

2025-26 St. Louis Park Girls' Traveling Basketball Association

Guidelines for Tryouts and Team Formation

Tryouts:

There is a standardized system to pick traveling 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 either tryout, exceptional situations will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis given the timing, circumstances, evaluations by coaches from prior seasons, and number of players trying out at certain grade levels.

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 an arbitrary number which will be used to identify them 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 SLPGTBA Board President and Vice President. If the President or Vice President is unavailable, a replacement Board member will be appointed by the Board.

The Team Formation Committee will use the Tryout Evaluator scores, combined with position considerations to create teams. The arbitrary number assigned to tryout participants will be used to identify players for selection. The Team Formation Committee will use the SLPGTBA guidelines to form teams at specific grade levels 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, A, B or C, for each team. In circumstances that do not fit exactly within SLPGTBA 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 to equal tryout scores vying for limited remaining team positions, team Coaches may be consulted for more player information. Coaches will also have final input on the competition level at which their team is to play, A,B 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 include as many girls as possible in team formation, there ultimately may be tryout participants that do not get selected

during team formation. All parents, guardians, and tryout participants should be informed and prepared to deal with the final results of team.

Formation. Team rosters will be emailed no later than 7 days after completion of the tryouts.

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 executive committee, 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.
- 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.
- **Playing-up will not be allowed if the player(s) are needed to meet the minimum 8 players per team formation size restrictions at their current grade level** (administrative add 9/3/25).
- **Playing-up will not be allowed if it results in the exclusion of a competently evaluated player, as determined by the Team Formation Committee, due the maximum allowable team size of 11 players** (administrative add 9/3/25).