

## OFSAA GIRLS' BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS

*The sole basis for the very existence of high school sport is the contribution it makes to the general educational experience of those students who participate.*

### PLAYING REGULATIONS

**1. Date:**

The OFSAA Girls' "A", "AA", "AAA" and "AAAA" Basketball Championships shall be held on the Thursday, Friday and Saturday of the Twelfth (12<sup>th</sup>) weekend after Labour Day unless extraordinary circumstances dictate a change.

**2. Location:**

The location of the Championship shall be decided not later than the OFSAA Annual Meeting held in April of the school year prior to the Championship.

**3. Classifications**

There shall be four classifications of Championships - "A", "AA", "AAA" and "AAAA". Associations shall classify their school teams based on the criteria found in By-Law 5, Section 2(b).

**4. Tournament Structure and Procedure:**

- (a) The Championship tournaments shall be modified elimination tournaments with winners and losers moving to both sides of the draw. Winners of each side of the draw shall meet to determine the OFSAA Champion. Runners-up on each side of the draw shall play in the bronze medal game.
- (b) Convenors, whenever possible, should ensure that all participating teams are rotated throughout all Championship sites during the preliminary rounds of competition.
- (c) Teams eliminated from Championship play after the second game shall continue play in the consolation round which shall be a single elimination format.
- (d) Each team is guaranteed two (2) games. No team shall play more than two (2) games in one (1) day.
- (e) There will be a minimum of four (4) hours rest between games such that the second game begins four (4) hours after the first game ends.
- (f) The following procedures shall take place at each game:

- (i) at the beginning of the game all players and coaches shall be introduced and shall line up at mid-court. At the conclusion of these introductions players and coaches shall advance and shake hands with their opponents;
- (ii) at the completion of the game players and coaches shall again shake hands with all opponents.

**5. Seeding:**

(a) Seeding shall be done by the Tournament Committee in consultation with the OFSAA office and the Chairperson of the OFSAA Sport Advisory Committee for Girls' Basketball. All classifications of the Girls' Basketball Championships shall seed all participating teams. Teams will be seeded by the Tournament Committee based on that season's tournament results, league records, and previous performances of the team and/or Association in OFSAA competition.

(b) The seeded draw for a 16-team draw shall be as follows:

	(1).....Winner
	(11)
Winner.....	(6)
	(16)
Winner.....	(3)
	(9)
	(8).....Winner
	(14)
Winner.....	(2)
	(12)
	(5).....Winner
	(15)
	(4).....Winner
	(10)
Winner.....	(7)
	(13)

(c) The seeded draw for an 18-team draw shall be as follows:

(1).....Winner
(12)

- Winner..... (6)  
(16)
  
- Winner..... (3)  
(18)
  
- (8).....Winner  
(14)
  
- Winner..... (9)  
(10)
  
- Winner..... (7)  
(13)
  
- (4).....Winner  
(15)
  
- (5).....Winner  
(17)
  
- Winner..... (2)  
(11)

(d) In the event that there are more or less than 16 or 18 teams, the OFSAA Championship convenor must consult with the OFSAA office and the Sport Advisory Committee Chair regarding appropriate draw formats.

**6. Entry:**

- (a) Entries will be accepted from Association Convenors or designates only.
  
- (b) The following chart shall be used to determine the entries per Association:

Association	“A”	“AA”	“AAA”	“AAAA”
COSSA	(1)* (playoff with NCSSAA)	1	1	(1)* (playoff with EOSSAA/NCSSAA)
CISAA	1	(1)* (playoff with TDCAA)	(1)* (playoff with TDCAA)	0
CWOSSA	1	1	1	2
EOSSAA	2	2	1	(1)* (playoff with COSSA/NCSSAA)
GBSSA	(1)* (playoff with LOSSA)	1	1	1
GHAC	(1)* (playoff with ROPSSAA)	(1)* (playoff with ROPSSAA)	(1)* (playoff with ROPSSAA)	1

LOSSA	(1)* (playoff with GBSSA)	(1)* (playoff with YRAA)	1	1
NCSSAA	(1)* (playoff with COSSA)	1	1	(1)* (playoff with COSSA/EOSSAA)
NEOAA	1	1	0	0
NOSSA	1	1	1	0
NWOSSAA	1	1	0	0
ROPSSAA	(1)* (playoff with GHAC)	(1)* (playoff with GHAC)	(1)* (playoff with GHAC)	2
SOSSA	1	2	1	1
SWOSSAA	1	1	1	1
TDCAA	(1)* (playoff with YRAA)	(1)* (playoff with CISAA)	(1)* (playoff with CISAA)	1
TDSSAA	1	1	2	2
WOSSAA	1	1	1	1
YRAA	(1)* (playoff with TDCAA)	(1)* (playoff with LOSSA)	1	1
HOST ASSOCIATION ENTRY	1	1	1	1
<b>TOTAL TEAMS</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>16</b>

- (c) The host Association may have an additional entry as determined by the Association.
- (d) **NO APPLICATION OF ENTRY RULES BELOW SHALL PROVIDE FOR MORE THAN TWO (2) ENTRIES FROM ANY ONE ASSOCIATION.** However, additional entries may be awarded to the host Association provided that the additional entries to the previous Association medallists have been exhausted.
- (e) To facilitate the draws, additional entries in the Championships shall be selected from:
- (i) the gold medal Association of the previous year;
  - (ii) the silver medal Association of the previous year;
  - (iii) the bronze medal Association of the previous year;
  - (iv) the antique bronze medal Association of the previous year.

To further facilitate the draws, entries may be awarded to the Association medalists from two years prior, provided that the additional entries to the previous year's Association medalists have been exhausted. Additional entries in the Championships shall be selected from:

- (i) the gold medal Association of two years prior;
  - (ii) the silver medal Association of two years prior;
  - (iii) the bronze medal Association of two years prior;
  - (iv) the antique bronze medal Association of two years prior;
- (f) Any suspensions or disciplinary actions in Association play shall be carried forward into

OFSAA competitions. The Association convenor shall be responsible for reporting such players and the nature of the disciplinary action on the OFSAA entry form.

- (g) For associations withdrawing a team(s) after the commitment deadline the minimum sanction imposed will be a fine equal to the entry fee. Further, if the withdrawal takes place at a time that impacts on the convener, financially or logistically, a further fine may be issued. This fine may encompass costs incurred by the convener for entry fee, banquet meals, banners, etc. as reviewed and approved by OFSAA. The association and/or school may also be brought forward to the Board of Reference sanctions

**ENTRY DEADLINES**

<b>Championship Play Begins</b>	<b>Entry Deadline</b>
Monday	The preceding Tuesday @ 11:59 pm
Tuesday	The preceding Wednesday @ 11:59 pm
Wednesday	The preceding Thursday @ 11:59 pm
Thursday	The preceding <b>Saturday @ 11:59 pm</b>
Friday	The preceding Monday @ 11:59 pm
Saturday	The preceding Tuesday @ 11:59 pm

**7. Expenses**

An Entry Fee shall be charged which shall be sufficient to cover operating costs of the tournament. Any Association that does not meet its entry commitment after it has declared an entry into an OFSAA Championship will be required to submit the entry fee and a report will be made to the Board of Reference - Sanctions.

Those schools having entries are responsible for arranging and financing their own travel, meals and accommodation for the event.

Billets for competitors may be arranged at the discretion of the convenor; when such billeting is requested, players must accept billets as assigned as a condition of participation.

**8. Eligibility:**

To represent a school in any activity coordinated by the Federation a student **must:**

- (i) be eligible for competition under the Constitution, By-Laws and Standing Rules (Playing Regulations) of the Association to which her school belongs;
- (ii) be certified as eligible by the Principal of the school;
- (iii) meet the following age requirement: the individual's birth certificate indicates that she has not reached her 19th birthday by January 1st prior to the start of the school year in which the competition is held;
- (iv) be in Grades 9-12;

- (v) be eligible under the OFSAA Transfer Policy (By-Law 5, Section 4(f));
- (vi) be eligible for no more than five (5) consecutive years from date of entry into Grade 9 (By-Law 5, Section 4(g));
- (vii) have signed the Rules of Behaviour signature form for the competition.
- (viii) Any athlete participating in an OFSAA Championship or an OFSAA qualifying event must have participated as a member of a bona fide high school program during the current season under the supervision of a teacher-coach as certified by the school principal.

## **9. Rules and Officials:**

Revisions to rulebooks governing play at the OFSAA Championship shall be reviewed by the Sport Advisory Committee and approved by the Board of Directors prior to implementation at any Championship.

- (a) The current National Federation Rule Book shall be the official rule book governing play at the OFSAA Championship with the following exception: the women's size 6 basketball (specifications: 28.5-29 inches, 18-20 ounces or 511-567 grams, channel seam 1/8 inch) shall be used at the OFSAA Championship.
- (b) **Officials shall be selected as per the OABO agreement.**

## **10. Uniforms and Equipment:**

Uniforms must be in accordance with the National Federation Rule Book. Team players must wear identical or same colour shorts. Teams must provide a second set of uniforms or a set of legally-numbered markers of a different colour in case two opposing teams have the same colour uniforms. A coin toss shall decide which team changes.

All competitors are expected to dress in uniforms that are neat, clean and which maintain the integrity of the school's/Association's name, colours and logos. No sport club insignia on uniforms shall be permitted. A sport club is defined as a community, provincially or nationally based organization whose primary purpose is participation in organized competition in single or multi sport programs. Sponsorship recognition is permitted to be visible but must conform with the placement guidelines outlined in By-Law 6, Section 2(h).

Student-athletes must remain fully clothed in the appropriate team uniform in the competition area, AND use the designated locker room or change area to change to and from competition attire. Incidents of non-compliance shall be forwarded to the Competition Committee for resolution.

This criteria must be met both on and in the immediate vicinity of the competitive area and during the awards ceremonies.

Game balls and practice balls shall be provided by the Tournament Committee.

**11. Awards:**

Members of the Championship teams shall receive gold OFSAA medallions (15). The schools represented by the Championship teams shall receive banners to be retained by the schools.

Members of the runner-up teams shall receive silver OFSAA medallions (15).

Members of the winning teams in the bronze medal matches shall receive bronze OFSAA medallions (15).

Members of the losing team in the bronze medal matches shall receive antique bronze OFSAA medallions (15).

A plaque shall be awarded to the winning school of the Consolation Final.

OFSAA-ineligible athletes, who were permitted to compete at the local league or Association level, shall not receive OFSAA medals, either at the Championship or after the event.

Identical Participation Banners (approximately 4' x 2') will be presented to each team. OFSAA Participation Certificates may be provided by the Tournament Committee.

**12. Supervision:** (Reference By-Law 6, Section 1)

*A teacher is defined as a member of the Ontario College of Teachers or a holder of an Ontario Teacher's Certificate or equivalent.*

- (a) For team sports ("A team consists of all athletes from the same school who qualify for Federation competition as a unit..." {reference By-Law 5, Section 3}), a teacher from the same school, or a retired teacher, as approved by the principal of the school, must accompany and be responsible for the team.
- (b) For individual sports (those sports in which athletes from a school qualify for federation competition as individuals), the principal of the school may designate an adult who is not a teacher to accompany the athletes. In addition, a teacher, or a retired teacher, must be present and on site and designated by the principal to be responsible for the athlete(s).
- (c) For all sports, where the teacher, as indicated in (a) and (b) above, is not of the same sex as the athletes(s), and where the athlete(s) are required or might be required to stay overnight, a supervisory adult, as approved by the principal of the school, of the same sex as the athlete(s), must be present and available at the accommodation site for the duration of their stay in the accommodation.

**13. Registration:**

Registration materials will only be given to the teacher accompanying the team, upon receipt of a completed Rules of Behaviour signature form and photo forms.

**14. Deportment:** (Reference By-Law 6, Section 2)

- (a) A team is defined as, "All participants representing the same school at an OFSAA Championship event".
- (b) A participant is defined as, "Anyone who has been granted proper authorization to enter a restricted area." "Restricted area" includes "those areas occupied by athletes and to which access by the general public is restricted or prohibited."
- (c) All participants are expected to abide by the, "Rules of Behaviour for Participants to OFSAA Championships". (see Appendix to By-Laws)
- (d) Supervising adults are responsible for the behaviour of participants for the duration of the Championships.
- (e) Teams are open to censure for failure of its participants to abide by the "Rules of Behaviour".
- (f)
  - (i) All coaches are expected to adhere to the Code of Ethics for Coaches to OFSAA Championships. (See Appendix II)
  - (ii) School personnel and coaches are expected to adhere to the Statement of Principle on Recruiting. (See Appendix IV)
  - (iii) Spectators are expected to adhere to the Code of Behaviour for Spectators. (See Appendix III)
  - (iv) All coaches are expected to adhere to the "Return to Play Guidelines". (See Appendix VI)
  - (v) School personnel and coaches are expected to adhere to the Policy on dispensing drugs, medication and food supplements. (See Appendix IX)
- (g) All schools entering a Federation Championship shall, by signature of the school principal on the Championship Entry Form, acknowledge responsibility for making restitution for damage resulting from misconduct by their participants.

**15. Social:**

If a special event is provided all team members and coaches must attend. At this event each coach and captain shall be introduced.

**Dress Code for Banquets:**

- no person shall wear jeans, shorts or a hat;
- girls shall wear dress pants or skirt with a dress top;
- if a themed event is planned by the convenor, then the convenor must apply to the OFSAA office for permission to vacate these rules;
- should there be an instance of improper attire, the Competition Committee shall deal with the matter and forward a report to the OFSAA Board of Reference - Sanctions.

**16. Medical:**

Provision shall be made by the Convenor to have a medical doctor in attendance or readily available and to follow appropriate hygienic precautions with regard to bodily fluids and communicable diseases. (See Appendix IV to the By-Laws.) Qualified first-aid personnel and equipment shall be available at the Championship site(s). Coaches shall provide all consumable medical supplies (e.g. tape, bandaids) for their athletes.

**17. Jury of Appeal:**

The Jury of Appeal shall consist of three (3) individuals: the chairperson of the OFSAA Girls' Basketball Sport Advisory Committee or designate, a tournament committee member and **the Head Official or designate**. The Jury of Appeal shall handle disputes which fall within the realm of:

- (a) Tournament Structure and Procedure;
- (b) Rules and Officials;
- (c) Uniforms and Equipment;
- (d) Scoring.

Tournament structure and procedure concerns shall be addressed no later than the end of the coaches' meeting.

A dispute must be submitted in writing to the Convenor or Designate together with a \$50.00 fee (refundable if dispute is upheld) within thirty (30) minutes, except as provided within specific sport governing regulations, of the conclusion of the game in which the incident under dispute occurred. Decisions of the Jury of Appeal shall be final.

A report of the Jury of Appeal decisions shall be forwarded to the Board of Reference - Sanctions.

**18. Competition Committee:**

- (a) The Competition Committee shall consist of three (3) individuals: the Championship Convenor, or designate; an OFSAA staff or Executive Council Member, or designate; and the Chairperson of the OFSAA Girls' Basketball Sport Advisory Committee, or designate. The Competition Committee shall handle disputes regarding:

- (i) Eligibility;
- (ii) Department;
- (iii) Supervision and registration;
- (iv) Social;
- (v) Medical personnel;
- (vi) Awards.

If a dispute cannot be resolved by the Competition Committee within a reasonable period of time, the event will continue and the dispute may be referred to a Board of Reference - General. (Please note that eligibility under the OFSAA Transfer Policy cannot be addressed at OFSAA events (By-Law 5, Section 4 (f)).

Disputes which fall within the jurisdiction of the Competition Committee must be received in writing to the Convenor or designate, together with a \$50.00 fee (refundable if dispute is upheld) within a reasonable time frame.

Appeals to the decisions of the Competition Committee shall be addressed to the Board of Reference - General.

A report of the decisions of the Competition Committee shall be forwarded to the Board of Reference - Sanctions.

- (b) The Competition Committee shall be the body empowered to delay/cancel an event(s) due to unforeseen circumstances at the site(s).

***All Federation Championships are non-smoking events.  
This includes the use of all tobacco related products***

***Participants must obey the Ministry of Education's Code of Conduct.***