

6/4/2019

Subject - MGYBA Policy Modification Announcement – 6th Grade Travel Teams

Parents,

You are receiving this announcement because your daughter played youth basketball last season as a player for the Mars Girls Youth Basketball Association (MGYBA).

The MGYBA has recently voted to implement a change to how it handles the placement of players on teams at the 6th grade level (if the registration numbers allow for multiple teams).

MGYBA will now place 6th grade girls together with similar skill levels and similar developmental rates in order for the girls to be exposed and challenged in both practices and games to a comparable level of competition. One of the teams will be formed that will enter a league that requires a higher level of both team play and skill level necessary for that league. The remaining team(s) will be formed as same as before where the girls are placed on equally skilled teams and will still play in the same league as in the past. This will provide a positive experience for all the players and continue their desire to want to play basketball.

Please let it be known, the MGYBA did not make this decision hastily. There has been much discussion on this topic recently and over the previous years. Substantial research was done to reach resolution to this conversation. For example, we talked to many other youth league organizations, other coaches, and the league director himself. Additionally, we analyzed the many past surveys completed by MGYBA families.

The MGYBA did not make this decision on its own. The Mars Girls High School basketball program has provided input and recommendations to us in the past for a variety of things and most recently, this topic. We value and respect the input that we have received from the High School program recommending us to develop our players at comparable skill levels. Thus, the MGYBA was obligated to consider and review this input since we are their main youth feeder program.

Modifications to the MGYBA By-Laws enacting the change were unanimously passed by the MGYBA Board on May 29, 2019. So, in summary, commencing this upcoming 2019-2020 MGYBA basketball season, and as the registration numbers allow, the 6th grade teams will be formed based upon the following:

1. All 6th grade players will be evaluated. The MGYBA plans to ask qualified non-affiliated evaluators to assist with this process. If necessary and when needed, MGYBA board members and other grade level coaches will participate as evaluators.
2. The basketball skill and fundamental level of each player will be taken into consideration when composing teams.

Registration for the 2019-2020 basketball season is anticipated to be opened by the end of September 2019. We look forward to another successful MGYBA Season and your support. Thank You.

MGYBA Board

Jason M Day – President
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