

Byron Basketball Association

# Parent Guidebook

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Updated July 2019



## Byron Basketball Association

### **Mission Statement**

The Byron Basketball Association's mission is to promote the game of basketball through the teaching of **fundamentals** where **sportsmanship** and **teamwork** are at the forefront.

We want our young student athletes to develop skills both on and off the court representing the community of Byron with dignity and pride. Our association will collaborate with our schools, community education and parents to make each youngsters experience a positive one.

**Together we will provide an opportunity to learn this great game at all ability levels.**

*The Parent Guidebook was created by the Byron Basketball Association (BBA) Board members to communicate to BBA coaches, parents and players important program details. This document should be treated as a guideline for the areas covered to assist in a positive experience for all.*

## Program Details

BBA offers a traveling program for girls and boys to participate in advanced, competitive, traveling basketball tournaments for grades 4-8.

## Eligibility

Players that are in 4th through 8th grade at the time of the basketball season are eligible to participate in BBA. Players are only allowed to play in their respective grade level. Only Byron Public School students or residents are eligible.

## Registration

BBA holds registration **one time per year**, typically in late August/early September for the following fall/winter season. BBA season runs from November thru mid-March. Any parent organization of teams outside of the BBA season (Nov-Mar) is acceptable, however BBA has no affiliation with any of these parent organized activities outside the BBA season. Registration is held as a stand-alone registration period and communicated via e-mail (for those within the BBA database) and a letter to 4th grade parents through the schools. The registration deadline is very important due to the logistics of BBA having to form teams, recruit coaches and enter tournaments. Late fees apply to those who do not register in time.

## Registration Fees

Registration fees are used to offset the costs of tournament fees, coaches, equipment, facilities, etc. BBA tries each year to keep registration fees the same as previous years, however they may change.

Scholarships are available for children that are part of the free and reduced lunch program. Parents must supply a letter from the District to BBA for the scholarship to be acknowledged. This must be completed by the time practices have started.

## Cancellation Fees

No refunds will be given to families who decide to have their player not play for BBA after the evaluation date for that season. For those families who have an unexpected move or player injury a \$50.00 refund will be given.

## Evaluations

All players interested in playing in the BBA program must attend the evaluations sessions for his/her age group when multiple teams will be formed. Players are expected to make arrangements to attend evaluations. Any deviation from this requirement, must be approved by the BBA President in advance.

### **Day of Evaluations**

- Players should wear their BBA jersey
- All 4th grade players will receive a numbered jersey to use the day of evaluation
- Parents are not allowed in the gym during evaluations.

### **Evaluation Strategy**

Byron high school basketball coaching staff and sometimes BBA non-parent coaches/board members conduct the evaluations for all players registered to play in the program.

The following strategies are used during evaluations:

#### *Equal Opportunity*

Team groupings for scrimmages during evaluations are changed several times so that each player will play with and against many different players. An effort is made to equitably distribute height on the scrimmage teams.

#### *Individual Skill Assessment and Team Play*

A variety of stations are used to provide an opportunity for evaluators to observe basic fundamental basketball skills using a mix of individual skill and team drills during the player's evaluation time.

Examples of Evaluation stations include: layups, dribbling, shooting, 1 on 1 up to 5 on 5 scrimmages with rotating teammates and opponents.

### **Injury Clause**

Injured players at the time of evaluations should notify the President in advance. If a player is injured and cannot attend evaluations, the following process will take place:

Head BB coach and evaluators will discuss previous history of player regarding seasons and skill level. If the consensus is that player is a high level player that has competed on A team in the past, they will be placed accordingly on that team.

### **New to District Clause**

For students who are new to the district after the date of evaluations, but arrive before the start of the BBA season, parents of the player should notify the President. The President will base what team the player will be added to based on previous knowledge/skill of player (based on parent feedback) and number of players on teams.

## Formation of Teams/Playing Time

Teams are formed for girls and boys in grades 4th - 8th grade based upon the following:

### **4th, 5th & 6th Grade Girls and Boys Teams**

(Will be coached by parent volunteers)

If multiple teams are required, it is the intent to make them equal teams in terms of talent and capability based on evaluation scores. Effort is made to equitably distribute height and at least 1 ball-handler per team. Team sizes will be set with the goal of 7, 8 or 9 kids per team, depending on the numbers of kids registered. Coaches will be appointed to the team their child is evaluated and placed on. (Exceptions will need to be brought to BBA Board for approval before teams are released with assigned coaches.)



### ***Playing Time***

All players in 4th through 6th grade will have adequate playing time in each game.

### **7th & 8th Grade Girls and Boys Teams**

(Will be coached by parent volunteers)

School basketball will take precedence over BBA ball. To be eligible to play on a BBA team in 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> grade, students are required to play on the Byron school basketball team. **Students that become ineligible for grades, behavior, etc. during School Ball season will not be allowed to participate in BBA until they are deemed eligible by the school for the above named infractions.**

Players interested in trying out for the 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> grade BBA teams will be evaluated in October. Based on evaluations, players will be placed on either the A or B team (when numbers allow) based on skill level. This change is due to how regional and state tournament brackets are organized. The number of players selected to be on the A team will vary from year to year based on evaluator's discretion. The goal for this group is to place the highest skilled players based on evaluator data and feedback.

Those players not chosen for the A team will be able to participate on the B team based on the following criteria:

- A minimum of 7 players are needed to form the B team
- If there are enough B players to form 2 teams, the players will be split equally per evaluation data

### ***Playing Time***

Playing time in 7th and 8th grade may not be equal for each player. **Game to game situations will play into coaches decisions on playing time for games as well.** Players will earn an opportunity to play in each game provided the player has demonstrated skills, projected a positive attitude and teamwork, and has given full effort as determined by the coach(es).

### ***Twins/ Multiple Siblings***

*If there twins that are evaluated for 7th/8th grade BBA teams the following process will take place:*

- a. If both twins are evaluated & selected to play on the A or B team, they will stay on the A or B team.*
- b. If Twin A is evaluated and placed on the A team, and Twin B is evaluated and placed on the B team, parents have the option of leaving them on their respective teams, or if they want them to play together, then both kids will be placed on the B team.*

### ***High School Coaches Moving Up 8th graders to C- squad or further***

*Occasionally players will be moved up to C- squad or higher by the High School coaching staff. As School Ball takes precedence over BBA, these players will only be allowed to play BBA tournaments during the non- school ball season.*

## UNIFORMS

BBA introduces new uniforms as needed. It is encouraged by BBA to keep your uniforms in good shape and to take care of them to last for a couple of years before they are outgrown. 4th grade will be sized for uniforms the day of evaluations. 4th grade uniform cost is included in their registration. Uniforms will be an additional cost at registration for all other grades. BBA works with a local vendor to select updated and affordable uniform solutions.

## PRACTICE TIMES

BBA holds all practices at the District Community Ed Building, Byron Primary, Intermediate, Middle & High Schools. Practices are scheduled after teams are determined. Our goal is to have 2 practices/week for each team. BBA does not schedule Wednesday practices as a courtesy to Church activities (NOTE- if this does not affect your team, and the coach and parents agree to Wednesday, then this will be acceptable). Unfortunately, there can be shortage of gym space and several conflicting youth events which makes practice scheduling a difficult task. BBA strives to schedule around significant school events, schedules younger aged teams for earlier in the evening, etc. We strive to publish practice schedules at least 1 or 2 weeks in advance when possible. Your child should not be dropped off at practice **more than 10 minutes before** their scheduled time. Also, PLEASE make appropriate plans to pick up your child on time after practice.

# TOURNAMENT SELECTION

Number of tournaments allowed is as follows for Girls and Boys BBA teams; **these numbers include Grade State and any FREE entries.**

Grade Level	Minimum # of Tournaments	Maximum # of Tournaments	NOTE
4th	6	8	<p>If a 5th-6th team (4th grade teams will not be playing in the Rochester tournament) selects to play in the March Rochester Tournament, it will count as 2 paid tournament entries, but only 1 tournament played for the team.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BBA will cover tournament costs up to the paid tournament maximum for the grade level.</li> <li>• Expenses for additional played tournament entries that fall outside of the paid maximum will need to be free or paid by the team's parents.</li> </ul>
5th	8	10	
6th	8	10	

Grade Level	# of Total Tournaments	Maximum # of Tournaments Per Month (inc/ School Ball)	NOTE
7th	6*	2	<p>If a 7th-8th grade team selects to play in the March Rochester Tournament, it will count as 2 paid tournament entries, but only 1 tournament played for the team.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BBA will cover tournament costs up to the paid tournament maximum for the grade level.</li> <li>• Expenses for additional played</li> </ul>
8th	6*	2	



			tournament entries that fall outside of the paid maximum will need to be free or paid by the team's parents.
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\*If 7th or 8th grade can only field 1 team of 7 or 8 players, BBA will pay for 4 tournaments for cost purposes. The team can elect to play 2 additional tournaments to maximum of 6, but it will be the responsibility of the parents to cover those registration fees. The Note above applies to this situation as well.

### **EMERGENCY PLAYER SUBSTITUTION FOR GAMES/TOURNAMENTS**

From time to time, a team may be short players going into a tournament due to illness, vacation, injury, etc. Any player from another team that a coach asks to substitute or fill in must be a similarly skilled player to the one that won't be playing to insure the integrity of the program by not "stacking" a team.

## **COACHING VOLUNTEERS**

The key word here is VOLUNTEER! We are happy to have all parents get involved in coaching their child. If you have never coached, we still need you! Consider being an assistant coach so you can help to move up to head coach in the next year. A healthy program has coaches that are passionate and help guide kids in a positive way. You are a role model for all to learn from. **All potential coaches will need to pass a background check to be considered for BBA coaching responsibilities.**



## **NON-COACHING VOLUNTEERS**

BBA is a non-profit organization that can only be as successful as its volunteer base. BBA will hold 1 or possibly 2 local tournaments during the year.

**IT IS REQUIRED THAT EACH PARENT VOLUNTEER A MINIMUM OF 2 HOURS** for each tournament at either the concessions area, admissions, or scorekeeping.

## BBA BOARD MEMBER-GRADE MANAGERS

Every grade will have an assigned BBA Board Member as their represented Grade Manager. The purpose for this position is for the Board member to be another voice for a parent/coach with concerns or opportunities to learn and grow the program. Grade Managers will be able to discuss information with the entire BBA Board and discuss next steps to address the concern or opportunity for growth. Grade Managers will be listed as a contact on your child's team page, on our website.

## CONFLICTS

All Byron players, parents, coaches and fans are considered ambassadors of Byron. Any issues or questions a parent may have should be addressed with the coach first and foremost. If for any reason the issue or question has not been resolved, the parents can contact the board designated Grade Manager to discuss. This does not always mean your concerns will be acted upon, but hopefully the Grade Manager can help facilitate some resolution. BBA coaches are not expected to tolerate disruptive or disrespectful behavior by players or parents. Profanity, verbal abuse, or physical abuse will not be tolerated. Detrimental behavior conducted during any BBA sponsored event, or events where BBA is a participant will not be tolerated. It is the responsibility of those who witness this behavior to report it to a BBA board member, Grade Manager or the BBA President immediately.

**NOTE:** BBA reserves the right to dismiss participants or ban parents who violate the stated goals, policies, and procedures of BBA. The BBA Board of Directors are responsible for this decision following an effort to gather the facts of said situations.

## STAY CONNECTED

### **COACHES MEETING**

A coaches meeting will be held after evaluations for 4<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade to discuss expectations of the coaches and select tournaments for each team.

### **PARENT MEETING**

Each 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> coach will schedule a parent meeting, typically toward the end of their first practices to discuss expectations, practice schedules, tournament schedules, etc.

7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade coaches will schedule a Parent meeting for all registered BBA players **before** evaluations (when numbers allow) are conducted to explain process of A and B team selection, number of tournaments, expectations of the kids/parents, etc.

### **BBA EMAIL, TEXT AND MOBILE APP**

BBA distributes information by e-mail, text & mobile app throughout the year to participants, however please talk with your child's coach about texting for additional information. You can to have text updates from BBA for practices and game schedules sent.

## **BBA WEBSITE AND FACEBOOK PAGE**

For additional information and ways to stay connected, please visit our website and 'LIKE' us on Facebook.

[www.byronbasketballassociation.com](http://www.byronbasketballassociation.com)

Facebook: @byronbasketballassociation