



Hello,

This memo is meant to provide important and useful information regarding the 2019 State Basketball Tournament. I apologize in advance for the length of the document, but I wanted to make sure that all necessary information was included here. **Please be sure to read this ENTIRE document!** Also, make sure to pass this information along to all of your coaches so that they have the most accurate information for the tournament.

Upcoming Deadlines

The following forms are due to the State Office by the end of business on the date listed:

- Monday, January 7, 2019
 - **All** Final Roster Forms
- Monday, February 11, 2019
 - **Women's** Game Records Forms
 - **Women's** Player Evaluation Summary Forms (5-on-5 teams only)
- Monday, February 18, 2019
 - **Men's & Youth** Game Records Forms
 - **Men's & Youth** Player Evaluation Summary Forms (5-on-5 teams only)
 - **All** Individual Skills Entry Forms

Tournament Sites & Dates

Women's: DePauw University
March 9 & 10 702 S. College Ave.
Greencastle, IN 46135

Sectionals: 7 different locations
March 16 (see 2019 Basketball Directory for location assignment)

Youth: University of Indianapolis
March 23 1400 E. Hanna Ave.
Indianapolis, IN 46227

Men's: Ben Davis High School
March 23 & 24 1200 N. Girls School Rd.
Indianapolis, IN 46214

Rules Reminders

Basketball rules can be found on Pages 135-144 of the 2018-2019 Program Information Guide. It is YOUR responsibility to read these rules and make sure you understand them. Please reach directly out to Patrick Kozlowski if you have questions or need clarification. There are no new rules changes this year.

Basketball Directory

The 2019 Basketball Directory is attached separately with this email and will be posted on our website. Every team entered is listed by its Sectional assignment, then by its team classification (Traditional/Unified, age, and gender). Make sure you check your team's Sectional assignment! Programs may be sent to 2 or more Sectional sites. Use this report to double check your team's information! If information is incorrect, call the State Office



Basketball Directory (continued)

immediately. Use this directory when scheduling regular season games prior to Sectional competition. Information regarding basketball can be found on Pages 135-144 of the 2018-2019 Program Information Guide.

Change of Classification (prior to *Game Records Form* deadline)

If your team requires a change in classification (i.e. changing from Traditional to Unified, or Master to Senior), contact the State Office immediately for permission. You must get permission to change your team's classification! This could change your Sectional assignment, or possibly State assignment. If a team receives permission to change its classification, the team is still required to meet the games requirement within the new classification or level prior to Sectionals or State (whichever comes first). Without State Office permission, team changes will not be acknowledged. Permission for changes can only be granted by Scott Mingle or Patrick Kozlowski.

Team Levels

Team levels are assigned by the Basketball Sport Management Team. Level assignments are based on results from past competition, attributes of the team, and whether or not they can play by the rules. At any time during the regular season or divisioning process, a team's Level placement is subject to change by the Basketball Sport Management Team. Teams entered in Level 1 may be moved to Level 2, and vice versa. Teams entered in Level 3 may be moved to Level 4, and vice versa. Teams entered in level 3 to level 2, and vice versa. After the final rosters, teams may be moved up a level, but will NOT be moved down. Also, during the divisioning meeting, it is possible for some teams to be moved to another sectional due to lack of competition in their level within their sectional.

Games Requirement

- There will NOT be an evaluation tournament for teams assigned to the Valparaiso Sectional. Teams assigned to the Valparaiso Sectional will be required to schedule their own games to meet the games requirement.
- Prior to Sectional competition, each team must meet the games requirement during the regular season against teams that are registered with the State Office for the 2018-2019 season.
- All teams must compete against...
 - Opponents in the same classification (Traditional or Unified). If you are the only team within your classification at Sectional, you are still required to meet the games requirement against similar opponents.
 - Opponents in the same age group (Junior, Senior, or Master).
 - Opponents in the same gender group (Male/Female - coed teams play in Men's competition).
 - Opponents in the same level. Exception: teams in Level 1 and Level 2 may play against each other, and teams in Level 3 and Level 4 may play against each other.
- Women's and Youth teams must play at least 2 games against opponents who meet the above requirements.
- Men's teams must play 3 games against opponents who meet the above requirements.
 - Men's teams must play 1 game against an opponent within their Sectional
 - Men's teams must play 1 game against an opponent outside of their Sectional
 - Men's teams must play 1 game against an opponent outside of their County Program



Games Requirement (continued)

- Multiple games may be played against the same opponent, but this will only count as 1 game towards the games requirement.
- As a reminder, you must have the opposing coach's signature and game notes on your *Game Records Form*!
- Use the notes section of the *Game Records Form* to provide as much information on the game as possible. This will help the divisioning committees in determining more equal matchups.
- Please record all games played on the *Game Records Form*, even if you've already met the games requirement.

3-on-3 Competition

Please refer to Pages 139-140, 192, 196-197, and 200 in the Program Information Guide for additional information and forms. In addition to the required 2 games, each member of a 3-on-3 basketball team must go through a skills assessment. This assessment will aid the Basketball Sport Management Team when divisioning for Sectionals and/or State. Men's 3-on-3 teams must compete and win at Sectionals to advance to State. Women's or Youth 3-on-3 teams advance directly to State.

Individual Player Evaluations

Each 5-on-5 team is required to turn in a *Player Evaluations Summary Form* (Page 198 of the PIG). Individual player evaluations should not be completed at the beginning of the season. They should be done closer to February so they are representative of the athletes'/partners' most recent ability level. I've found a useful video that goes through each skill and point value which will be uploaded to our website. One thing to keep in mind is that some of the skills in the video have a different name than what appears on our evaluation form, but the principles are the same. You'll also notice that there are only 3 point levels for each skill in the video (level 1, 2, and 3). Don't let this throw you off.

The levels in the video loosely correspond to our point system as follows...

- Level 1 in video = 6-8 point range in our evaluations
- Level 2 in video = 4-6 point range in our evaluations
- Level 3 in video = 2-4 point range in our evaluations

Keep in mind that this video is meant to help and guide you in selecting the best point value, but it is still your responsibility to conduct a player evaluation and select the most representative point value based on your assessment.

Invitational Basketball Tournaments

Posted on our website in the Resource Library are information and registration forms for basketball tournaments that are available to all County Programs. Games played during these tournaments will count towards your games requirement if they meet the criteria listed above. We highly encourage all County Programs to participate in one of these tournaments to provide more opportunities for competition for our athletes, as well as providing more competition data to use during divisioning. Please contact the listed tournament director for more information on any of the tournaments. Teams are accepted on a first come, first serve basis, and spots will fill up quickly.



Mercy Rule

If a team moves ahead of its opponent by 20 points or more any time after the end of two (2) quarters, the clock will continue to run until the end of the game, other than time-outs. On all free throws, clock will stop until the first shot.

Individual Skills Competition

Please refer to Pages 141-142, 144, 192, 197, and 201 of the PIG for more information. Athletes must only compete at Sectionals in order to advance to State; they do NOT need to win in order to advance. Athletes absent from Sectional competition will be ineligible for State. Please be sure to confirm your State site preference at Sectionals.

Application for Participation

New athletes or unified partners must complete the *Application for Participation*. Applications must be into the State Office prior to their first practice. Any program discovered to be allowing participation without a valid *Application for Participation* is subject to probation or suspension by Special Olympics Indiana.

Medical Forms

Each athlete's completed *Medical Form* must be at each of his/her practices, games, and special events during the season. Any program discovered to be allowing participation without a valid *Medical Form* is subject to probation or suspension by Special Olympics Indiana.

Questions or Concerns

Please contact Patrick Kozlowski at the State Office with any questions or concerns. Patrick can be reached via email (pkozlowski@soindiana.org) or phone (317-328-2011 or 800-742-0612 ext. 233).