



**TEXAS ASSOCIATION OF INDEPENDENT
ATHLETIC ORGANIZATIONS
(TAIAO)
SUBCHAPTER M
Basketball Athletic Plan
(June 9, 2017)**



Table of Content

PART A - Division and District Alignment	1
PART B - Basketball Season (Including Post Season).....	3
PART C - Off Season & Summer.....	5
PART D - Game Administration	6
PART E - Equipment.....	7
PART F - Post Season Play	8
PART G - Post Season Honors and All Star Games.....	10
PART H - Removal from Contest	11
PART I - Middle School Basketball	13

Except to the extent otherwise provided, the Basketball Plan is governed by and subject to the General Rules of TAIAO.

PART A - Division and District Alignment

The Rules in Subchapter J – “Classifications and Districts” also apply to this Subchapter M, Part A.

Section 500 – Biannual Realignment

- A. Prior to the 1st of April of 2016 and each even numbered year thereafter, TAI AO shall review and update Division assignments for all member organizations that were members in good standing in TAI AO as of January 31st.
- B. Within 7 calendar days of publication of the Division assignments any member organization assigned to a Division may, as provided in Section 252, request reassignment to a larger or smaller classification.
- C. The Basketball Committee will respond to all timely filed appeals by the 15th of April.

Section 501 – New Member Organizations

- A. Upon admission to TAI AO, the Basketball Committee shall assign each new member organization to a Division.

Section 502 – Division Assignment

- A. **Division Assignment.** Division assignment will be determined as follows:
 - 1. **Division 1A** – A Roster Count of 15 players or less.
 - 2. **Division 2A** – Either;
 - a. A Roster Count of 16 players or more; or,
 - b. 10 seasons or more combined player experience in club play

Example 1: Team A has 12 players; 6 of which play on a Club Basketball teams in the offseason, with the team having a combined club play time of 7 seasons or more. Team A would then be placed in the higher division (Division 2A).

Example 2: Team B has 15 players; none of which participate in Club Basketball. Team B would then be classified as Division 1A.

B. Roster Data.

- 1. Each March, every member organization shall forward their Roster Data to the TAI AO Basketball Commissioner.
- 2. Roster Data shall include each organization’s expected high school Basketball player count for the upcoming season. This head count shall include all expected Basketball players who will participate at the High School level between 14 to 18 years of age as of September 1st of the corresponding calendar year.
- 3. The Roster Data shall identify players who participate in Club Basketball; including the number of seasons of Club experience by each player.
- 4. The Roster Data shall be used to determine the member organization’s current Roster Count.
- 5. Roster Data for any organization applying for membership in TAI AO shall be submitted

with its league application.

- C. Roster Count.** Unless otherwise provided by the Basketball Committee, the most current Roster Data shall be considered the official Roster Count of each member organization.

Section 503 – Official Rosters and Eligibility. *(See also Section 236 – Eligibility)*

- A.** All High School Basketball players and coaches, regardless of classification, shall be included on the appropriate team roster in MaxPreps.com.
- B.** Rosters can be adjusted until **November 15th** at which time the Roster in MaxPreps becomes the FINAL and Official Roster for the team for the remainder of the season. Players who are temporarily ineligible for academic or other reasons are to be included on the Final Roster.
- C.** The Roster information shall include:
 - 1.** For each player
 - a.** First and Last Name
 - b.** Jersey Number
 - c.** Grade Classification
 - d.** Position
 - e.** Approximate Height
 - f.** Date of Birth
 - 2.** For each Coach
 - a.** First and Last Name
 - b.** Coaching assignment/responsibilities

Sections 504 – 507 are reserved for expansion.

PART B - Basketball Season (Including Post Season)

Section 508 – Calendar

- A. The TAI AO calendar for Regular Season and Post Season Basketball shall begin October 15th and will conclude with the TAI AO State Championship Tournament (*typically scheduled the third weekend in February*).

Section 509 – Practice Schedules

A. Regular and Post Season Practices.

1. Beginning October 15th and continuing until the end of Post Season play, only one practice per day may be scheduled.
2. The maximum length of practice shall not exceed three hours.

B. Definitions.

1. The following activities are “practice activities”:
 - a. Actual on-court practice
 - b. Sport-specific skill instruction
 - c. Mandatory conditioning
2. The following activities are not considered “practice activities”:
 - a. Meetings
 - b. Film Study
 - c. Injury Treatment
 - d. Weight Training
 - e. Water Breaks
 - f. Rest Breaks
 - g. Voluntary Conditioning (may not be coach directed)
3. Basketball practice or training is interpreted to mean any organized instruction in Basketball formations or individual and/or team skills.

Basketball equipment is as listed in National Federation of State High School Association Basketball Rules

Section 510 – Pre-Season Scrimmages

- A. Member organization may participate in scrimmages. Provided, however, that scrimmages are not allowed after 1st official game has been played.

Section 511 – Regular Season Games

A. Game Schedule

1. Regular Season games may begin on October 15th.
2. No games will be scheduled on Sunday.

B. Game Participation Limits.

- 1. Regular Season Limits.** The number of regular season games will be limited to 30. Participation in a basketball tournament will, regardless of the number of games actually played, count as 2 games against the regular season limit.
- 2. Weekly Limits.** No member organization may schedule more than 3 varsity games in one calendar week (Monday – Saturday). Nor may any player participate in more than 3 games in one calendar week. Participation in a basketball tournament will, regardless of the number of games actually played, be counted as 2 games.
- 3. Junior Varsity Participation.** Junior Varsity students may be allowed to dress out for varsity games as long as it does not exceed the three-game limit allotted for each player per week.

Sections 512 – 515 are reserved for expansion.

PART C - Off Season & Summer

The Rules in Subchapter K – “General Plan” also apply to this Subchapter M, Part C.

Section 516 - Calendar

- A. The TAI AO calendar for Basketball, other than Regular Season, shall be as follows.
 - 1. **Off Season.** From the first week in September until the beginning of the Regular Season and beginning again at the conclusion of the Regular Season through May 31st.
 - 2. **Summer.** Beginning June 1st and ending July 31st.

Section 517 – Off Season (*See Section 264 of the General Rules*)

- A. Off Season workouts can be held anytime other than the Regular Season.
- B. Accelerated physical education activities, calisthenics, individual skills, strength training and conditioning exercises may be conducted starting no earlier than 6:00 AM and concluding no later than 8:00 PM.
- C. These activities shall not:
 - 1. Exceed one continuous period of up to but not to exceed 90 minutes per day; and,
 - 2. A total of 300 minutes per week.
- D. Coaches shall make every effort to see that students understand that participation in Off Season activities is strictly voluntary and never required. Participation shall not be a prerequisite for trying out for a Basketball team or getting more playing time.
- E. Organized “School Club Teams” are not permitted during the off season.
 - 1. A School Club Team is defined as a member organization sponsored basketball team, which is comprised of players from one or more member organizations.

Section 518 – Member Organization Facilities Use (Off Season) *See Section 262 of the General Rules*

Section 519 – Summer Activities (*See Section 265 of the General Rules*)

- A. Summer activities shall be an optional activity.
- B. Summer activities may include accelerated physical education activities, calisthenics, individual skills, strength training and conditioning exercises maybe conducted starting no earlier than 6:00 AM and concluding no later than 9:00 PM.
- C. Summer activities shall not exceed 2 hours per day and a total of 8 hours per week.
- D. Coaches shall make every effort to see that students understand that participation in summer activities is strictly voluntary and never required.

Section 520 – Member Organization Facility Use (Summer) *See Section 262 of the General Rules*

Sections 521 – 525 are reserved for expansion.

PART D - Game Administration

The Rules in Subchapter K – “General Plan” also apply to this Subchapter M, Part D.

Section 526 - Game Rules

- A. All Basketball games shall be governed by the NFHS basketball rules.
1. The 3-point shot will be used in TAIIO play.

Section 527 – Post Game Reporting Requirements

A. Game Statistics

1. Posting of each game statistics (both team and individual statistics) shall be kept current with the stats being posted **no later than 2 school days following the date the game was played.** Each game statistics must be posted in MaxPreps if the team wishes to be considered for post season TAIIO tournament.
2. The timely entry of stats will be monitored.
3. Failure to keep stats current will result in disciplinary action up to and including non-qualification for post-season player honors.

Section 528 – Pre- and Post- Game Activities

A. Prayer Encouraged

1. At each contest between TAIIO member organizations, pre-game and/or post-game prayer is encouraged (not required).
2. When a TAIIO member organization is playing a non TAIIO School, the TAIIO member organization is encouraged to offer to pray before or after the game with the non TAIIO School.

Section 529 – Tickets & Admissions – Regular Season Games (*See Section 267D of the General Rules*)

Section 530 - Game Officials – Regular Season Games

- A. All Game officials shall be UIL Certified, TASO Certified and TAIIO approved.
- B. A minimum of 1 official is required. If officials do not show and the visiting coach elects to play the game, the game can proceed without forfeit.

Sections 531 – 540 are reserved for expansion

PART E - Equipment

Section 541 - Equipment

A. Basketballs

1. All varsity game balls shall be NFHS-approved. These balls are subject to the approval of the game official.
2. Home team will provide game balls unless agreed upon by both coaches.
3. Home team is not responsible for provision of pre-game warm-up balls or water to visiting teams.

B. Game Uniforms

1. Basketball equipment/uniform requirements are as listed in the NFHS Basketball Rules.
2. Opposing team uniforms shall be of contrasting colors. The home team shall wear light game jerseys and the away team shall wear dark game jerseys. This rule may be altered by mutual consent of the competing institutions.

PART F - Post Season Play

Section 542 – Calendar

- A. The TAI AO calendar for Basketball Post Season play shall begin and conclude as determined by the Basketball Committee.

Section 543 - Post Season Play

A. Minimum Game Requirement.

1. Teams shall have completed a minimum of 6 Regular Season games in order to be eligible for Post Season play.
2. Players are required to participate in a minimum of 6 Regular Season games to qualify for Post Season play.

B. Playoff Selection. The Basketball Committee shall be responsible for determination of the member organization teams participating in the playoffs for each Division. All games must be posted with MaxPreps if the team wishes to be considered for the post season TAI AO tournament.

C. Post Season Playoff Brackets.

1. The Basketball Committee shall be responsible for preparation of each Divisional Playoff bracket.
2. Each bracket shall be ready for posting by the Wednesday preceding the beginning of post season play.

Section 544 – Team Rosters

Team rosters of all playoff-qualifying teams must be submitted to the Basketball Committee Chairman by the date established by the Basketball Committee to be assured of being included in the state championship programs. The roster shall include full name, Jersey number, position, and grade. It may also include height and/or weight.

Section 545 - State Tournament

A. State Tournament.

1. The State Tournaments for all Divisions for boys and girls shall be played at a “central location” designated by TAI AO.
2. The State Tournaments for all Divisions for boys and girls shall be played on a day and at a time designated by TAI AO.
3. TAI AO shall manage all game day activities.

B. Game Passes. All game and season passes issued by any member organization are suspended for State Tournament.

C. Tickets & Admissions.

1. TAI AO will use its best efforts to choose playoff locations in a manner to appropriately “size” the location to the expected crowd and to create an admission fee that is reasonable.

2. The TAI AO Steering Committee, taking into account the venue, the expense of the event, the impact on expected spectator population and the overall TAI AO organizational welfare, shall determine ticket prices for the State Tournament. This policy is consistent with those procedures used by like organizations and is the guidance that will be applicable to all TAI AO activities.
3. Coaches, players, officials and primary game personnel (team managers, trainers, etc.) are exempt from paying admission. Cheerleaders for each team may also be exempt from paying admission while in their uniform.

Sections 546 – 549 are reserved for future expansion.

PART G - Post Season Honors and All Star Games

(For the 2017/2018 Season, Post Season Honors will consist of All-Tournament only.)

Section 550 - Player Honors; Eligibility and Statistics

A. The purpose of awarding All-Tournament Honors is to recognize exceptional talent and performance of an individual player consistently demonstrated throughout the TAI AO State Tournament.

B. A student shall have played in at least 6 regular season games in order to qualify for this recognition.

Section 551 – Statewide Honors Team

A. TAI AO All-Tournament Honors will recognize a 1st team, 2nd team, and Honorable Mention for each Division. The Basketball Committee Chairman shall determine the number of students eligible from each team for All-Tournament consideration.

B. There may be up to 12 players on each team.

C. Prior to conclusion of the Championship game the Basketball Committee Chairman shall collect from each Head Coach his or her nominee(s) for the All-Tournament team.

Sections 552- 554 are reserved for expansion

PART H - Removal from Contest

The Rules in Subchapter I – “Discipline, Protests & Appeals” also apply to this Subchapter M., Part H.

Section 555 - Removal from Contest

- A. Incident Report.** Any coach or student ejected from a contest shall:
1. File an Incident Report with the TAI AO Basketball Committee Chairman on the TAI AO authorized form.
 - a. The Incident Report is due by noon the second school day following the game.
 2. Provide the opposing team’s head coach with a copy of the filed Incident Report.
 3. Member organizations that fail to properly report an ejection are subject to further sanctions.
- B. Discipline.**
1. The TAI AO Basketball Committee Chairman shall be free to determine appropriate discipline in addition to the minimum sanctions listed below.
 2. **Minimum Sanctions:**
 - a. **Students**
 - i. Any student ejected from a contest shall be suspended from the next scheduled contest as shown on the schedule submitted prior to the season to the TAI AO Office.
 - ii. Any student ejected from a contest for a 2nd time within the same season shall be suspended from the next 2 contests as shown on the schedule.
 - iii. Any student ejected from a contest for a 3rd time within the same season shall be suspended for the remainder of the season (including post season).
 - b. **Coaches**
 - i. Any coach ejected from a contest shall receive a private reprimand AND shall be suspended from the next scheduled contest as shown on the schedule submitted prior to the season to the TAI AO Office.
 - ii. Any coach ejected from a contest for a 2nd time within the same season shall receive a public reprimand AND shall be suspended from the next 2 contests as shown on the schedule.
 - iii. Any coach ejected from a contest for a 3rd time within the same season shall be suspended for the remainder of the season (including post season).
- C.** If a total of three ejections, coaches and students combined, are received by a member organization during the season, the athletic director and coaching staff of the member organization will be required to meet with the TAI AO Basketball Committee Chairman.

Section 556 - Dispute with an Official

- A.** A coach or student who deliberately comes into physical contact with, or threatens to harm an official shall receive a minimum five (5) game suspension.

Sections 557 – 560 are reserved for expansion

PART I - Middle School Basketball

Rules in Sections 508-512, 526-530, 541, 555-556 also apply to Middle School Basketball.

Section 561 - Season Calendar

- A. The TAI AO calendar for Middle School Pre-Season and Regular Season Basketball shall begin October 15th and continue through the conclusion of post season play.

Section 562 - Eligibility

- A. Participation in TAI AO Middle School Basketball is open to students who:
 - 1. Will reach their 11th birthday no later than September 1st of the current school year and will not have reached their 15th birthday earlier than September 1st of the current school year; and,
 - 2. Students may only have four consecutive years of eligibility at the Middle School Level.
 - 3. To the extent allowed by Section 236 of the TAI AO General Rules, Eighth-graders are eligible to play at the High School level.
- B. A member organization may adopt eligibility rules related to Middle School participation that are more stringent than TAI AO rules for eligibility (including academic eligibility).
- C. Questions concerning eligibility shall be referred to the Basketball Committee for review and a decision.

Section 563 - Games

- A. A maximum of 23 regular season games are allowed.

Section 564 - Game Officials

- A. All Game officials shall be UIL and TASO Certified.
- B. A minimum of 1 certified official must call the game. If the visiting coach elects to play the game without certified officials, the game will count without forfeit; otherwise, a scrimmage can be played.

Section 565 - Post Season

- A. Post Season for TAI AO Middle School programs will consist of one end of the year tournament.
- B. Seeding shall be done by the Basketball Committee based on the following, in this order:
 - 1. Win-Loss record
 - 2. Head to Head competition (if applicable)
 - 3. Common Opponents (if applicable)
 - 4. Coaches agreement