

**BY-LAWS OF SOUTH NASHVILLE
CHURCH BASKETBALL LEAGUE (THE “LEAGUE”)
Revised September 2017**

I. LEAGUE PURPOSE:

To provide an organized and supervised youth activity for the member churches of the south Nashville area, while promoting sportsmanship, teamwork and team unity and the spirit of competition.

II. ORGANIZATION:

A. The South Nashville Church Basketball League operates under the name of West End Sertoma League.

B. The principal governing body of the League shall be designated as the “Executive Committee.”

(1) The Executive Committee shall be composed as follows:

1. League President – The prior season’s League Vice President.
2. League Vice President – Appointed by the prior season’s Executive Committee.
3. League Representatives – One each for the junior high boys, the senior high boys and the girls leagues. Appointed by the prior season’s Executive Committee.
4. League Treasurer - Two Year Appointment
5. Commissioner of Officials – Appointed by Executive Committee
6. Scheduler/ADMIN
7. At-Large
8. At-Large

(2) The League President, the League Vice President, and the Treasurer each shall serve and shall be limited to a two-year term in such position. Other members of the Executive Committee shall serve one year terms but shall not be subject to term limitations.

(3) The same person may simultaneously serve as both (i) a League Representative and (ii) League President or League Vice President. However, in all matters requiring an Executive Committee vote, the vote of any person serving in such a dual capacity shall only count as one vote.

(4) Members of the Executive Committee may also serve as Coaches (as hereinafter defined). Any Executive Committee members also serving as Coaches shall abstain from any Executive Committee vote affecting either (i) the team they coach or (ii) the age-group division in which they coach.

(5) The Executive Committee shall make all decisions of an executive nature including, without limitation, scheduling, eligibility of players, protests and rules interpretations, financial matters, league standards and regulations, matters related to officials and coaches’ requirements.

(6) The Executive Committee shall meet at such times as designated by the League President. Two-thirds of the Executive Committee members must be present to constitute a meeting. All decisions regarding League rules, regulations and procedure shall be determined by a majority vote of those members present.

(7) The President, Vice President, and Treasurer are authorized to open and maintain accounts and write checks for league finances. The Treasurer will provide up-to-date financial records at Board meetings.

B. All coaches within the League (collectively, “Coaches”) shall be governed by the following provisions:

(1) Coaches shall be appointed by each individual church in accordance with League regulations and shall be subject to approval by the Executive Committee.

(2) Coaches meetings shall be held at such times and at such locations as designated by the Executive Committee. No specific attendance is required to constitute a quorum for a Coaches meeting. Coaches meetings shall be presided over by the League President or his appointed representative.

(3) Coaches shall be responsible for reading and understanding the Rules (as hereinafter defined) and for distributing and explaining the Rules to members of their teams.

III. RULES AND REGULATIONS:

The rules and regulations of the League (the “Rules”) shall be determined by the Executive Committee prior to the first Coaches meeting of the season, published, and distributed to all Coaches in attendance at the first Coaches meeting of the season. The Rules shall be available upon request to those Coaches not in attendance at the first Coaches meeting of the season. While the Executive Committee shall make reasonable efforts to distribute the Rules to Coaches not in attendance, it shall be the responsibility of such Coaches to ensure that they obtain the Rules.

Rules and Regulations

SECTION 1 – MEMBERSHIP

1.1 A. SENIOR HIGH GIRLS

Girls in grades 6 through 12 during the present school year shall be allowed to play on a team, provided they are not 19 years of age on or before September 1.

B. JUNIOR HIGH BOYS

Boys in grades 6 through 9 during the present school year shall be allowed to play on a team, provided they are not 16 years of age on or before September 1.

C. SENIOR HIGH BOYS

Boys in grades 10 through 12 during the present school year shall be allowed to play on the team provided they are not 19 years of age on or before September 1. Boys in grades 6 through 9 shall be allowed to play only where there is no Junior High or “B” team from their Church participating in the League.

1.2 Except as set forth in Section 1.3, team members must be members of the Church on whose team they play. For purposes of the Rules, youth who have not been confirmed shall be deemed to be members of the Church at which their parents are members. Non-member youth group attendees are considered members of the church he or she attends for League purpose.

1.3 Players not meeting the requirements of Section 1.2 are referred to herein as “Waivers” and are subject to the following provisions:

(a) Each team shall be permitted (but not required) to include Waivers on its roster. A waiver is a player who is not a church member. Fifty percent of each team’s players must be Church members. The number of waiver players can not exceed 49% of the team’s roster.

(b) Youth who are members of a Church with a team in the League shall not be permitted to be Waivers for another team in the League, unless consented to in writing by the Coach from the Church of which the youth is a member.

In the event of unusual or questionable membership situations, the League strongly encourages the Churches involved to come to an independent amicable resolution of the matter. If the Churches involved are unable to come to a resolution independently, the Executive Committee shall seek to mediate. If such mediation fails, as a last resort, the Executive Committee shall arbitrate the matter.

1.4 Team members shall not be current members of any school basketball team representing the relevant age group at such individual’s school (a “School Team”). Participation on intramural teams and/or teams involved in other recreational leagues is permitted.

SECTION 2 – TEAM ROSTER

2.1 Each Coach shall submit on the Blue Sombrero website a team roster (a “Roster”). The roster should be kept on hand and available upon request by the other coach or a league representative.

2.2 Each team must submit a complete Roster before the first regular season game. Unless a prior waiver of this deadline is granted by the Executive Committee, any team which fails to submit a Roster by league deadlines will not be included on the schedule.

2.3 Subject to the eligibility requirements set forth in Section 1, each team may add players to its Roster before the first game of the current season.

2.4 A team may delete players from its Roster at any time during the season, provided that written notice of such deletion is delivered to the League Representative.

2.5 An “Illegal Player” is defined as a player (i) whose name does not appear on the current Roster submitted to the League or (ii) who does not meet the eligibility requirements as outlined in Section 1.

2.6 A team shall automatically forfeit any and all games in which an Illegal Player participated for such team. The coach will receive a 1 game suspension, and the team will be disqualified from tournament play as well as lose the deposit.

SECTION 3 – COACHES

- 3.1 A team Coach shall be designated by each Church and must register on the league website. One or more assistant Coaches may be designated by a Church and submitted with its Roster. Each team is required to have a Coach present at all games.
- 3.2 A team Coach shall be at least 24 years old. Any exceptions to the immediately preceding sentence must be approved by the Executive Committee.
- 3.3 In the event that a team is unable to have a Coach or an assistant Coach present for a scheduled game, a responsible substitute shall be designated by the team and the League Representative notified at least 24 hours prior to the game.
- 3.4 Failure of a team to have a Coach present at the scheduled tip-off time of a game will result in a forfeit of the game by such team.

SECTION 4 – OFFICIALS

- 4.1 The Commissioner of Officials shall furnish two referees for each game. Their authority and duties shall be as outlined by the TSSAA.
- 4.2 The Commissioner of Officials shall furnish an official scorekeeper who shall be responsible for keeping the official scorebook.
- 4.3 The Commissioner of Officials shall furnish a clock operator. Such clock operator may be the same as the official scorekeeper.

SECTION 5 – GAME PLAY

- 5.1 All games shall be played in accordance with current TSSAA rules unless otherwise specified herein. In the event of any conflict between TSSAA rules and League rules, League rules shall control.
- 5.2 All members of a team shall be required to have identical jerseys with regard to color and style. Other parts of the uniform have no specified requirement although each team is strongly urged to be attired as uniformly as possible. Numerals shall be required on each player's shirt, preferably both front and back. These numerals shall be 0 thru 5 or a combination of the same. At the discretion of the referees, any player who enters a game and does not comply with these uniform regulations may be assessed a technical foul and/or may not be allowed to participate in the game.
- 5.3 A team must have five (5) players to start a game. If a team has less than five (5) players present, such team shall have a (5) minute grace period prior to starting a game in order to allow additional players to arrive. Such grace period shall be measured from the scheduled tip-off time of the game.
- 5.4 All games will have four (4) quarters with a running clock, except for the final two (2) minutes of each half (during which the clock shall stop at all whistles). Prior to the beginning of the season, the League Representative for each age division shall determine and announce the length of each quarter and overtime for games in such age division. Overtime periods shall have a running clock, except for the final two (2) minutes (during which the clock shall stop at all whistles). The Executive Committee reserves the right to modify quarter and overtime lengths during the regular season if necessary and during tournament play.
- 5.5 Prior to the beginning of the season, the League Representative for each age division shall determine and announce the number of full timeouts and 30-second timeouts per game and the number of additional timeouts to be received by each team per overtime period for games in such age division. The Executive Committee reserves the right to modify the number and lengths of

timeouts during the regular season if necessary and during tournament play.

5.6 Any player ejected from a game will be required to sit out the next game (even if the next game is a tournament game). If a player is ejected from two (2) games during one season, the player shall be suspended indefinitely until reinstated by the Executive Committee (See Section 9.1).

5.7 There will be no dunking, hanging on or grabbing the rim at any time. This includes warm up, half time, and all game situations. Dunking will result in the following penalties: (a) a technical foul will be charged to the player (b) any goal scored will be removed, and (c) any damages will be charged to the team.

5.8 The referee, at his discretion, may allow the clock to continue to run during the final two (2) minutes of a game as long as a team is behind in the scorebook by 15 or more points.

SECTION 6 – PROTESTS AND COMPLAINTS

6.1 The National Federation of State High School Associations does not recognize protests. With the exception of eligibility protests, the Executive Committee will conform to this policy. **NO PROTEST WILL BE ACCEPTED CONCERNING THE JUDGEMENT CALLS OF THE OFFICIALS.**

6.2 Eligibility protests shall be submitted in writing to the League Representative within 48 hours after the conclusion of the game which is being protested. Only the opposing team's coach may protest eligibility. Such official protests shall then be considered by and ruled upon by the Executive Committee (See Section 2.7).

6.3 All complaints other than official eligibility protests of a game should be reported either verbally or in writing to the League Representative. The League Representative shall then inform the Executive Committee of such complaints.

6.4 There will be no protest around unsportsmanlike contact and in-game technical fouls/ejections. Any player that receives two technical fouls or is ejected is automatically suspended for the next game, regardless if it is a tournament game. See 5.6.

SECTION 7 – SCHEDULE

7.1 A schedule of possible game dates shall be determined by the Executive Committee and announced at the first coaches meeting of the season. The complete schedule shall be released as soon as possible after the final preseason coaches meeting.

7.2 In the event that "make up" games are required, the Executive Committee shall schedule such games and shall release such schedule as soon as possible. Due to the limited availability of referees and playing locations, such "make up" games may be scheduled on dates other than the possible game dates announced at the first coaches meeting of the season. Make Up games are for gym closures, weather closures, or other events of mother nature. The league does not reschedule games due to player conflicts after the schedule has been released.

7.3 Tournament pairings shall be determined by the final regular season team standings. Game times for tournament games shall be determined by the Executive Committee. Tournament pairings and game times shall be announced at the tournament coaches meeting, following the end of the regular season.

7.4 A team with more than one forfeit or found playing an ineligible player are ineligible for post-season play.

SECTION 8 – FEE

8.1 Each team shall pay a fee (the “League Fee”) to the League. The Executive Committee shall announce the League Fee at the first coaches meeting of the season. The League Fee shall be applied to all costs of League regular season and tournament play.

8.2 The League Fee must be paid by a team prior to the team’s first regular season game.

SECTION 9 – SPORTSMANSHIP*

9.1 As outlined in Section I, promoting sportsmanship is a part of our league’s purpose. This can only occur when teammates, opponents, coaches and officials treat each other with respect. Sportsmanship is defined as playing fair, following the rules of the game, respecting the judgment of referees and officials, and treating opponents with respect. Good sportsmanship is expected by all players, coaches and spectators. Unsportsmanlike or inappropriate conduct by teams (including players, coaches and spectators) will not be tolerated. This rule shall apply to any person within the facility during a league game. Unsportsmanlike conduct may include, but is not limited to the following: the obstruction or disruption of the normal functioning of a league game; the use of abusive or insulting language specifically that which provokes ill will, baits an opponent, or is otherwise inciting; physical threatening, pushing, or taunting an opponent, spectator, or game/league official; repeatedly arguing with an official; and fighting. Fighting includes physically striking, kicking, etc. or attempting to strike, kick, etc. an opponent, spectator, or game/league official. Teams (including coaches, players and spectators) that display conduct deemed inappropriate by the Executive Committee shall be subject to disciplinary action at the discretion of the Executive Committee. Disciplinary action may include, but is not limited to warnings, suspensions or a team’s removal from the league (depending on the severity of infractions, further disciplinary action may be taken against players in addition to the automatic suspension outlined in Section 5.6). Each incident will be reviewed individually and the resulting penalties, which will be at the discretion of the Executive Committee, will be appropriate to the seriousness of the incident. The Executive Committee reserves the sole right to decide procedures, conduct investigations, call for and conduct hearings, and carry out disciplinary action, with regard to any team, coach, player or other persons for the overall good of the South Nashville Church Basketball League and its sole discretion. Teams removed from the league will forfeit all league entry fees.

2018 Executive Committee is as follows:

League President – Keith Maddin – Westminster Pres

League Vice President – Ryan Clark – Cathedral of Incarnation

League Treasurer - Alan Horner – West End UMC

Sr. High Rep. - NEEDED

Jr. High Rep – Janet Stewart – Belmont UMC

Girls Rep - Chris Morrison – Calvary UMC

At Large – NEED 2 SPOTS

Commissioner of Officials – Bill Harris

League Admin: Kris Lott – Calvary UMC