, not age. The board has the authority to make exceptions for players with skills not equivalent to their level for safety concerns. The Travel League is also determined by grade level, however, an age cap is set according to the rules set forth by the Merrimack Valley Youth Basketball League. See Article 8 for detailed descriptions of these leagues.

Article 8.

Player Eligibility

Section 1. Enrollment in the Program

Any person who has properly registered with the Recreation Department, paid the appropriate fee, and is in the proper age level is eligible to participate. Those applicants who sign up after the deadline date will be put on a waiting list. After the forming of teams, players from the waiting list will be added in order of date of sign-up on an as needed basis to fill open rosters (in case of injury, parental decision to remove a youngster from the program, a family moving out of town, players quitting after the beginning of the season). Being on the waiting list does NOT guarantee a spot in the program. Players will be assigned to teams, as needed, by the league coordinator at the earliest convenience. No player can be added to any team without the approval of the league coordinator and/or President. If any applicant is not placed on a team after the fourth game of the season, the registration fee will be refunded and the application withdrawn.

Section 2. Player Levels

There are levels of involvement in the program: Clinic 1 (Grades 2-3), Clinic 2 (Grades 3-4), Junior (Grades 5-6), Senior (Grades 7-8), High School (9-12), Adult (Ages 30+), and Travel (Grades 3-8). Players on travel teams in grades 5-8 are ineligible to participate in any other level of the program.

Section 3. Clinic Program

The Clinic Program is designed as instructional for those youths who have never previously participated in an organized basketball program. Most Clinic 1 players are in grade 2 and most Clinic 2 players are in grades 3-4. In some cases, a higher grade player with less advanced skills may be accepted into the Clinic Program, based on parental approval, space available, and never having played in an organized program before. In some cases, an advanced player may be moved up to a higher level program by the league coordinator and/or the President.

This program will consist of practice (when available) and games with no post-season schedule. The referees should offer instruction and well as officiate. They may stop the game at any time to point out specific rule violations to players, show them proper positioning on the court, or assist in any other aspect of the game. Above all, the Clinic Program is designed as a learning experience.

Section 4. Junior League Program

The Junior League Program is designed for fifth and sixth grade players. Prior participation in the Clinic Program may prove helpful, but is not a requirement for enrollment. In some cases, an advanced player may be moved up to a higher level program by the league coordinator and/or the President. The Junior League also stresses fundamentals, but is executed at a higher level. This program will consist of practice (when available), games and a post-season schedule.

Section 5. Senior League Program

The Senior League Program is designed for seventh and eighth grade players. Prior participation in the Junior League may prove helpful, but is not a requirement for enrollment. In some cases, an advanced player may be moved up to a higher level program by the league coordinator and/or the President. The Senior League is slightly more competitive than the Junior League but playing time rules (Article 9, Section 11) still apply. This program will consist of practice (when available), games and a post-season schedule.

Section 6. High School Program

The High School Program is designed for participants in grades 9 through 12. Prior participation in the Senior League may prove helpful, but is not a requirement for enrollment. In some cases, an advanced player may be moved up to a higher level program by the league coordinator and/or the President. Since the age group of players is higher, the emphasis focuses on a fun, stress-free atmosphere. The playing time rules (Article 9, Section 11) apply for this league as well. This program will consist of practice (when available), games and a post-season schedule.

Section 7. Travel League Program

The Dracut Recreation Program supports one travel team at each grade level for the fourth through eighth grades. Tryouts take place prior to the recreation program evaluations (normally in October). All players trying out for and playing in travel must be registered with the Recreation Department. The fourth grade is only a pickup game format and players can participate in both recreation and travel. All other grades are limited to only the Travel Program.

Section 8. Adult League Program

The Adult League is open to anyone that is a resident of Dracut and is over 30 years in age. The Adult League is a competitive league and playing time rules (Article 9, Section 11) do not apply.

This program will consist of practice (when available), games and a post-season schedule.

Section 9. *The Board may approve any exception to these rules.*

Article 9. Rules of Play

Section 1. Registration

All participants must be registered with and approved by the Dracut Recreation Department prior to play.

Section 2. Roster

Teams will have from a minimum of 8 players to a maximum of 12 players. If after team assignments have been made, teams which have less than ten players will be able to pull from the waiting list (if there is one) to fill the rosters to ten.

Section 3. Try-outs and Team Assignments.

The Travel League Program is the only program that will have team tryouts. These tryouts will take place prior to the beginning of team practices and usually occur at the end of September or early October. Tryouts are open only to those players who have signed up with the Recreation Department before try-out. Once tryouts are complete all other participants are eligible for the recreation programs. Evaluations will be done on an as needed basis to assure fair teams are drafted. Players will be rated on ability levels based on a consensus of the coaches, and drafted and/or selected so that each team will have approximately the same number of players at each ability level.

Section 4. Team Notification

All coaches will contact their players within one week of team assignments, informing them which team they are on and of upcoming schedules. Any parent not notified after a week should contact the Recreation Office.

Section 5. Practice

Teams will be allowed practice when available. The time allotment for practice will vary and be dependent on gym availability and not to exceed two hours. Practices are open only to the coaches, players, and members of the player's family. No spectators are allowed. All coaches are responsible for ensuring they bring the equipment supplied to them by the board.

Section 6. Games

The time allotment for recreation games will be one hour and be

dependent on gym availability. Travel games will be 1 hour and 15 minutes. Games will normally be played from Monday-Friday evenings. Saturday games may also be scheduled based upon gym availability. The Travel Program home games will be played on Sundays.

Section 7. Playoffs

The board will determine the playoff format at least two weeks prior to the end of the season. Schedules permitting, it is goal of the board to include as many teams as possible in the playoffs. There are no playoffs in the Clinic leagues.

Section 8. Rule of Play

Official basketball rules will be followed at all levels of play. Games in the Clinic Program will involve more instruction and play may be stopped to explain a particular rule's infraction. Such penalties as three-second violations and traveling may be looked upon more leniently early in the season, but will be enforced more stringently later in the year.

Section 9. Game Time

All Programs will consist of two halves of 20 minutes each. Time will be running time with stops only for injuries and time outs until the last 2 minutes of the game. The last 2 minutes will be stop time as in NFHS official rules. The Travel program will adhere to the NFHS official rules.

Section 10. Playing Time

All players (in all programs) must play a minimum of 50% of the game (20 total minutes) when teams consist of ten players or less. When there are more than ten players on a team each player must play a minimum of 30% of the game (12 total minutes).

Section 11. Penalty Situation

The "one-and-one" rule for shooting free throws will be in effect on the seventh foul of each half. Double bonus after the tenth foul.

Section 12. Fouling Out

Five fouls disqualifies a player at all levels.

Section 13. Pressing Defenses

There is no pressing allowed at any time in the Clinic 1 Program. Pressing is allowed the last two minutes of the game for Clinic 2 Program. Pressing is allowed the last two minutes of the half and the game for Junior League Program. Pressing is allowed the

entire game for all other Programs. If a team is up by more than fifteen points in in all Programs, pressing is not allowed.

Section 14. Uniforms

The league will supply all uniforms. No coach or sponsor may obtain different uniforms for their team, or alter the basic uniform to add logos or names to the uniform provided by the league.

Section 15. Code of Conduct

The objective of the program is to teach youth how to play basketball in a sportsmanlike manner; unsportsmanlike conduct by any coach, player or parent will not be tolerated.

- a. Name-calling, harassing or distracting opponents is not allowed. Failure to comply will result in a technical foul for the first infraction and ejection from the game for the second infraction.
- b. A technical foul called on either player or coach results in two free throws for the opponent, and possession of the ball belongs to the team shooting the free throws. A second technical foul on a player will result in removal of the player or coach from the gym. Any refusal to leave within a reasonable amount of time will result in forfeiture of the game.
- c. Abuse of coaches or referees from fans will not be tolerated. Spectators using abusive language or creating a disturbance will be asked to leave the gym. Any fans causing a disturbance and refusing to leave in a timely manner may cause forfeiture of the game for the team they support.
- d. Players receiving two technical fouls in any one game will constitute suspension for the next scheduled game, including playoffs.
- e. Coaches receiving two technical fouls in any one game will be called before the Board of Directors to answer and be reprimanded. Coaches will be removed from position for repeated unnecessary unsportsmanlike conduct.
- f. Anyone fighting before, during or after a game will receive a minimum of one and up to a three game suspension. A second offense will result in a minimum of three and up to an ejection from the league. Any further offenses will result in ejection from the league. Anyone receiving an ejection from the league must obtain approval from the Board of Directors before returning to the league.

Article 10. Amendments

These articles may be amended at any annual meeting, or at a special meeting of the membership specifically called for that purpose. For an amendment to become part of this document, a quorum must be present at this meeting, and 2/3 of those in attendance must approve the amendment. Said amendment must be presented in writing to all members in attendance and given proper time for consideration before a vote may take place.