

AAU Girls Basketball Rules & Regulations Online Handbook

PREAMBLE

The AAU Girls Basketball National Committee has been established in order to promote the benefits of participation in athletics and hereby adopts these rules & regulations for the advancement of that purpose.

I. NATIONAL SPORT COMMITTEE GOVERNANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

A. National Committee Structure and Procedures

1. **National Chair** – The Chair is appointed by the President of AAU from the recommendations of the National Sport Committee following approval of a majority of the National Officers.
2. **Executive Committee Composition** – Concurrent with the election of the AAU President (every four years), the Girls' Basketball Committee will select for recommendation to the newly elected President their choice for National Chair. The National Committee will elect a National Certification Chair at this same meeting. In addition, one Representative from each AAU Zone will be elected annually to serve on the Girls' Basketball Executive Committee. The National Chair may appoint additional members to the Executive Committee as well as designate Officers and Tournament Commissioners. Appointed members may be replaced at the discretion of the Chair. Elected members may only be replaced at the next Annual Convention.
3. **National Sport Committee Composition** – The Committee will consist of the National Sport Chair, the elected or appointed officers or committee chairs as defined by the sport's operating rules, the elected or appointed Sport Director of each District, or a representative designated by the District Governor, and one appointed representative from each affiliated member that registers members in the sport. In addition, the President may appoint up to five (5) members-at-large.
4. **Other Committee Positions** – At his/her discretion, the National Chair may appoint additional members such as Commissioners, Regional Directors, Disciplinary Committee Members, Bid Committee Members, etc.
5. **Voting** – Persons eligible to vote shall be the National Sport Chair, elected or appointed members of the Executive Committee, chairs of Committees as defined by the sport's operating rules, the elected or appointed District Sports Director or a representative from each Affiliated Member that registers members in the sport and any members-at-large. Only representatives from Districts that registered a minimum of .5% (a half percent) of the total number of athletes in that sport in the previous year shall be allowed to vote in the National Sport Committee meeting.

B. Sport Committee Meetings

1. **National Sport Committee Regular Meetings** – Regular Meetings of the National Sport Committee shall be in conjunction with the AAU Convention.
2. **Non-Regular Sport Committee Meetings** – The National Sport Committee may hold a Non-Regular National Sport Committee meeting in odd years subject to the following provisions:
 - a. The meeting is called by the Chair following approval of the National Office.
 - b. The National Office has the right to coordinate the meeting and pick the site for the meeting.
3. **National Sport Committee Special Meetings** – Special meetings of a Committee are scheduled at the request of the Chair or upon written request of at least one half (1/2) of the Committee members. The purpose of the Special meeting must be stated in the Notice for the meeting.
4. **National Sport Executive Committee Meetings** – The National Chair shall determine the date and location of Executive Committee Meetings.

- 5 **Sport Committee Meeting Order (Agendas)** – The Regular National Sport Committee meetings, the Non-Regular National Sport Committee meetings and National Sport Committee Special meetings shall follow meeting order (agenda format) as established by Code (Bylaw 9.5).

II. SPORT POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

A. Current Year Rule Changes

1. **Birth Certificate (Record) Challenge** – In lieu of turning in birth certificates at each tournament, AAU Girls Basketball is instituting the Birth Certificate Challenge system. Approved Birth records* must be carried to every game. If the opposing coach challenges the age of any players, the challenged coach must produce the birth certificate of those players before they can play in the game. If challenged players' birth certificates cannot be produced, they cannot play in that game until they are provided. If birth certificates are produced at any point in the game, they are then eligible to participate. If there are not 5 players eligible to start a game, the game will be declared a forfeit. Hospital Records are not an acceptable form of birth certification.
 - *a. A certified copy of birth record from the State, County or Municipal Bureau of Vital Statistics in the place of birth
 - *b. A certified copy of the delayed registration of birth, if the athlete's birth was not recorded on her day of birth, issued by the same governing bodies
 - *c. Consular Service Form FS-240, "Report on Birth" issued by the U.S. Department of State
 - *d. Immigration and naturalization forms I-151 and I-25
 - *e. Form No. 43-12311-7 issued by the U.S. Department of Justice
 - *f. Legal passport
 - *g. Driver's License
2. **Pick Up Player Rule** – A team shall be allowed to add (pick up) a maximum of seven (7) players to their official roster when advancing to a Division I, II or III National Championship with an overall maximum of fifteen (15) total players.
3. **Jersey Numbers** – Players' jerseys must have numbers on both the front and back. Numbers can be 00-99. Minimum size of numbers shall be 2" on the front and 4" on the back.
4. **Player Foul Rule** – A player will be disqualified on her sixth (6th) personal foul. This is for NCAA Certified Events (including District Qualifying Tournaments, Super Regional Tournaments, Super Showcase Events and National Championships).
5. **Warm-Up and Halftime** – Half time is 6-minutes for all age divisions. Warm-up time is 4 minutes. Game time is game time. If a team arrives prior, they shall have a minimum of 4 minutes to warm-up.
6. **Playing Times** – Districts may determine the length of games in their Qualifying Tournaments. However, it is strongly recommended that Districts follow the times below.

DIVISION	GAME LENGTH
8/u	6-minute quarters
9/u, 10/u	7-minute quarters
11/u, 12/u, 13/u	8-minute quarters
14/u, 15/u, 16/u	18-minute halves
19/u	20-minute halves

7. **Timeouts**

- a. Four full (75 seconds) timeouts and two 30 second timeouts in the 8/u, 9/u, 10/u, 11/u, 12/u and 13/u age divisions.
- b. Three full (75 seconds) timeouts and two 30 second timeouts in the 14/u, 15/u, 16/u, 19/u and Showcase events.

8. **Advancement Criteria for National Championships**

- a. The following schedule will apply to all District Qualifying Tournaments

DIVISION I DISTRICT QUALIFYING TOURNAMENT

District Finish

National Championship

1st place

Division I

2nd place

Division I

3rd place

Division I or Division II (team's choice)

4th place

Division I or Division II (team's choice)

The remaining teams may choose Division II or Division III

*If a district tournament does not play out all places, the names of the teams that didn't place will be put in a hat and drawn out to determine their finish places.

DIVISION II DISTRICT QUALIFYING TOURNAMENT

District Finish

National Championship

1st place

Division II

2nd place

Division II

3rd place

Division II or Division III (team's choice)

4th place

Division II or Division III (team's choice)

The remaining teams may advance to Division III

*If a district tournament does not play out all places, the names of the teams that didn't place will be put in a hat and drawn out to determine their finish places.

DIVISION III DISTRICT QUALIFYING TOURNAMENT

District Finish

National Championship

1st place

Division III

2nd place

Division III

3rd place

Division III

4th place

Division III

All teams advance to Division III

- b. Some Districts have separate Division I, II or III qualifying tournaments.
- c. To petition to attend a different National Championship other than qualified, submit request to specialrequestgirlsbball@aausports.org
- d. Any club that finishes in the top in the previous years National Championship will receive an automatic bid to the next higher age group the following year.
- e. If an automatic bid recipient qualifies from the 2010 District tournament advancement structure, the bid may be used by the club to advance another team from their club in the same age/grade division. If the club does not use the automatic bid in this manner, the bid will revert to the District to be awarded to the next highest place team not otherwise qualified.
- f. The quarter final round in each district tournament will determine the 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th place by draw unless those games are played.
- g. If there is a Division III qualifying tournament at the district level, all teams advance to the Division III National Championship.
- h. All teams advance to the National Championship in the 8/u and 19/u age divisions.

B. Event Registration

1. A team and all available members of that team shall attend registration during the assigned registration time.
2. Registration at all National Tournaments will begin at 10:00 a.m. (The National Chair may adjust the Registration Time.) A late athlete must register before she takes part in any game. Penalty: All games in which she participated may be forfeited if she fails to register.
3. All athletes and coaches must show their AAU membership verification at the time of Registration. If verification is misplaced or cannot be produced, another one must be purchased at that time with no refund.
4. In lieu of turning in birth certificates at each tournament, AAU Girls Basketball is instituting the Birth Certificate Challenge system. Approved Birth records* must be carried to every game. If the opposing coach challenges the age of any players, the challenged coach must produce the birth certificate of those players before they can play in the game. If challenged players' birth certificates cannot be produced, they cannot play in that game, until they are provided. If birth certificates are produced at any point in the game, they are then eligible to participate. If there are not 5 players eligible to start a game, the game will be declared a forfeit. Hospital Records are not an acceptable form of birth certification.
 - *a. A certified copy of birth record from the State, County, or Municipal Bureau of Vital Statistics in the place of birth
 - *b. A certified copy of the delayed registration of birth, if the athlete's birth was not recorded on her day of birth, issued by the same governing bodies
 - *c. Consular Service Form FS-240, "Report on Birth" issued by the U.S. Department of State
 - *d. Immigration and naturalization forms I-151 and I-25
 - *e. Form No. 43-12311-7 issued by the U.S. Department of Justice
 - *f. Legal passport
 - *g. Driver's License
5. An athlete who arrives late may register at any time before the conclusion of play in all National Tournaments, however she may not play until she does register. It is the responsibility of her coach to find the AAU Commissioner for late registration to complete registration.

C. Divisions of Competition

DIVISION	BIRTH DATE	GRADE EXCEPTION
8/u-3 rd Grade	Born in 2001 or after	or in the 3 rd Grade & born in 2000 or after
9/u-4 th Grade	Born in 2000 or after	or in the 4 th Grade & born in 1999 or after
10/u-5 th Grade	Born in 1999 or after	or in the 5 th Grade & born in 1998 or after
11/u-6 th Grade	Born in 1998 or after	or in the 6 th Grade & born in 1997 or after
12/u-7 th Grade	Born in 1997 or after	or in the 7 th Grade & born in 1996 or after
13/u-8 th Grade	Born in 1996 or after	or in the 8 th Grade & born in 1995 or after
14/u-9 th Grade	Born in 1995 or after	or in the 9 th Grade & born in 1994 or after
15/u-10 th Grade	Born in 1994 or after	or in the 10 th Grade & born in 1993 or after
16/u-11 th Grade	Born in 1993 or after	or in the 11 th Grade & born in 1992 or after
19/u	Born in 1990 or after	

All home school students must register with the State Department of Education and belong to an accredited home school organization. The student can get a letter from that organization stating the grade level in which she is currently enrolled. If an athlete has been academically advanced and is a grade level ahead of her age group, she can appeal for a grade exception. A grade exception form, her birth certificate and a letter from her school (on school stationary) stating that she has been accelerated must be submitted online for approval.

- D. Tournament Days** – The National Championship competition days shall be a maximum of five playing days.

- E. **Player/Team Participation** – Girls may play for the same Club in as many as three age/grade divisions in which they are eligible. This shall apply to any qualifying event as well as the DQT or SRT. A team that qualifies for Division I may also play up an age Division and participate in a Division II.
- F. **Bench Personnel** – In NCAA Certified Events a team must have 1 to 4 Coaches (Non-athletes) on their bench. In Non-Certified Events a team must have a minimum of two and a maximum of four Coaches on their bench.
- G. **Playing Times** – Districts may determine the length of games in their Qualifying Tournaments. However, it is strongly recommended that Districts follow the times used in the National Championships below.

DIVISION	GAME LENGTH
8/u	6-minute quarters
9/u, 10/u	7-minute quarters
11/u, 12/u, 13/u	8-minute quarters
14/u, 15/u, 16/u	18-minute halves
19/u	20-minute halves

1. Overtime periods are 5 minutes, except for the 8/u, 9/u and 10/u divisions which have 3 minute overtimes.
 2. Half time is 6 minutes for all age divisions. Warm-up time is 4 minutes. Game time is game time. If a team arrives prior, then they shall have a minimum of 4 minutes to warm-up. Game slots for all Divisions are one hour and thirty minutes.
 3. If a team is up by 15 points or more, in the 8/u and 9/u divisions, the leading team can not press until the offensive team reaches the three point line. In addition, in the 8/u to 13/u and 4th Grade thru 8th grade National Championship Tournaments, a running clock will be used in the second half when a team is behind by 30 or more points. Regular rules will return if at any time the spread falls below 30 points. The losing coach may opt to ignore this rule at any time.
 4. Penalty for breaking the 15-point rule mentioned above is a warning for the first offense and an administrative technical foul for the second offense. If the rule is broken a third time, a technical foul goes to the coach.
- H. **Host Teams** – The National Sports Chair may enter a host team(s) in any or all events as needed for bracketing assistance.
- I. **Elected Zone Representatives**
 Zone A – Phil Holloway
 Zone B – Howard Cummins
 Zone C – Sharon Murphy
 Zone D – Mike Killpack
- J. **Event Operating Rules** – These rules shall apply to all AAU Sanctioned events unless modified by the National Chair.

1. **Equipment**

- a. The Rawlings 10 panel 28.5" circumference composite basketball shall be the official basketball for all AAU National Championship Tournaments and AAU Super Regional Tournaments except 8/u and 9/u Divisions. It is not required, but strongly recommended, that this ball be used in all AAU Sanctioned Tournaments including the District Qualifying Tournaments (DQT) except 8/u and 9/u Divisions.
- b. AAU 8/u and 9/u Division National and Qualifying Tournaments (SRT and DQT) will use the Rawlings 27.5" basketball. The foul line for these tournaments will be moved to 12'.
- c. 30 second shot clocks will be used at all National Championship Tournaments.

2. Judges/Officials/Referees/Umpire Requirements

- a. Official may not work a game involving a team from the District where that official works or lives. The lead Commissioner may make exceptions to this if deemed necessary.
- b. Division I National Championships for 12/u, 13/u, 14/u, 15/u, 16/u, 18/u and 19/U shall utilize 3-person officiating crews. The decision on the other Tournaments shall rest with the local tournament director and the referee representative of the Executive Committee. Officiating crews must remain consistent throughout the entire tournament.

3. Coaching Requirements

- a. **Coaches Dress Code** – All bench personnel, both male and female, must adhere to the Coaches Dress Code by wearing a shirt with a collar, long pants or dress shorts/skirts and closed toe shoes. No head attire may be worn while on the bench or during opening ceremonies. Game Officials shall have full and final authority to interpret this rule. Each violation to the bench rule will result in a technical foul (administrative, not charged to the coach.) Example: If a person is charged with the technical foul then he/she must leave the bench area until his/her attire meets the code.
- b. **Coaching Restrictions** – National Championship Tournament Directors cannot coach any team competing in the National Championships for which he/she is director. No National Executive Committee member may function as a member of that committee if he/she is coaching in that tournament.

4. Entry Procedures

- a. **Online Registration (Only)** – Teams that qualify for a National Championship Tournament must submit all of the following via online registration at www.aagirlsbasketball.org
 - i. Team Roster
 - ii. College Permission Letters, if applicable
 - iii. Grade Exception Forms, if applicable
 - iv. Championship Entry Fee of \$570 for registrations prior to April 15th or \$670 for registrations after April 15th payable by credit card online only (prices include credit card service fee) ***THERE WILL BE NO REFUNDS FOR ENTRY FEES PAID FOR ANY NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENT***
- b. **Incomplete Registrations** – Any team that has not completed all of the above registration requirements by the entry deadline will not be accepted into the tournament and will not be drawn into the brackets.

5. Format/Scheduling

- a. All National Championship Tournaments will have a maximum of five (5) playing days.
 - i. The first two tournament days will be pool play (round robin style play).
 - ii. For tournaments with 33 or more teams, the top two (2) teams in each pool following pool play, as determined by most games won, will advance to opposite ends of the National Championship Tournament Bracket.
 - iii. For tournaments with 33 or more teams, all teams other than the top two (2) teams in each pool following pool play, as determined by most games won, will advance to opposite ends of the Classic Tournament Bracket.
 - iv. For tournaments with less than 33 teams, all teams will advance to the National Championship Tournament Bracket with priority given to the top teams in each pool following pool play, as determined by most games won.
 - v. Upon a team's first loss in bracket play, the team will be placed in a consolation bracket in their respective tournament and will be eliminated from competing for the medal round in that tournament.
 - vi. Upon a team's second loss in bracket play, the team is eliminated from further competition in the tournament.

- b. At least one coach from each team wishing to continue in either the Championship or Classic bracket may be required to check-in with the Tournament Office at the conclusion of pool play to determine their team's bracket position.
- c. If teams are tied at the end of Pool Play the following **TIEBREAKER** rule will determine which team(s) will advance
 - i. if two (2) teams are tied, head-to-head competition between the two (2) teams will determine the winner. (Head-to-head competition refers to the win/lose record when the two teams played each other during pool play.)
 - ii. If more than two (2) teams are tied, a point differential, maximum of thirteen (13) points, Tiebreaker will be applied to their games during pool play. The point differentials of each game are totaled and the teams are ranked accordingly. In the case of a three-way-tie, the team with the most points is declared the top team, the team with the next most points is second, the team with the third most points is third and so on. If two of the teams are tied in points, head-to-head competition between those two teams will determine the winner between them (see above).
 - ii. If there are three (3) or four (4) teams tied with points all even, one of the following must be chosen
 - a.) If all coaches agree, the Tournament Director will flip a coin with odd team out until there are only two (2) teams left, at which time head-to-head competition between those two teams (see above) will determine the winner.
 - b.) If coaches do not agree to the coin flip above, the teams that are tied will play a 5-minute round robin handles by the Tournament Director with total points counting. The team or teams with the highest number of total points wins. The Director will determine when the round robin will be held with no appeal. (Note: All teams will be in the bonus.)

6. **Tournament Draw**

- a. Sixteen Districts will be seeded (if the same districts are represented in the current tournament) from the previous year's National Championship Tournament's top finishers. A blind draw will be made for all other entries. (Example: the 13/u will be seeded by the previous year's 12/u finish.) The 8/u Division, all D-II and all D-III Tournaments will be blind draw.
 - b. Teams will be awarded the seeded spots mentioned above by finishing highest in their District Qualifying Tournament. Seeded teams will not be awarded from SRT results.
 - c. If a seeded team is unable to attend a tournament and notifies the National Chair prior to the entry deadline, all other seeded teams below that team will move up one position. However the 17th place team will not be seeded.
 - d. Following the seeding above, if applicable to tournament, blind draws shall begin with the Districts 1st place finishers, followed by 2nd place, 3rd place and 4th place finishers and finally teams qualifying from a Super Regional Tournament.
 - e. If a team is drawn for a pool that has a team from their same District already drawn in it, that team will be placed into the next pool available without a team from their District, if possible.
 - f. The draw will be held at the AAU National Headquarters the week following the deadline for entries to be completed. The Commissioner-In-Charge, Tournament Director, Tournament Coordinator and National Chair or his/her designee shall administer the draw.
 - g. If a team is unable to attend a tournament after completing their official entry, the tournament will not be re-drawn. A BYE will appear in that team's position through out.
 - h. The Host Team and the Host District Champion shall be drawn into opposite pools for the National Championship Tournament.
7. **Host Team** – The AAU District that is host to a National Championship Tournament is allowed to enter a team directly from that District if it meets all AAU Girls' Basketball requirements and has participated in its District Qualifying Tournament. The Host Team is an additional team to those teams that qualified for the tournament and will be named by the organization hosting the tournament. The place of finish will not have a bearing on the naming of this Host Team.

8. Awards

- a. **District and Super Regional Tournament Awards** – AAU medals must be given to the participants of the winning teams at all AAU District and Super Regional Qualifying Tournaments. (Awards should be requested through the AAU National Headquarters.)
- b. **National Championship Tournament Awards** – Each athlete and registered coach on the top eight finishing teams in the Championship Bracket will receive a finalist medal. Each athlete and registered coach on the top 4 finishing teams in the Classic Bracket will receive a finalist medal. The top four teams in both the Championship and Classic Brackets will receive a trophy. All-American Awards will be presented in the 16/u (Junior) Division only.

9. Competition Rules

- a. The official rules for AAU Girls' Basketball are the 2009-2010 NCAA Women's Basketball rules unless otherwise stated in this online handbook.
- b. AAU Girls Basketball does not recognize protest.

10. Meetings

- a. Coaches should attend a Pre-Tournament meeting at the National Championship Tournaments or designate a representative on their behalf. Failure to attend the Coaches' Meeting could result in loss of information that could lead to a game forfeit.
- b. The Complete Athlete Program is mandatory for all players and coaches in Age Divisions 13/u and higher. If a team fails to attend this program, the Head Coach may be suspended from coaching the team's next game and he/she may not be allowed in the playing venue where the team is competing.

11. Qualification Procedure

- a. The following Schedule will apply to all District Qualifying Tournaments

DIVISION I DISTRICT QUALIFYING TOURNAMENT

<u>District Finish</u>	<u>National Championship</u>
1 st place	Division I
2 nd place	Division I
3 rd place	Division I or Division II (team's choice)
4 th place	Division I or Division II (team's choice)

The remaining teams may choose Division II or Division III

*If a district tournament does not play out all places, the names of the teams that didn't place will be put in a hat and drawn out to determine their finish places.

DIVISION II DISTRICT QUALIFYING TOURNAMENT

<u>District Finish</u>	<u>National Championship</u>
1 st place	Division II
2 nd place	Division II
3 rd place	Division II or Division III (team's choice)
4 th place	Division II or Division III (team's choice)

The remaining teams may advance to Division III

*If a district tournament does not play out all places, the names of the teams that didn't place will be put in a hat and drawn out to determine their finish places.

DIVISION III DISTRICT QUALIFYING TOURNAMENT

<u>District Finish</u>	<u>National Championship</u>
1 st place	Division III
2 nd place	Division III
3 rd place	Division III
4 th place	Division III

All teams advance to Division III

- b. Some Districts have separate Division I, II or III qualifying tournaments.
- c. To petition to attend a different National Championship other than qualified, submit request to specialrequestgirlsbball@aausports.org

- d. Any club that finishes in the top four in the previous year's National Championship Tournament will receive an automatic bid to the next higher age group the following year. (Example – 8/u 2009 first place team, GA-Atlanta Cagers, will receive an automatic bid to the 9/u age group National Championship Tournament in 2010.)

Top Four Teams in 2009 National Championship Tournaments

	8/u	9/u	10/u	11/u
1	GA-Atlanta Cagers	GA-Georgia Pistols	SE/TN-TN Team Pride	PV-Fairfax Stars
2	OH-Team Ohio	IN-Finest Basketball	IN-Indiana Blizzard	OH-Dayton Hoopstars
3	AR-Team Memphis Elite	OH-Dayton Hoopstars	AR-Team Memphis Elite	IN-Blizzard Jones
4	GA-Georgia Pistols	SE/TN-TN Team Pride	PV-Cardinal of Virginia	AR-Team Memphis Elite
	12/u	13/u	14/u	15/u
1	GA-Georgia Pistols	GA-Georgia ICE	IN-Spiece Indy Gym Rats	AR-Arkansas Mavericks
2	OH-Dayton Hoopstars	SE/TN-TN Team Pride	MV-Missouri Dreamteam	SE/TN-TN Team Pride
3	MV-Les Chats Basketball	AR-Arkansas Mavericks	PV-Maryland Flames	KY-Kentucky Blast
4	MV-Magic Blazers Elite	MV-MV Blazers Elite	MD-Lady Shooting Stars	OH-Ohio Lady Attack

- e. If an automatic bid recipient qualifies from the 2010 District tournament advancement structure, the bid may be used by the club to advance another team from their club in the same age/grade division. If the club does not use the automatic bid in this manner, the bid will revert to the District to be awarded to the next highest place team not otherwise qualified.
- f. The quarter final round in each district tournament will determine the 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th place by draw unless those games are played.
- g. If there is a Division III qualifying tournament at the district level, all teams advance to the Division III National Championship.
- h. All teams advance to the National Championship in the 8/u and 19/u age divisions.
- i. The 8/u, 9/u (Divisions I and II) and 19/u Divisions are open events.
- Any teams in these Divisions that are eligible by age, residence and membership may participate in the respective AAU National Championship without participating in a District Qualifying Tournament.
 - The 9/u Division I District Qualifying Winner must play in the Division I National Championship Tournament.
 - Teams in each age division must participate in their DQT to retain any seed earned from the 2009 Tournaments.

12. Participating In a Bordering District

- An athlete may only participate in her District of residence, where she attends school full time or in a bordering District Qualifying Tournament. She must register in her resident District.
- A maximum of three (3) athletes from bordering Districts will be allowed on any team at the District, Regional or National level.

13. Eligibility

a. Age Divisions

DIVISION	BIRTH DATE	GRADE EXCEPTION
8/u-3 rd Grade	Born in 2001 or after	or in the 3 rd Grade & born in 2000 or after
9/u-4 th Grade	Born in 2000 or after	or in the 4 th Grade & born in 1999 or after
10/u-5 th Grade	Born in 1999 or after	or in the 5 th Grade & born in 1998 or after
11/u-6 th Grade	Born in 1998 or after	or in the 6 th Grade & born in 1997 or after
12/u-7 th Grade	Born in 1997 or after	or in the 7 th Grade & born in 1996 or after
13/u-8 th Grade	Born in 1996 or after	or in the 8 th Grade & born in 1995 or after
14/u-9 th Grade	Born in 1995 or after	or in the 9 th Grade & born in 1994 or after
15/u-10 th Grade	Born in 1994 or after	or in the 10 th Grade & born in 1993 or after
16/u-11 th Grade	Born in 1993 or after	or in the 11 th Grade & born in 1992 or after
19/u	Born in 1990 or after	

All home school students must register with the State Department of Education and belong to an accredited home school organization. The student can get a letter from that organization stating the grade level in which she is currently enrolled. If an athlete has been academically advanced and is a grade level ahead of her age group, she can appeal for a grade exception. A grade exception form, her birth certificate and a letter from her school (on school stationary) stating that she has been accelerated must be submitted online for approval.

- b. **Player Participation** – A player may play for the same Club in as many as three (3) Divisions in which they qualify. Any team that qualifies for Division I may also play up an age Division and participate in Division II. If a District has separate Division I and Division II Tournaments, they will be counted as separate Divisions.
 - c. **Playing in Multiple Tournaments** – Players will be allowed to play in both the Division I National Championship Tournament (if picked up by a Qualifying team that is not their original team) and the Division II National Championship Tournament (if picked up by another non-Division I Qualifying team that is not their original team or playing with their original team that did not qualify for Division I).
 - d. **College Eligible** – College students are eligible for participation in the AAU Girls' Basketball program if their college or university clears them and they meet all other eligibility criteria. Permission from their college or university must be in writing and submitted with both the District and the National Tournament entries.
 - e. **NCAA Division I Student Athletes** – NCAA restricts AAU participation of NCAA Division I Student Athletes at the present time.
14. **Roster Size** – A maximum of fifteen (15) players is allowed on a team throughout the District Qualifying, Super Regional and National levels. A team shall be allowed to add (pick up) a maximum of seven (7) players to their official roster when advancing to a Division I, II or III National Championship with an overall maximum of fifteen (15) total players. An athlete may be granted a temporary transfer from her team/club to another team/club for the purpose of competing in an AAU National Championship. Pick-up players must qualify by age and residence in the year of competition. A player whose team has qualified for a Division I Championship may only be picked up for Division II in an older Division. A player whose team has qualified for a Division I National Championship may not be added to another Division I qualifying team's roster unless her original team officially releases her or does not enter the National Championship for which they qualified.
15. **Bench Personnel**
- a. Only those persons whose names appear on the roster sheet may sit on the players' bench. This is limited to fifteen (15) players and no more than four (4) other persons (coaches, trainers, score keepers, etc.) for a maximum of nineteen (19) persons. Everyone sitting on the players' bench must have verified AAU memberships. Young children will not be allowed to sit on the bench. All non-uniformed personnel on the bench, including coaches, must wear the Championship credential provided at registration. No exceptions will be allowed.
 - b. All teams in NCAA certified events must have at least one (1) and no more than four (4) registered bench personnel on the bench during all games.
 - c. Up to a maximum of four (4) bench personnel for 8/u, 9/u, 10/u, 11/u, 12/u and 13/u may be added at National Championship registration.
 - d. Bench personnel for any NCAA certified event, 14/u thru Open Division, must register through the NCAA in order to sit on the bench during certified event competition.
16. **Uniforms**
- a. Each team participating in any AAU National Tournament must have two (2) different color team jerseys (shirts). One of the jerseys must be white.
 - b. Team shirts shall be of the same solid color front and back. A player's shirt designed to be worn inside the game pants shall be tucked inside the game pants throughout the game.
 - c. An undershirt is considered to be part of the shirt and must be a color similar to the shirt. Logos, decorations, trim, commemorative patches, lettering and numbering are not allowed on an undershirt.

- d. No more than two identifying names or abbreviations of the names may be placed on either, or on both, the front and back of the shirt. The name(s) must be placed so that the following can take place.
 - i. Players' jerseys must have numbers on both the front and back. (Numbers can be from 00 to 99.) Minimum size of numbers shall be 2" on the front and 4" on the back.
 - ii. Placement must be such that the number(s) is clearly visible.
 - iii. Tights that extend below the game pants must be similar in color to the game pants.

17. **Super Regional Tournaments (SRT)**

- a. A complete list of Super Regional Tournaments will be listed on the AAU Girls Basketball website www.aaugirlsbasketball.org.
- b. The duration of a Super Regional Tournament will be a maximum of three days with the following exceptions: takes place over a federally recognized holiday or is approved by the National Chair.
- c. Teams will be awarded invitations (bids) to the Division I, Division II, or Division III National Championships based on their finish in their Super Regional Tournaments.
- d. The maximum number of bids that will be awarded to the National Championships from a SRT is based on the number of teams entered as shown below.

Number of Teams Entered	Number of Bids Per Division		
	Division I	Division II	Division III
Up to 3	1	1	1
4 to 6	2	2	2
7 to 9	3	3	3
10 or More	4	4	Not Limited

- e. All teams that receive a bid to a National Championship Tournament at a Super Regional Tournament shall play in their District Championship Tournaments (DQT) to validate their bids.
 - i. If a team receives a bid from their Super Regional Tournament, but is unable to play in their District Championship Tournament, they must submit a written request to play in the National Championship Tournament stating their reasons for not participating in the District Championship Tournament. The AAU Girls Basketball Committee will consider these to determine if the team is eligible to use their bid.
 - ii. Teams from outside the United States may enter a Division II or Division III National Championship without having to qualify, however if they want to play in a Division I National Championship Tournament they must qualify at a SRT.
- f. If a team qualifies for a National Championship Tournament at a SRT before their District Qualifying Tournament the following applies.
 - i. The team's roster cannot be changed until after participation in their District Qualifying Tournament. If players are added, the team will lose the bid from the SRT.
 - ii. If the team previously qualified in Division I and qualifies again in their District Qualifying Tournament, the next highest place team in that DQT will receive a bid to the Division I National Championship Tournament.
 - iii. The age group a team plays and qualifies in is the age group in which they must play in their DQT and the National Championship Tournament.
- g. If a team plays in their District Qualifying Tournament, but does not qualify for the National Championship Tournament, they can do the following.
 - i. With approval from the team's District Registrar, they can pick up players from other Division I or Division II non-qualifying teams in the same DQT and play in a Super Regional Tournament.
 - ii. Without prior approval, the team can pick up players from their club that participated in a different age division tournament but did not qualify for a National Championship Tournament.

- h. If a team plays in their District Qualifying Tournament and qualifies for a National Championship Tournament before playing in a Super Regional Tournament, they may pick up AAU member players who qualify by age and residence per AAU rules mentioned above to play in the SRT.
- i. If a team that has previously qualified to play in a National Championship Tournament in one age group plays in a Super Regional in an older age Division, they may not advance in the tournament unless they declare to be a non-qualifying team. If they finish high enough in the SRT to qualify for a National Championship Tournament, their bid will go to the next highest team.

III. EXCERPTS FROM AAU CODE BOOK

- A. **AAU Membership** – All participants must be members of the AAU in order to participate in any AAU Sanctioned Event. Event Operators may not collect AAU membership money at any AAU sanctioned event.
1. **Membership Requirements** – Membership in the AAU is a privilege granted by the AAU. The AAU at its sole discretion reserves the right to accept or reject applicants for membership.
 2. **Conditions for Membership** – Membership in any class may be granted only after an application is submitted and approved. By submitting an application, the applicant agrees to comply with all the provisions of the Constitution, Bylaws, policies, procedures and rules of the AAU.
 3. **Classes of Membership** – Classes of Membership in the AAU include:
 - a. **District Member** – The organization chartered by the Congress to provide administrative services within a designated geographic area.
 - b. **Club Member** – An organization or group that has been approved for membership after meeting the registration requirements of the Code.
 - c. **Individual Member** – A person who has been approved for membership after meeting the registration requirements of the Code. Individual membership categories are:
 - i. Youth Athlete
 - ii. Adult Athlete
 - iii. Non-Athlete
 - d. **Affiliate Member** – An organization or group approved by Congress which is engaged in athletics or sports-related activities.
 4. **Membership and Residency**
 - a. Adult members will not be bound by residence requirements.
 - b. Youth members must register in the District of their bona fide residency, except as follows:
 - i. A youth member who resides in the county of one District that adjoins a county of another District and who attends a school located in the adjoining county will have the option of registering in either District.
 - ii. A youth member subject to a written joint legal custody arrangement whose custodians reside in different Districts shall have the option of registering in either District.
 - iii. A bona fide student at an educational institution may be considered a resident of the District in which the institution is located.
 - iv. Persons living outside the U.S. may register in the closest District or with the District where the competition they are first participating in will take place. The respective National Sports Committee rules shall govern their participation in AAU competitions.
- B. **Eligibility** – A youth member may elect to participate in his or her District of bona fide residence or a District that geographically adjoins that District. Exception: In team sports a maximum of three (3) members may participate with a team in an adjoining District. Team sports include baseball, basketball, field hockey, hockey, soccer, softball and volleyball.
- C. **Club Attachment**
1. A youth member becomes attached to a club member when he/she competes with that club in any AAU sanctioned event (practice not included). An athlete may attach to additional clubs if he/she participates in additional sports.
 2. For team/club sports only – If an athlete participates in an AAU sanctioned league for one group member (club), that athlete may elect to affiliate immediately with a second group member (club) for the purpose of qualifying for an AAU National Championship. Participation may be

simultaneous. A league is made up of teams/clubs that compete only among themselves for a defined period of time.

3. **Transfers** – An attached youth member may transfer to another club in the same sport under the following conditions:
 - a. If the youth member has not competed in any AAU sanctioned events in that Sport for a period of sixty (60) days.
 - b. If the representative of the club to which an athlete is attached signs a release form permitting an immediate transfer. (Athletes released under this provision are subject to National Championship eligibility restrictions as adopted by National Sport Committees.) [Added 10/07]
 - c. When the transfer is for the purpose of competing with a team which has qualified for a National Championship as provided by National Sport Committee rules.
 - d. If the Registrar determines that the transfer is due to events outside the control of the athlete or that the transfer serves the best interest of the AAU.

D. **Use of Logos and Trademarks**

1. The AAU name, mark, seal, logo and other insignia (all "AAU marks") are protected through trademark registration and are defined as the intellectual property of the AAU. A user of the AAU's intellectual property must have prior and continued approval of the National AAU. Only those subordinates and affiliated organizations which are expressly authorized by the National AAU may use the intellectual property of the AAU. The National AAU may withdraw its approval to use its marks, in its sole discretion. Members shall immediately comply with notice to cease and desist from the use of the AAU's intellectual property. The unauthorized use of any of the intellectual property of the AAU is a violation of this policy and may subject the member/entity to penalties set out in the AAU Code.
2. Only chartered Districts, District Sport Committees and National Sport Committees may use the AAU marks in their name.
3. There are three (3) levels of AAU club membership. Level 1 AAU Clubs acquire no rights to use the AAU's intellectual property. Level 2 and Level 3 Clubs may use AAU's intellectual property for the promotion of their organizations and/or sanctioned AAU events only. Member clubs may not use the name AAU in their legal names.

E. **Event Sanctions**

1. No event shall be conducted under the auspices of the AAU unless a sanction has been issued for the activity. A sanction is the written approval of the AAU for the conduct of the activity.
2. Only AAU members may participate in sanctioned events unless otherwise provided in the Bylaws.
3. Sanctions may be issued to any club in good standing. Any sanction may be reviewed within fifteen (15) days of submission by the District Sport Committee Director. If the sanction is reviewed and rejected, the Registrar shall notify the organization submitting the sanction.
4. No sanction shall take effect until the 15-day review period has expired, or until the Registrar processes the sanction following approval of the District Sport Committee Director. Beginning with the 2009 Membership year, all applications for sanction must be completed and submitted through the on-line process or the AAU National Office.
5. The National Registration Executive Committee has the authority to issue sanctions as follows:
 - a. For events in locations where there is no active District member.
 - b. For events in Districts where there is no current active participation. (No District Championship in the prior membership year).
 - c. For events directly sponsored by the National AAU or National Sports Committee.
 - d. For inter-District league play.

- e. Review and approve any sanction rejected by the District.
- f. Sanctions issued to one organization cannot be transferred to another organization.
- g. No sanction will be issued for any event where the word "Olympic" or any derivative thereof is used in any advertisements or notice in connection with the event except upon the specific written approval of the Board of Directors.
- h. Sanctions must be reviewed and processed by the District Registrar and reported to the National Headquarters. A record shall be kept by each District of all sanctions issued.

F. District Sport Committee

1. **District Sport Committee Annual Meeting** – It is the duty of the District Sport Committee to hold an annual meeting, the date of which shall be approved by the District Executive Committee, not the Sport Committee Executive Committee.
 - a. **Notice of District Sport Meetings** – Notice of the annual or special meetings of the District Sport Committee shall be issued (or issue approved) by the District Secretary, to clubs eligible to vote as of 30 days prior to the scheduled annual meeting.
 - b. **Quorum** – Five (5) member clubs must be present to constitute a quorum of the Annual Sport Committee meeting.
 - c. **Voting** – Each member of a Committee shall have one vote unless the operating rules of the Committee provide for weighted voting. There shall be no voting by proxy. A club may designate another representative for the club.

2. **Functions of District Sport Committees**
 - a. **District Sport Committees** – In each approved AAU sport in which the District has athletes actively participating, there may be a Committee to manage competition within the District.
 - b. **Composition** – The District Sport Committee shall include the following:
 - i. Each member club that registers at least five individual members in the sport shall have one representative on the District Sport Committee.
 - ii. District Sport Committee Officers and Chairmen of Committees as defined by that sport's operating rules.
 - iii. The Governor may appoint five (5) at-large members.
 - c. **Duties** –The duties of the District Sport Committee are to:
 - i. In even years, hold a Bi-Annual meeting, the date, time and location of which shall be approved by the District Executive Committee. [Added 10/08]
 - ii. Adopt at the Bi-Annual Meeting, rules of operation of the Committee to be submitted to the Executive Committee for approval and which shall not conflict with the provisions of the AAU Constitution, Bylaws, National Policies or National Sport Committee rules.
 - iii. Determine whether to establish a Committee operating count, and if so, to comply with all relevant AAU procedures and policies.
 - iv. Conduct the District Championships.
 - v. If the District Sport Committee is organized as an administrative club under the AAU, it shall annually file the Location of Assets Report with the District Office and forward a copy to the National Office.

3. **Functions of the District Sport Director**
 - a. **District Sport Director** – In each sport in which five or more club members have designated the sport as its primary sport, the Director shall be elected by the Committee at its Bi-Annual Meeting. When there are fewer than five clubs registered to the Sport, the Chair may be appointed by the Governor with the approval of the National Sport Committee Chair. The District Sport Director takes office upon election or upon appointment.
 - b. **Term** – The term of office for an elected District Sport Director shall be four (4) years to run concurrently with the District Officers. The term of office for an appointed District Sport Director shall be one year or until such time as the Sport Committee meets the criteria to elect a Chair.

- c. **Vacancies** – A vacancy occurring in an elected District Sport Director position shall be filled in accordance with the Sport Committee operating rules. A vacancy occurring in an appointed District Sport Director position shall be filled by the Governor with the approval of the National Sport Committee Chair.
- d. **Duties** – The Sport Committee Director shall:
 - i. Develop a budget for the Sport Committee to file with the District Executive Committee
 - ii. Perform the duties set forth in the Committee Rules of Operation
 - iii. Approve event sanctions in the sport
 - iv. Preside at Sport Committee meetings
- e. **Removal** – District Sport Directors may be removed as follows:
 - i. **By District Sport Committee** – An elected Sport Committee Director may be removed by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Sport Committee at the Bi-Annual meeting provided that the Notice of the meeting specifies that a motion to remove is on the agenda. [Rev. 10/07]
 - ii. **By National Sport Chair** – Each National Sport Chair shall annually review the number of events held in their sport. If the number of sanctioned events, excluding practice sanctions, are below five (5), the National Sport Chair may remove the District Director. If the District Governor does not agree with the removal, the President shall appoint an arbiter who will make the final decision. [Rev. 10/07]
 - iii. **By National Board of Review** – An elected Sport Director may be removed by order of the National Board of Review following the filing of a complaint and the Board's proceedings. [Added 10/07]

G. **Chair Duties and Responsibilities**

1. **National Chair** – Responsibilities of the National Chair for AAU Girls' Basketball are:
 - a. The primary responsibility is to plan, coordinate and facilitate the conduct of the National Program, in particular, the National Championship Tournaments. The AAU Girls' Basketball Committee shall recommend the National Chair, subject to the approval of the AAU National President.
 - b. Coordinate all activities of the AAU Girls' Basketball Program with the Executive Committee, Commissioners, Boards and AAU National Headquarters.
 - c. Plan and chair annual meeting of the AAU Girls' Basketball Committee. Plan and chair Executive Committee and Commissioner Meetings as needed.
 - d. Represent and speak about AAU Girls' Basketball to other organizations, particularly other organizations involved with the sport of basketball, such as USA Basketball and the Women's Basketball Coaches Association (WBCA).
 - e. Promote participation in AAU Girls' Basketball.
 - f. Oversee all elements of the program from publications to "sponsorship."
 - g. Perform other duties and responsibilities as necessary.
2. **Certification Chair** – Responsibilities of the Certification Chair for AAU Girls' Basketball are:
 - a. The primary responsibility of the National Certification Chair is to verify team and individual athlete eligibility for the AAU Girls' Basketball National Championships. The AAU Girls' Basketball Committee shall elect the Certification Chair.
 - b. Verify team eligibility for those teams advancing to the AAU Girls' Basketball National Championships.
 - c. Verify individual athlete eligibility for those teams advancing to the AAU Girls' Basketball National Championships.
 - d. Represent and speak about AAU Girls' Basketball to other organizations.
 - e. Promote participation in AAU Girls' Basketball.
 - f. Act in an advisory capacity at AAU National Championships.

- H. **Commissioners** – The National Chair shall appoint Commissioners to assist in the conduct of the business of AAU Girls' Basketball.

- I. **Director of Officials** – The National Chair shall appoint the Director of Officials. The primary responsibility of the Director of Officials or their designee for AAU Girls' Basketball is to recruit, coordinate, contract and approve all assignments of National Officials to the AAU Girls' Basketball National Championships.

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

AAU – The abbreviation for the Amateur Athletic Union of the United States, Inc. AAU refers to the entire national organization. The AAU is a national organization composed of affiliated Districts, authorized to work with sport-oriented groups, in the administration and development of sports at all appropriate levels.

AAU Year – September 1st to August 31st.

Age Determining Date (ADD) – Date used to determine what age group an athlete may compete.

Birth Record – Certified record of birth showing date and other information. Must be a copy of a State record of birth (not a hospital record or mother's copy). A State issued drivers license or passport.

Code of Ethics – Code signed and agreed to by coaches concerning their conduct as AAU coaches. (See below)

Complete Athlete Program – Program that is required by AAU Girls Basketball and the NCAA to cover such items as recruiting, grades, sportsmanship, etc.

Coaching Excellence Program (CEP) – Program designed by and for Coaches of girls' basketball for the good of the game and to enhance the unique opportunity provided by the AAU Girls Basketball Program

District – A group of clubs, organizations, groups and individuals in a certain geographic area, which has been chartered by the AAU Congress as a member of the AAU to provide administrative services for amateur sports and to foster AAU sports programs. There are currently 56 AAU Districts across the United States.

District Director – Person elected or appointed in each District to oversee a certain sport.

District Qualifying Tournament (DQT) - Tournament held by each District to determine who advances to the different National Championship Tournaments

Division I (D-I) – Top Level Teams that qualify through one of the above Tournaments.

Division II (D-II) – Next level of teams that qualify through one of the above Tournaments

Division III (D-III) – Teams that participate in their DQT and do not qualify as above are eligible for D-III.

Grade Exception – Allows one birth year grace for athletes to play with their classmates.

National Qualifier – Team or athlete that earned a position in a National Tournament by placing in a DQT or SRT.

National Championship – Winner of a certain age group at a National Championship Tournament.

Sanction – The written approval of the AAU to authorize registered athletes to participate in a specific competition or activity. This sanction provides the Host Club with the best General Liability coverage in amateur sport.

Spring Fling – Super Regional Tournament held at Disney.

Super Regional Tournament (SRT) – Invitational Tournament placed across the US to give teams an additional opportunity to play and to qualify for the D-I National Championship.

Code of Ethics

In a National Championship Tournament, if a coach receives two technical fouls, he/she shall leave the game and the facility as well. The ejected coach may not coach the next game. However, if in a subsequent game, the same coach again receives two technical fouls, he/she shall be removed from the competition venue and will not be allowed to coach the remainder of the tournament. Coaches must sign Coach's Code of Ethics at registration:

“COACHES’ CODE OF ETHICS”

- **I will place the emotional and physical well-being of my players ahead of a personal desire to win.**
- **I will treat each player as an individual, remembering the large range of emotional and physical development for the same age group.**
- **I will take reasonable measures to honor all commitments to athletes.**
- **I will do my best to provide a safe playing situation for my players**
- **I will promise to review and practice the basic first aid principles needed to treat injuries of my players**
- **I will lead by example in demonstrating fair play and sportsmanship to all my players.**
- **I will do my best to organize practices that are fun and challenging for all my players.**
- **I will provide a sports environment for my team that is free of drugs, tobacco and alcohol, and I will refrain from their use at all youth sports events.**
- **I will be knowledgeable in the rules of girls’ basketball and I will teach these rules to my players.**
- **I will use those coaching techniques appropriate for each of the skills that I teach.**
- **I will remember that I am a youth sports coach, and that the game is for children and not for adults.**