



*The following are the T★CAL policies and guidelines for member school participation in the **BASKETBALL** platform. General athletic purposes and codes as stated in the football plan section A, also apply to Basketball. All Basketball contest rules shall be governed by the [National Federation of State High Schools Rules Association, NFHS](#) any exceptions to those rules shall be listed herein.*

TABLE OF CONTENTS

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Page</u>
Class, Region, & District Alignment	2
Post Season & Championship Structure	4
Player Eligibility	7
Transfer Rule & Procedure	9
Basketball Qualifications	12
Basketball Seasons	13
Sporting Behavior	13
Awards for Basketball Participation	15

A. Class, Region & District Alignment

1. **Enrollment Figures.** Each September and February, the T★CAL office shall obtain enrollment data from participant T★CAL member schools and home school programs (grades 9-12). The enrollment figures shall be used to determine the appropriate classifications.
 - a. **Average combined boys and girls enrollment figures** shall be used in determining the classifications or divisions as appropriate for the sports of Cross Country, Volleyball, Basketball, Track & Field, Soccer, Baseball & Softball. Golf & Tennis are not currently aligned according to enrollment (see Golf and Tennis plans specifically).
 - b. **Homeschool Student Participants**
 - i. Students who are primarily educated 'at home' are allowed to participate on any athletic team of any member school.
 - ii. Homeschool students who participate with any member school must be counted in the schools enrollment numbers.
 - iii. Homeschool students who participate with any member school must be accountable academically to the school and included on eligibility forms with grades accessible to audit.
 - c. **Home school enrollment** is accepted on a case-by-case basis by the Basketball Commissioner, then reviewed and approved by the District Alignment & Rules Committee (D.A.R.C) and T★CAL Executive Board. Enrollment numbers shall include high school age siblings of the player as well as the total number of high school boys and girls participating in other sports teams and programs (e.g. football, baseball, etc.) and/or in co-ops. T★CAL teams receiving students from the same co-op will be reviewed and assessed at the regional level or committee. Beginning in January 2013 ALL member schools, with multiple sports programs, are required to have ALL of their sports programs participating in T★CAL. This includes current members and incoming members [Amended 6/2012].
 - d. **Multiple Disabilities** Students who are officially designated as having multiple disabilities may be excluded from the enrollment figures submitted for reclassification purposes. The Basketball Committee must approve and submit this request to the Executive Board.
 - e. **Hardship Recourse.** In the event a school's enrollment numbers change significantly after January but prior to August, the school may petition the T★CAL Basketball Commissioner and DARC for hard ship recourse.
 - i. If enrollment decreases – Schools may request to be moved from their existing classification or division to a lower one and, if granted, their Post Season eligibility will be considered based on the new schedule played.
 - ii. If enrollment increases – Schools that have experienced a

T★CAL Basketball Athletic Plan (Policies & Guidelines)

significant increase in enrollment MUST declare this to the T★CAL Basketball Commissioner and DARC so that appropriate adjustments can be considered. A significant increase is defined as one where the resulting Average Boys and Girls enrollment is at or greater than the number defined for separating the classifications or divisions.

2. **Classifications or Divisions.** In general, the entire basketball school membership for T★CAL is divided into classes or divisions by enrollment. **These divisions are Class A, Class 2A, Class 3A or Division 1, 2, 3 etc.** The primary determining factor for assigning a class for each school or home school organization shall be the Average Boys and Girls total enrollment figures for grades 9-12.
 - a. T★CAL reserves the right to consider other factors in determining the appropriate class or division assignment for each school or home school organization. Non-enrollment factors that may be considered, as appropriate, are “preparatory” status of a private school, geographical location & population coverage of a home school organization.
 - b. Ultimately, T★CAL’s desire is to have approximately the same number of schools among the classes or divisions, with reasonable geographic representation. This may be accomplished over the next few years.
 - c. Any school may petition to play up or down a class, but petition must be received by **February 1st** of each year.
 - d. Any school may request to be moved one class level due to extreme travel concerns provided notification is submitted to the league office simultaneously with enrollment figures.
 - e. New alignments are released **March 1st** of each year.

3. **Regions.**

- a. There will be **four (4)** Regions in each class or division, with each region representing a geographical area within the state of Texas.
- b. Within each class, the various regions represent somewhat the same area so that teams moving up or down a class will “comfortably” adjust to their new class.

4. **Districts**

- a. Districts will be formed for the purposes of fellowship, community outreach, and strengthening relationships through healthy competition between member schools.
- b. District schools shall be determined, based on the bi-annual alignments, and the number of “NEW” schools entering on a year-by-year basis.
- c. Districts shall consist of a minimum of 1 schools.

T★CAL Basketball Athletic Plan (Policies & Guidelines)

- d. Each Region will have at least one District and no more than 8.
- e. Each District shall have a district representative. This person shall be in charge of all voting issues, organizing all district meetings, and assisting the Executive Board with all regional playoff decisions. This person will be determined by T★CAL Athletic Director, with the help of the Basketball Committee. This person shall serve until replaced, using the same criteria as above.

B. Post Season & Championship Structure

1. *Playoffs-District Level*

- a. District standings shall be determined by head-to-head competition, including 1 home game and 1 away game between each District team.
- b. If a district school is not able to play all other district schools, for whatever reason, the T★CAL Athletic Director and the Basketball Committee may decide an alternative qualifying solution.
- c. District Tournaments are inherently single elimination and determine seeding for Regional Tournaments in each classification. In some cases, District Tournaments may not be required and the teams may proceed directly to Regional Tournament to determine two top qualifiers.
- d. Each District representative will meet with other District coaches during the fall to determine how each District will organize Playoffs. The district game locations and prices will be decided by this group, with the approval of T★CAL. This plan may vary from Region to Region because of all the differences within T★CAL.
- e. District games shall have at least 2 certified officials (See Referees page at t-cal.org for certification guidelines and approved associations).
- f. T★CAL shall select an official game ball for league use. Coaches and teams shall be required to use this ball for all district games and above.
- g. Final Rosters for all teams eligible for the play-offs will consist of a maximum of 15 players and must be posted on the statistical database (i.e. MaxPreps.com), no later than the annually selected January deadline.
- h. All players should be declared eligible prior to the start of the basketball season in October, and the first of each succeeding month (see **C. Player Eligibility**). Coaches are required to complete eligibility reports, signed by the appropriate school representative and faxed to the District Rep. If a team is not involved in District play, the coach must still declare his eligible players on each required date. Failure to do so could result in players not being able to play in the State Championships and teams forfeiting their games.

2. *Playoffs-Regional Level*

- a. Regional Tournaments follow the District Tournaments and determine top two qualifiers for the State Tournament in each Classification.

T★CAL Basketball Athletic Plan (Policies & Guidelines)

- b.** Brackets for the Regional and State Tournaments will be released by T★CAL Director of Athletics on the first Monday of October prior to the start of the season.
- c.** In most cases Regional games will be held on Regional Friday and Regional Saturday.
- d.** Sites for the Regional playoffs in Class A, 2A and 3A will be decided ahead of time by the Basketball Committee, approved by the Executive Board and released to the general membership at the T□CAL State Summer Coaches Conference. All sites should be neutral if at all possible. The committee shall also consider the most cost effective venues.
- e.** In the case of Regional playoff games, the location shall be approximately midway between both schools to afford the lowest possible travel expenses.
- f.** Regional games shall have at least 2 certified officials (See Referees page at t-cal.org for certification guidelines and approved associations).
- g.** Each of the Four Regions in each Classification will try to send two qualifiers to the State Tournament. However, when this is not possible, the Basketball Committee, in conjunction with the T★CAL Athletic Director will select another worthy participant.

3. *Playoffs-State Championship Level*

- a.** The State Tournament is a three day, inherently single elimination competition in each of the three classifications and the eventual winners are State Champions.
- b.** Playoffs start on Thursday for all three eight-team classifications.
- c.** The teams on the top of the bracket are designated as the “Home” team and would wear a light-colored uniform. The “Visitor” will wear a dark-colored uniform.
- d.** When there are only two teams in a Region, they will play on Regional Saturday to determine the seeding for the State Championship.
- e.** In most cases, the Champion and Runner-up in each Region shall advance to the State Tournament in its respective class. If there is only one team in a Region, the T★CAL Athletic Director and Basketball Committee will decide how to fill the additional slot.
- f.** The site for the State Championship will be decided in advance by committee and released to the general membership at the State Summer Coaches Conference.

4. *State Championship Administration*

- a.** The Athletic Directors of the participating schools shall be notified of their school’s invitation and placement in the State Tournament as soon as possible, no later than Monday of Championship week. The tournament coordinator will release all host hotel information

T★CAL Basketball Athletic Plan (Policies & Guidelines)

concerning accommodations/locations, but schools will be responsible for making their own arrangements.

- b.** All games will have a minimum of 3 certified officials through the UIL, TASO, or independent association pre-approved by T★CAL (See Referees page at t-cal.org for certification guidelines and approved associations).
- c.** All financial decisions will be determined by T★CAL Director of Athletics and Executive Financial Officer with the assistance, if necessary, by the D.A.R.C.
- d.** If a team has qualified for any level of state playoffs, but reasonable and extenuating circumstances arise, preventing said school from competing, the school Administrator/Athletic Director must contact the T★CAL Director of Athletics immediately and follow up the same day with an electronic explanation.

5. State Championship Week

- a.** The eight competing teams in each Class shall be determined during Regional Weekend. These teams will all be certified as State Championship contestants by the Basketball Committee immediately after their Regional games. They may immediately start making arrangements to go to the State Championship location.

6. Play-off Seeding The following play-off plan will be used for basketball in each Class, 1A, 2A, and 3A.

- a.** In each of the three Classifications, the winners from the Regional Tournaments will be given the automatic #1 seeds.
- b.** The Regional Tournament runners-up will be granted #2 seed.
- c.** If any region has only one team, there is no reason to play a Regional Tournament and that team will automatically be recognized as the winner from that Region.
- d.** It may occur that some Regions may send more than 2 teams because of fewer teams in other regions (see 10.c. above).
- e.** The final eight teams in each classification will be paired according to a three-year rotating cycle.
- f.** The Rotating Cycle is as follows: In the first year (2012), Region 1 will be paired with Region 4, Region 2 with Region 3. In the second year (2013), Region 1 with Region 2, Region 3 with Region 4. In the third year (2014), Region 1 with Region 3, Region 2 with Region 4. The same Rotating Cycle will occur in all Classes.
- g.** These teams will all play an inherently single elimination tournament with the winners moving on until a Champion is determined.

C. Player Eligibility

1. Player Eligibility shall be required in the Following Areas.

- a. **Age Requirement**
- b. **Academic Eligibility**
- c. **Transfer Eligibility**
- d. **Foreign Student Eligibility**
- e. **Completion of required forms**
- f. **3A / 4A cross participation**

2. Age Requirements:

- a. *Age Limit.* A student may not be 19 years of age on or before Sept 1 of each calendar year.
- b. *Birth certificate.* A birth certificate attested by the appropriate official is the best evidence of the date of birth. This certificate should be kept by the Athletic Director/Chief Executive Officer and be available upon request. If this evidence is not available, other credible evidence of the date of birth may be considered.
- c. *Challenge of Eligibility.* If a student's eligibility to compete in a T□CAL contest is questioned, the student has the burden in any proceeding to establish that he or she is eligible.
- d. *Consecutive Years.* A student may participate in T□CAL contests during a normal program of high school courses. This participation typically occurs over a period of four consecutive calendar years after the student first enrolls in the ninth grade. In exceptional cases, an eighth grader may participate with a high school team as a member of the Varsity roster, thereby eventually participate a total of 5 years (assuming all other eligibility requirements are met). Every consideration should be given by the school/program to maintain the safety of the eighth grade student on the field of a Varsity contact sport.

3. Academic Eligibility. It shall be the responsibility of each school to keep abreast of the Academic standing of each participant in T★CAL basketball events. This responsibility rests with the Athletic Director of each school. His/her signature must be on each Eligibility report. The Academic Policy of the respective school takes precedence in all eligibility issues. Each school is required to honorably follow their own rules and report accurate information in every report.

- a. *Monthly Report.* Each school must submit to the T★CAL office a current academic standing report that identifies the eligible players at that report date. This report must be submitted by the 1st of each month, beginning in October or the first business day if the 1st falls on a weekend. Each school

T★CAL Basketball Athletic Plan (Policies & Guidelines)

must utilize their own eligibility policy and the Athletic Director must confirm by his/her signature.

- b. *Concerns Regarding Eligibility.* If there is any question about the eligibility of a particular player, all requests for confirmation of eligibility must be made to the T★CAL Athletic Director, who in turn will contact the Basketball Committee. An investigation will follow and each school involved is required to submit the required documentation as soon as possible. The player shall remain eligible until a determination is made.

4. Transfer Eligibility – see Section D – Transfer Rule and Procedure

5. Foreign Student Eligibility Foreign Students who are enrolled and attend a boarding school are eligible provided they comply with these two requirements:

- a. The Boarding School they are attending has been identified by T★CAL as being an acceptable boarding school. Boarding Schools must apply to the T★CAL Executive Board to be identified as such one calendar year in advance of requesting Foreign Student eligibility.
- b. The Foreign Students are then under the same guidelines as Citizen Students. They are eligible immediately, provided they comply with the same rules and regulations for Eligibility (See C: 1-4.) as normal students. This must all be validated on the proper forms by the Athletic Director and Chief Executive Officer. If they are students in good standing, they are eligible.
- c. If Foreign Students transfer into the a non-boarding schools they will remain ineligible for one calendar from the date of their enrollment.

6. Completion of Required Forms

- a. *Medical-* Each student must complete a *MEDICAL HISTORY* and *PHYSICAL EXAMINATION* form and submit to Athletic Director at the school before being allowed to compete. This form is necessary for all new students, but is only required in alternate years from then on. An acceptable standardized form is available on the T★CAL website. This form is to be kept on file and does not need to be sent to the T★CAL office unless requested.
- b. *Parent or Guardian Permit-* An Annual Participation Permit signed by the student's parent or guardian is required and kept on file in the school office. Since it provides parent's permission for travel, etc., the coach may keep a copy with him/her. **THE FORM IS NOT TO BE SENT TO THE T★CAL OFFICE UNLESS REQUESTED.**
- c. *Rules Acknowledgment - Student.* An annual T★CAL Rules Acknowledgment Form signed by the student and the student's parent or guardian is required and kept on file. **THE FORM IS NOT TO BE SENT TO THE T★CAL OFFICE UNLESS REQUESTED.**
- d. *Rules Acknowledgment - Coaches.* An annual T★CAL Rules Acknowledgment Form signed by each team's coach is required and kept

T★CAL Basketball Athletic Plan (Policies & Guidelines)

on file in the school office. THE FORM IS NOT TO BE SENT TO THE T★CAL OFFICE UNLESS REQUESTED.

- e. *Each member institution* – Members of T★CAL may have their own required forms, such as Permission to Treat, Travel Authorization, etc. and each school should monitor the completion of these forms.

7. **3A / 4A Cross participation**

- a. Schools which have Basketball programs in the 4A (or National) division of T★CAL may not use players from that roster on their 3A team at any time. Rosters will be separate and final.
- b. *Shared Players* - If a player is moved from the 3A team to the 4A team his eligibility to play on the 3A team will be lost for the remainder of that school year. He may apply to participate on the 3A team for the next season, but may not be eligible to play on the 4A team at any time.

D. Transfer Rule and Procedure

I. **Transfer Eligibility**

a. *Transfer Rule Purpose:*

- i. The T★CAL **Transfer Rule** has been developed to protect, not inhibit students who wish to participate in interscholastic competition.
- ii. The T★CAL **Transfer Rule** is preventative and is devised to eliminate the incentive to transfer schools once a student (family) has initially enrolled in and attended a school of their choice.
- iii. The T★CAL **Transfer Rule** is designed to protect students who have previously participated in interscholastic competition at any school from being replaced by students who transfer for athletic or other purposes, including the affects of student, or family, shopping for schools or being recruited for athletic purposes.
- iv. The T★CAL **Transfer Rule** encourages fair play, discourages the abuses of over-enthusiastic promotion of school programs, and protects the integrity of interscholastic athletic programs for both member schools and the T★CAL organization.

- b. *Previous Participation at a Different School.* If a student participated in a sport in either sub-varsity (JV) or varsity in the 9th, 10th, 11th, or 12th grade during the current school year, or 9th, 10th or 11th grade during the previous school year **at another school**, that student must have a Previous Athletic Participation (Transfer Form) completed and approved by the Basketball Committee before the student can compete at the varsity level at the new school.

- c. *Home school students.* Home school students, by nature, have more options to affiliate with multiple organizations in respect to their school academic objectives. Home school students are strongly encouraged to NOT transfer from one organization to another for the purpose of

T★CAL Basketball Athletic Plan (Policies & Guidelines)

gaining an athletic advantage in any given sport. An affiliation with another organization involving athletics may be viewed as a “transfer” for that student and may be treated as such. For example, the student played baseball at school/organization A and now desires to play football at school/organization B. The student would need to submit a transfer request for school/organization B from school/organization A.

- d. *Transfer Procedures* Parent and student shall complete and sign Transfer Eligibility & Previous Participation Statement (available on T★CAL website).
- i. Parent returns the completed form to the T★CAL Athletic Director, who will forward copies to the Basketball Committee. Any questions will be researched during this period.
 - ii. The Basketball Committee will discuss the individual student and forward its determination to the Basketball Commissioner.
 - iii. Once the Basketball Commissioner signs the form, a copy is sent to all of the district member schools and to the T★CAL office and the player is eligible.
 - iv. If any school raises an objection within 7 calendar days from the date they are notified, then a phone conference meeting must be held as soon as possible with the Basketball Committee in order to determine the student’s eligibility. The student shall not be eligible until the meeting is held and eligibility affirmed. A simple majority vote shall be conducted by the Basketball Committee with the T★CAL Athletic Director breaking all ties.
 - v. If the Basketball Commissioner is involved in the transfer, a third person shall be appointed to review the forms and complete the procedure.
- e. *No Prior Competition* If the new student did not compete either during the current or the previous school year, a transfer form is not required.
- f. *Third Tuesday in January* If the new student transferred from any school (public or private) or Home school Organization, and is enrolled and in attendance on or before **the third Tuesday in January**, he/she is eligible to compete in varsity contests upon satisfactory completion of the transfer form approval by the Basketball Commissioner.
- g. *Practice Only Prior to Acceptance* - New students may ONLY practice with the Varsity or Sub-Varsity and play on the Sub-Varsity while the transfer

T★CAL Basketball Athletic Plan (Policies & Guidelines)

form is being processed. **If a student transfers during the year/semester, and is currently ineligible at his/her previous school, he/she must wait a minimum of 15 calendar days before being reviewed for eligibility and cleared to play athletics. In all other transfer situations there is a minimum wait period of 7 calendar days from the date he/she enrolls at new school and attends class.**

For example, student A enrolls and attends class in a new T★CAL school on December 4th.

- If he is ineligible, he must wait 15 calendar days. Thus student would not be eligible for Varsity play any earlier than December 19th.
 - If he was eligible, he must wait 7 calendar days. Thus the student would not be eligible sooner than December 11th.
 - **During both these periods, he/she should have submitted the Transfer Eligibility & Previous Participation Statement for approval. The student must receive approval by the Basketball Commissioner BEFORE he/she can compete in a Varsity contest.**
- h. *After Deadline* - Students who are not enrolled and in attendance at the member school prior to the third Tuesday in January deadline above MAY NOT participate in Varsity athletics until the next T★CAL season. The student may practice on the Varsity or practice and participate on the Sub-Varsity level during this time.
- i. *New students* - New students must be included on any eligibility forms submitted after they are deemed eligible. If the student enters the school between reporting dates, he/she are deemed to be eligible until the next reporting period. The new student will then have to maintain eligibility similar to any other student.
- j. *Late Transfer Considerations* - In the event of a "late transfer" (i.e. after the third Tuesday in January), a school/organization may petition the T★CAL Basketball Committee in order to request an exception to this rule. This request shall be completed in writing and explain the circumstances that would create such a need. The Basketball Committee will review the request and make a final determination. There would have to be highly unusual circumstances for this to be granted.
- k. *New Coach* - When a coach is hired at a new school, a student who transfers to that school shall not be eligible for Varsity competition in a sport for a period of one year if any of the three are true:
- i. Coach in that sport coached or trained the student at the previous school.
 - ii. Coach in that sport coached or trained the student on an AAU, Select, Club or similar team during the previous 12 months.
 - iii. Coach in that sport at the new school was directly associated with the AAU, Select, Club or similar team as owner, manager, supervisor or similar position during the previous twelve months.
 - iv. EXCEPTION: Adopted or birth children are eligible if their parent who is the coach changes schools.

T★CAL Basketball Athletic Plan (Policies & Guidelines)

- v. The student/athlete may remain at the previous school for one year and retain his/her eligibility while there, and after one year transfer to follow the coach and be eligible according to the transfer rule or;
- vi. Transfer to the new school when the coach changes and be ineligible for varsity athletics for one year in the sports coached by that coach. The student may participate on the JV team.
- vii. If the previous school of the student and coach has closed, the above rule does not apply. The student is immediately eligible, but must complete the transfer process.

E. Basketball Qualifications

1. **Playing Rules** – The Current National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) Basketball Rules shall govern all T★CAL basketball.
2. **Key Dates**– Starting date for practice, scrimmages, first playing date, and district certification are shown as follows:
 - a. Practice & Scrimmages – 1st Monday in October.
 - b. First game – First week of November.
 - c. Final Rosters Due (after this date additions must be approved by the DARC) – 1st Friday in January
 - d. First Day of Regional(s) – The 3rd Thursday (or Friday) in February.
 - e. First Day of State Championships – 4th Thursday in February
 - f. Last Date to Add Transfers – 3rd Tuesday in January.
 - g. Last Date to Petition for Alignment Change – February 1st.
 - h. Rosters frozen – Last Monday in January.
 - i. All-Star Weekend –Last weekend in March
3. **Number of Games**- Ultimately, the school’s administration is responsible for setting limits on number of games allowed.
4. **Number of Players on Roster** – A team may carry and practice as many players as they desire, but must designate 15 players for each game. These will be declared each game by their inclusion in the Scorer’s Book.
5. **Frozen Roster** - By the Monday before District Weekend, however, a team must submit their Playoff Roster and confirm the Eligibility of all included players. This confirmation must be made by the Athletic Director/Chief Executive of School.
6. **Games Per Day**. No high school team or individual shall participate in more than two interschool basketball games per day including tournament games.
7. **Sunday Games** -No game is to be scheduled on Sunday.
8. **Varsity and JV/MS Games** - Those students who play on both the JV and Varsity may play in no more than 6 quarters a day or 12 quarters a week. (Varsity and JV, MS games combined).
9. **A Varsity Starter** shall not play on a junior varsity team unless the opposing coach gives his permission, and there are not enough junior varsity players to begin the contest. Under no circumstances should a varsity starter be allowed to

T★CAL Basketball Athletic Plan (Policies & Guidelines)

play when there are junior varsity player(s) on the bench. Seniors shall only play on Varsity teams.

- 10. Practice Game** - Teams in the play offs are allowed one practice game between each round of the play offs. These games do not count toward the total games allowed.

F. Basketball Seasons

- 1. Start of School until Start of Practice** – Coach can work with team during declared Activity Period, which should not be longer than one period per school day.
- 2. Regular Season** – Regular season includes the following:
 - Practice can officially start on the 1st Monday in October. Coach can be with team during Activity Period and at any other designated practice period.
 - First competition on November 1st or next business day, if 1st falls on Sunday.
 - There shall be no game or practice competition on Thanksgiving Day.
 - There shall be no game or practice competition for five days around and including Christmas Day. Each school decides their five day window.
- 3. After the T★CAL State Championship** - After the T★CAL State Championship or last scheduled game, any additional play must be approved by the Basketball committee.
- 4. From Last Approved Game until End of School** – Only approved play is during Activity Period during the school day. All after-school play is forbidden and coaches cannot be with team in any tournaments
- 5. Summer through Start of School** – Coaches can work with team at Basketball Camp, open practices, and coach team in Summer Tournaments. This summer participation has to be termed “optional.”

G. Sporting Behavior

- 1. Bench Decorum**- Coaches and all bench personnel should model acceptable behavior for their players by remaining in control at all times. While it is understood that coaches need to stand and instruct their team from time to time, it is encouraged that the coaches will allow their players the opportunity to compete without questioning the referee’s decisions or saying anything negative to the other team. At no time should the coach leave his bench the area without being summoned by game management personnel.
- 2. Coaching Box** – By T□CAL State adoption, the coaching box shall be the area from the seat closest to the scorers' table through the last seat at the end on the bench area. All bench personnel need to do their instruction from within this area.
- 3. Pep Group & PA Announcer Behavior**

T★CAL Basketball Athletic Plan (Policies & Guidelines)

- a. Live animal mascots, cannons, firearms, fireworks, etc. are prohibited at T★CAL athletic contests.
 - b. Noisemakers are prohibited at T★CAL events held at field houses and/ or gymnasiums.
 - c. Pep bands, when present, shall play only during time-outs and intermissions. Individual instruments may not be used as noisemakers.
 - d. No sound systems, other than the one(s) provided by the host school and/or announcer are allowed at T★CAL secured sites or at neutral sites unless mutually agreed upon. Announcements should be discretionary and promote T□CAL standards of behavior. Play-by play announcing shall include jersey number, name or team mascot and number of points scored ONLY. Announcers shall remain neutral between both teams. 'Color' commentary is prohibited.
 - e. Air horns and bullhorns, handheld or otherwise, are not permitted at any T□CAL contest.
- 4. Coaching Dress** - all coaches shall dress in a manner appropriate for the level of competition. Shorts and t-shirts and the like are not considered appropriate, especially for any tournament games. High- heeled shoes should not be worn at the regional and state level of competitions, at the request of our hosting venues. The T★CAL officials on site will have the final determination as to the appropriateness of dress at all State Championship games.
- 5. Language** – It is expressly forbidden that any bench personnel use profane language towards the referees and/or the opposing team and/or their fans. In addition, any negative language directed towards the officials, the opponent and/or their fans is also discouraged.
- 6. Game Management** – Each hosting school is responsible for assigning at least one Game Management official for each game. This person should check in with the referees before the start of a game and be available as questionable situations arise.

H. Awards for Basketball Participation

1. **All District Awards for Exceptional Play** – Each district can decide what they would like to do to recognize exceptional play in District play and/or the District tournament. The District Representative is in charge.
2. **All Regional Tournament** – Coaches at the Regional Tournament can select a five-man All Tournament Team and a Most Outstanding Player. The District Representative is in charge.
3. **Awards at the State Championship** – Awards should be given in each classification for the following:
 - a. State Champion Trophy
 - b. Team Medallions for 18 participants, coaches included.
 - c. Runner-up Trophy
 - d. Final Four Plaque for the other 2 competing teams in 2013.
 - e. All State Championship Most Outstanding Player Award
 - f. All State Championship Team – five players
4. **All State Team** – Team is selected at State Tournament. Each coach nominates his player/players to the District Representative, who presents nominees at the Coach’s Meeting at the State Championship Tournament. Teams are announced one week after the State Championships. Teams that have their nominees’ stats posted and updated on the statistical database (i.e. MaxPreps.com) as of Championship week will receive the first considerations for All-State. In all classifications the selections will be as follows: 7 first team selections, 7 second team selections and 6 Honorable Mention selections.
5. **All Star Game participation** – The All-Star Game is NOT meant to be a competitive game but a chance for all those players selected to the team to be given an EQUAL amount of playing time, with deference given to SENIORS. Coaches should choose their starters from Seniors (if possible) and then rotate freely to assure each player is given an opportunity to play and feel as if the All-Star game has been a positive experience.
 - a. **Coaches:** Coaches will be the State Champion and runner up. Each Head Coach can select up to four assistants from their own program or others. If the Champion and/or runner-up is unavailable, coaches will be chosen from playoff teams which finished highest.
 - b. **Players:** Players are chosen by the coaches at the All-State meeting. There may be individuals who are added to the game (but not to the All-State list) to fill in for players who cannot attend.