

2026-27 St. Louis Park Girls' Traveling Basketball Association

Guidelines for Tryouts and Team Formation

Tryouts:

There is a standardized system to pick travel teams. Players should make best efforts to attend tryouts. Approved exceptions (illness/injury) will ONLY be granted if notification is made to the Board President PRIOR to the scheduled tryout date(s). For those who are unable to attend the scheduled tryout(s), exceptional situations will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis in the Board President's sole discretion, taking into consideration the timing, circumstances, evaluations by coaches from prior seasons, and the number of players trying out at certain grade levels. If a prospective player does not make the scheduled tryout(s), and an exception is not granted, the girl will not be placed on a team. Attending a tryout does not guarantee the participant will be placed on a team.

St. Louis Park Girls' Traveling Basketball Association (SLPGTBA) will conduct tryouts using more than one independent evaluator appointed by the Board for each grade level. The Board will make every effort to select Tryout Evaluators that have unbiased relationships with participants. Tryout Evaluators will not evaluate grade levels with their child playing. Participants will be assigned a tryout number which will be used to identify the player throughout the tryout and team formation processes. Tryout participants will be evaluated on a series of drills and scrimmages over the course of the tryout. **Parents and guardians of participants are not allowed in the gym where and when tryouts are taking place.**

Team Formation:

Player selection and team formation will be determined by a Team Formation Committee. This committee will be composed of voting and non-voting representatives. Voting representatives may include, but are not limited to Tryout Evaluators, Coaches and or other suitable individuals as determined by the Board. **Voting members will not have children participating in the grade level they are evaluating or placing.** Two non-voting members will be present to answer questions and oversee the process, but will not have say in the player selection for team formation. The two non-voting members will be the SLPGBTA Board President and Vice President, except when the SLPGBTA Board President and/or Vice President have a child participating in the grade level under review. If the President or Vice President is unavailable or unable to serve as the non-voting member(s), a replacement Board member will be appointed by the Board to serve as the non-voting member(s).

The Team Formation Committee will use the Tryout Evaluator scores, combined with player position considerations, and coaching feedback from prior years (if applicable) to create teams. Tryout Evaluator scores will account for 70% of the total player evaluation, with prior coaching feedback accounting for the remaining 30%. If a tryout participant is trying out for the first time, the Team Formation Committee will only consider the Tryout Evaluator scores for that player. The tryout number assigned to tryout participants will be used to by the Team Formation Committee to identify players. The Team Formation Committee will use these guidelines to form teams for each specific grade level based on the number of participants that have tried out at each grade level. The Team Formation Committee will also provide a competition level recommendation of A, A/B, B, B/C or C, for each team. In circumstances that do not fit within SLPGBTA guidelines, such as combining selected players from multiple grade levels to form

multiple teams, the Team Formation Committee will consult the Board for direction. Final decisions regarding teams formed outside of the SLPGTBA guidelines will be made by a Board vote.

If it is found that there are tryout participants with near-equal tryout scores vying for limited remaining team positions, team Coaches may be consulted for more player information. Coaches may also be consulted on the competition level at which their team is to play (e.g. A, A/B, B, B/C or C). This input may be provided after Coaches have had the opportunity to have several team practices.

Traveling basketball is a competitive activity. While the SLPGTBA makes every effort to place as many girls as possible on a team, there ultimately may be tryout participants that do not get selected for a team. **All parents, guardians, and tryout participants should be informed and prepared to deal with the final results of team.**

Team rosters will be emailed no later than 7 days after completion of the tryouts. **Team placement and cuts (if any) are final and not subject to further review.**

Guidelines for 3rd, 4th and 5th Grade Teams

- Unless otherwise determined by the SLPGTBA Board, teams will have no fewer than 8 players and no more than 11. However, the ideal number of players on a team is 10, and teams will be formed with the goal of 10-person teams.
- If there are not enough 3rd grade girls to field a team, every effort will be made to place 3rd graders on a 4th grade team, but priority will be given to 4th graders.

Guidelines for 6th through 8th Grade Teams

- Unless otherwise determined by the SLPGBA Board, teams will have no fewer than 8 players and no more than 10.
- To have enough players to form a team, there must be at least 8 players that meet the minimal proficiency needed to play traveling basketball. Minimal proficiency is determined by the Tryout Evaluator scores.

Guidelines for players wishing to play-up from their current grade level

- The player must meet or exceed the tryout scores of the fourth highest scoring participant at the requested grade level. This means that the player will be in the top three players on the team, and an unquestionable game-time starter.
- **Notwithstanding the foregoing, playing-up will not be allowed if the player(s) is needed at their current grade level to meet the 8 players per team/minimum required by these guidelines.**
- **Further, playing-up will not be allowed if it results in the exclusion of a competently evaluated player in the requested grade level, as determined by the Team Formation Committee. For example, if a 6th grader requests to play on a 7th grade team, but doing so would require a current 7th grader to be cut or placed on a lower team due to team size limitations (e.g. 10 or 11 player maximums), playing-up will not be permitted, even if the 6th grader had a tryout score that met or exceeded the minimum score required by these guidelines.**

I, _____ have read 2025-26 St. Louis Park Girls' Traveling Basketball Association Guidelines for Tryouts and Team Formation and understand the guidelines as stated above.

Signature: _____

Date: _____