



St Louis Park Girls Basketball Association (SLPGBA)

Playing Time Guidelines

The head coach shall have the freedom to run her/his team while keeping within the program guidelines. Coaches are expected to develop all the players on the team. Coaches shall work to give each player fair playing time over the course of the year to develop each player's full potential and in accordance with the Association's playing time guidelines:

3rd - 5th grades: Coaches shall work to give all players equal playing time, on average, understanding that coaches will be given reasonable discretion to make game-specific playing decisions in the best interest of the team.

6th through 8th grade: minimum of 35%

Note: A player's playing time can be affected by unauthorized absences from practices and/or games, injuries, illness, attitude, effort and unwillingness to do as the coach has instructed (And if there is a persistent problem, please attempt to communicate the situation to both player and parents and keep your grade level's "board representative" appraised).

NOTE TO PARENTS: Since the beginning of traveling sports, this has been one of the biggest points of contention. All parents must recognize that strict adherence to the minimum playing time guidelines during a game or over the course of a season cannot be guaranteed due to player absences, the player's physical condition, player substitution patterns, player foul situation, player injuries and other factors that the team, players and coaches encounter.

The guidelines shown above are not intended to have parents using stopwatches to verify playing time. SLPGBA, however, has emphasized to the coaches the importance of our playing time guidelines, how these guidelines support our programs mission and goals and our expectation that coaches adhere to the playing time guidelines to the best of their ability.