



Tryouts/Team Selection and Playing Time Guidelines

The Sharon Basketball Association (SBA), is an independent, volunteer organization dedicated to the boys and girls of Sharon, Massachusetts and is focused on the development, management and administration of the Sharon Travel Basketball program. We are advocates for the development and growth of basketball in the Town of Sharon. Through our program and our efforts we seek to promote athletic excellence, good sportsmanship and citizenship, respect for others and self, fair play, and a balance between individual achievement and cooperative teamwork, all within the context of competitive basketball.

Toward those ends, the SBA has set the following guidelines regarding tryouts/team selection and playing time for boys and girls in the program:

Tryouts/Team Selection

Tryouts are mandatory for all players (though exceptions will be made on a case by case basis if a player cannot tryout due to an injury or illness).

Tryouts are held over a two day period and encompass about 3 hours of various drills and scrimmages. Players are evaluated/rated by both 1) a team coach and 2) evaluators who are NOT affiliated with the grade trying out. In addition, the actual tryout is usually coordinated and managed by a coach for that grade.

Players are rated on their overall basketball ability including shooting, rebounding, defense, passing, and dribbling. Intangibles such as hustle, leadership, communication, attitude, sportsmanship, and overall understanding of the game will also be considered when rating a player.

Each team will have between 10 and 13 players; however, team sizes will not be uniform for all teams as size depends upon many factors. There is a chance that players may not make a team. In such cases, players will be encouraged to play in Sharon's recreational basketball program.

Team selections for each grade will be made by a Selection Committee comprised of at least 1 of the coaches for each team and the independent evaluators for that grade. In addition, a member of the Sharon Basketball Association Board of Directors will oversee the tryouts and the team selection process to ensure that evaluators and coaches collaborate appropriately.

UNDER ABSOLUTELY NO CIRCUMSTANCES ARE PLAYERS CHOSEN FOR ANY TEAM UNTIL TRYOUTS ARE CONDUCTED AND ALL PLAYERS ARE EVALUATED.

Team selection is based on the following factors:

- Historical performance on previous travel teams.
- Historical performance on Sharon recreation league teams (especially for 4th grade travel).
- Formal tryout as rated by independent evaluators and coaches.
- Known conflicts that will impede a player's ability to substantially commit to his/her travel team (i.e. practices, games, tournaments, etc.).

Playing Time Guidelines

- Every player will play in every half of every game.
- Travel basketball is more competitive than Recreational basketball. In Recreational basketball, playing time is divided exactly equally between all players. Travel basketball inherently includes a greater focus on playing competitively, and it is not expected that all players will play the same amount. In games that are not close, playing time will be apportioned more evenly in an effort to develop all players.
- The coach may use playing time to emphasize the importance of practice attendance, behavior, team rules, and timeliness.