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JUNIOR REPRESENTATIVE BASKETBALL POLICY & OPERATING GUIDELINES

FORWARD

Whether you are a player, coach, official, parent or administrator, involvement in sport at a representative level can be a challenging time, especially for those becoming involved for the first time. Representative matches can be highly competitive and tend to be taken more seriously than the local club game. This change in attitude is evident from the time selection trials begin and can remain well after the event is over.

Representative sport can therefore be very rewarding or very disappointing, depending on your point of view. It can bring out the best and worst in all of us. Therefore, it is important we have some rules of play and that everyone involved understands and accepts them so that we can all enjoy the positive experience of representing our club.

There is an expectation that by agreeing to be involved with Academy Basketball Inc, each coach, assistant coach, team manager, player and parent or guardian shall abide by the policies and guidelines that follow.

Academy Basketball Inc also recognises that the policies and guidelines that follow will not cover every scenario that may arise during the course of the representative season. As such, Academy Basketball Inc's Management Committee, reserve the right to make the final decision on any issue that may be contrary to the published Policies and Guidelines.

APPOINTMENT OF COACHES

Academy Basketball Inc will call for applications (either by verbal or written invitation) for representative team coaching positions. No coaching position is deemed to have been filled until the successful applicant is notified by the Academy Basketball Inc Management Committee in writing.

CODES OF CONDUCT

Involvement in the Representative Basketball Program automatically assumes that all coaches, players, spectators and parents will observe the established codes of conduct (available for download from the "Forms & Documents" area of the Academy Basketball Website). Any breaches of these codes will be dealt with by the Academy Basketball Inc Management Committee of whose decisions are final.

COMMITMENT

Players

The level of commitment varies between age groups but there are some common expectations. Players must commit to being available to play on the scheduled times according to the tournament schedule. They must also be available for all compulsory training sessions (as decided by the appointed coaches for that age group). Some concessions may be made for academic or work related commitments however, involvement in other sports may not be a satisfactory reason for failing to train or play when required by the coach.

In the event that a player is sick, he/she must notify his/her coach or team manager with regard to their availability for training or a scheduled match.

Parents

Each parent of a junior representative basketball player must be committed to ensuring that their child is available for and able to attend all compulsory training sessions and games. Parents must also agree to abide by the Code of Conduct (as published on the Academy Basketball website).

Coaches

All coaches must commit to every aspect of their team and be prepared to set an example in the areas of communication, punctuality, commitment, professionalism and attendance for players. Coaches must read and understand these policies and guidelines and also abide by the codes of conduct for coaches as outlined in the "Codes of Conduct" document published in the "Forms and Documents" section of the Academy Basketball website.

Coaches also take on organisational duties including:

- Liaison with the Academy Basketball Management Committee
- Ensuring score-sheets are filled out prior to the start of a game
- That a score-person is available to assist with score-keeping for all the team's scheduled matches.
- Collection of nomination fees, game fees, training monies as required for their team.

Team Managers

The Team Manager's role is to assist the Coach with any or all of the duties described above.

COMPLAINTS

All minor complaints should be initially directed to the Team Manager. If the issue cannot be dealt with immediately, the Team Manager should discuss the issue with the coach. In the event that a complaint is lodged against the coach, the complainant should then direct this to the Academy Basketball Management Committee.

All complaints lodged to the Management Committee MUST be in writing and include the name of the author. Anonymous letters of complaint will not be considered. If the author would like his/her name withheld, this can be arranged.

COURT TIME

While the coach is obliged to ensure that all players listed on the score-sheet receive court time, all selected players will be able to play as the coach deems appropriate with no obligation to give every player equal court time. All parents and players must be made aware of this as of the first training session.

Coaches must take into account the player's ability and attitude when determining the amount of court time a player receives.

DE-LISTING PLAYERS

Only the Academy Basketball Inc Management Committee has the authority to de-list a player during the course of the season. Reasons for de-listing a player may include (but are not limited to) repeated non-attendance at compulsory training sessions, games, breaches of the code of conduct or an irreconcilable breakdown in the relationship between the coach and the player.

A lack of form will not constitute grounds for de-listing a player. In the event that a coach deems it necessary for a player to be de-listed, a written request stating the reason for such action, must be forwarded to the Academy Basketball Management Committee for consideration.

DISCIPLINARY ACTION

The Academy Basketball Inc reserves the right to take disciplinary action against any player, coach or parent who does not abide by these policies and guidelines or the relevant codes of conduct. An internal tribunal hearing may be scheduled to decide on what action must be taken. The Academy Basketball Inc Management Committee will decide on what action should be taken on a case by case basis.

Players

Players may be suspended from play until their case is heard. Disciplinary action may include the player being de-listed from a team for a period of time or removed from the club altogether.

Coaches

Coaches may be stood down from their coaching position for a period of time or permanently.

Parents

Parents may be banned from attending training, games or other functions. Repeat offences may result in the parent's child being de-listed.

FINANCES

Either the Team Coach or Team Manager is required to keep a record of any player payments made directly to the coach or team manager. These may include:

- Player nomination payments
- Training payments
- Game fee payments

Assistance with this can be given by the Club Treasurer.

WORKING WITH CHILDREN CHECKS

All team officials (Coaches, Assistant Coaches and Team Managers) must have a current Blue Card unless deemed exempt under the current Blue Card legislation.

In the case of a new team official, he/she must apply for the card as soon as confirmation of his/her appointment to the team has been received.

Application forms are available from Academy Basketball Inc

PLAYER SELECTION COMMITTEE

Representative Coaches appointed by the Academy Basketball Management Committee shall form the "Player Selection Committee". The Player Selection Committee shall then elect a Chairperson. The Chairperson shall be responsible for the collection and dissemination of all relevant information to the appointed coaches and team managers for the duration of the representative season.

The Chairperson shall also act as the liaison between the coaching staff and the Academy Basketball Inc Management Committee.

The Chairperson of the Player Selection Committee shall also be responsible for ensuring that all team and player related documentation such as parental permission slips, team nomination forms etc are completed correctly and submitted on or before the due dates specified on the form.

Any person who has a child eligible for selection will not form part of the selection committee for their child's age group (unless he/she is the appointed coach of their own child's team). They can, however be part of the selection committee for all other age groups.

Age Group Selection Policy

When selecting players for representative teams, priority is to be given to the lowest age division that the player is eligible to play in.

A player may not be selected to play above their age division without agreement from the following people in the order stated:

1. The lower age division team coach
2. The upper age division team coach
3. The player's parent or guardian
4. The player

Age Division eligibility must be stated in terms of the year of birth as a clear guideline for selection.

Example:

Year of Tournament: 2009
Age Division: Under 12 Boys
Year of Birth: Born 1998 and 1999

Eligible players for the above age group would be boys turning 10 or 11 years of age in 2009. Boys that are 11 years of age but turning 12 in 2009 would not be eligible as they are born in 1997.

Selecting Multiple Teams in an Age Division

There will be times when more than one team can be selected and entered to play in the same age division. The decision to select teams of even ability or ranked ability will be the responsibility of the Management Committee in conjunction with the Player Selection Committee.

RECRUITMENT OF PLAYERS FOR TRY OUTS

Invitations to try outs for representative team selection should be offered to any player who meets the age division requirements and has participated in at least three games of the current or previous domestic season.

Once selected, a player must then participate regularly in the current domestic competition. Consideration for players coming from outside the Highfields Club will be taken under advisement on an individual basis. Precedent will not be considered when making decisions.

Try out dates will be advertised at the Highfields Fitness & Recreation Centre, on the Academy Basketball Inc website or by way of information flyers distributed at local venues during the domestic season games.

Coaches must not actively recruit players from other affiliated clubs and associations to attend the Academy Basketball Highfields try-outs. They may however, make players aware of the dates and times of try outs.

SELECTION TRIALS

Trials for representative team selection will consist of no less than two sessions. The Player Selection Committee in conjunction with the Academy Basketball Management Committee will set the dates and locations for the trials. Players are encouraged to attend all trials but must attend at least one of the nominated sessions to be eligible for selection. Injured players will be expected to be present at one of the trial sessions and must register. Any player who has not registered before the final try out session will not be considered for selection.

Extenuating circumstances preventing a player from attending try outs will be considered on an individual basis and must have the approval of the Player Selection Committee. Any request from exemption from try outs must be made in writing to the Chairperson of the Player Selection Committee before the final try out session.

TRAINING

The training schedule for representative team training will be decided by the appointed coaches as a collaborative group and selected players must attend these sessions. Repeated failure to attend training may result in the player being de-listed.

UNIFORM POLICY

Representative team coaches, managers and players are required to purchase a club polo shirt. These shirts are to be worn at all representative events.

Player strips will be provided by Academy Basketball Inc to each team coach or manager who will then be responsible for maintaining them until the end of the representative event or season. All uniforms provided by Academy Basketball Inc shall be returned in good order. Academy Basketball Inc reserves the right to charge players, coaches or managers for lost or damaged garments.

REPRESENTATIVE JUNIOR BASKETBALL LEAGUES & CARNIVALS

Coaches and players will be notified as to when the first grading or practice games are to commence for the following Junior Regional Events

Darling Downs Junior Challenge (Late March)

Academy Junior Regional League (Round 1 commences in May of each year and ends in September)

Grafton Odd Age Junior Carnival (Late November)

Invitational Challenge Matches (As and when they arise)

Consent of Parent or Guardian

I hereby give my consent for to participate in any competition conducted under the auspices of or participated in by Academy Basketball Inc Highfields Club and I hereby give my permission for him/her to use such known forms of transport, including air transport, for such travelling as may be deemed necessary.

I agree that, during the periods of the aforesaid competition in which my son/daughter participated, and during such travelling and other activities as maybe deemed necessary, my son/daughter shall be under the sole direction of the person/s duly appointed in charge of the squad/s and/or team/s in which he/she is included.

I further agree to meet the costs for any illness, accident or unforeseen circumstances which may occur during the periods of the activities in which my son/daughter participates and during such travelling and other activities as may be deemed necessary.

I acknowledge that I have read and understood the Academy Basketball Inc insurance disclosure document (as published on the Academy Basketball Inc website) and accept the level of cover provided under the stated policy.

In the event of my requesting and being given approval to arrange private accommodation for my son/daughter, I accept all the responsibilities (this includes transport to and from the playing venue each day) in relation to the competition. I also understand that whilst at representative tournaments my son/daughter is still under the control of Academy Basketball Inc officials during competition hours and any official functions connected with the event.

I also agree that my son/daughter is responsible for sun protection by providing his/her own hat and SPF 30+ (or higher) broad spectrum sunscreen.

I have read the Junior Representative Basketball Policy & Guidelines and the Codes of Conduct for Parents and Spectators, understand its contents and conditions, and accept the parental responsibilities contained therein.

Signed:

(Parent/Care Giver)

Date:

Players Agreement

I (print name)

Have read and understood the Junior Representative Basketball General Policy & Operating Guidelines and Academy Basketball Inc Code of Conduct (players section) and agree to abide by its conditions.

Signed:

Date: