

ELEMENTARY BASKETBALL

Article I

Name and Purpose

SECTION I

The name of the organization shall be the Sevier County Elementary Athletic Association.

SECTION II

The purpose of the organization shall be to stimulate and regulate the athletic relations of the elementary school and middle school students in Sevier County.

Article II

Athletic Districts

SECTION I

The elementary schools of Sevier County will be in two (2) divisions. This division of schools is based on pupil enrollment. The divisions will be known as the *Large School Division* and the *Small School Division*.

The *Large School Division* will be composed of the following schools: Pigeon Forge, New Center, Northview Middle, Sevierville Middle, and Seymour Middle.

The *Small School Division* will be composed of: Caton's Chapel, Boyds Creek, Jones Cove, Pittman Center, Pi Beta Phi, and Wearwood.

The schools have been divided into the stated division for administration and management purposes.

Article III

Board of Control

SECTION I

Administration: The administrative authority of the SCEAA shall be vested in the Director of Schools and the Board of Education of this county and manifested through an Athletic Director appointed by the Director of Schools. The Director of Schools and/or Board of Education shall be the final authority on matters brought to their attention concerning the operation, management, and regulation of the SCEAA, its constitution and the member schools.

Article IV

SCEAA Member Representation

SECTION I

Principals and/or their designees from each school shall make up the SCEAA Member Representatives Body.

SECTION II

The SCEAA shall meet no less than twice annually to conduct business of the Association - September and April of each season.

Article V

Athletic Director

SECTION I

There shall exist a position known as Athletic Director. This position will be held by a person selected by the Director of Schools.

SECTION II

The Athletic Director shall act under the direction of the Director of Schools and the Board of Education.

SECTION III

The Athletic Director shall interpret and administer the rules and regulations of the Association commensurate with the Constitution, and under the rules, regulations, and past practices of the Association.

SECTION IV

The Athletic Director shall be an ex-officio member of all committees and may take an active or passive part in the function of that committee.

SECTION V

All proposed actions, rules, etc., of the SCEAA must be cleared through the Athletic Director.

Article VI**Officers of the Association (SCEAA)****SECTION I**

The SCEPA shall be responsible for appointing a representative from SSD and LSD to work in conjunction with the Athletic Director to manage, control, and expedite the business of any meetings and/or any operation of the SCEAA that it may fall under their responsibility to complete.

SECTION II

Some specific functions of this committee are:

1. The Athletic Director will serve as Chairman and preside at all meetings. He/she shall be the tournament director and oversee other responsibilities commensurate with the desires of the SCEPA, including the handling of the financial affairs of the SCEAA.
2. The Vice-Chairman shall act in all areas in which the Chairman operates if the Chairman is unable to perform his/her responsibilities. The Vice-Chairman shall also act as the liaison for the SCEPA.
3. The Recorder shall record the minutes of each meeting and assist in publicity.
4. The Treasurer shall receive, deposit and disburse money collected by the SCEAA.

One representative from the two divisions will operate as Vice-Chairman and the other as Recorder. The Treasurer shall be elected by members of the SCEAA.

Article VII

Hearings

SECTION I

The Athletic Director may hold hearings from time to time with any schools that are charged with violating the regulations of the SCEAA to afford them an opportunity to make any charges, answer any charges, and/or reason for violation and/or questionable conduct.

SECTION II

Any decision rendered at a lower level may be appealed to the Superintendent and Board of Education with the Superintendent and Board being the final recourse for seeking redress of any situation involving SCEAA member schools.

Article VIII

Amendments

SECTION I

It may become necessary from time to time to make changes in the Constitution and/or By-Laws of the SCEAA.

SECTION II

A review of the proposal must be made before any additions, deletions, or changes can be made.

SECTION III

The proposal must be a benefit to the majority before any changes will be made.

SECTION IV

A proposal from the member schools shall be used as a guide by the administration for changes.

SECTION V

The Constitution and By-Laws of the SCEAA will be reviewed following the end of one basketball season and subsequent to the beginning of another basketball season. Any changes will be made that are in the best interest of the SCEAA.

Article IX
Meetings

SECTION I

Meetings of the Association will be held from time to time to discuss matters of interest to the Association.

SECTION II

All member schools should be represented at each meeting of the Association.

SECTION III

Member schools shall be entitled to one vote per school on all matters brought up for a vote that would affect those particular schools.

SECTION IV

The operation of the Association and conduction of business at meetings shall be in accordance with the Robert's Rules of Order.

SECTION V

No school that does not have 7th and 8th grade basketball teams shall vote on issues concerning the practice or playing of basketball games.

BY-LAWS

Sevier County Elementary Athletic Association
Article I

Membership

SECTION I

All Sevier County elementary schools fielding varsity (seventh and eighth grade) basketball teams are automatic members of this Association and are bound by the rules and regulations herein.

SECTION II

Each member school of the SCEAA shall have the right to make proposals as they feel are in the best interest of their schools. This is in no wise inferring that an individual proposal shall override a majority decision.

SECTION III

Each member school fielding a varsity team shall be entitled to one vote per school unless otherwise specified.

SECTION IV

All member schools must abide by the rules and regulations of the SCEAA.

All member schools must abide by penalties imposed against the fans, players, coaches, team(s), and/or any facet that might involve the school athletic program.

If a penalty is imposed against any of the aforementioned components, then that component shall forfeit all rights and entitlements that they otherwise would be afforded during the period of the penalty.

A school or component thereof would retain any rights guaranteed them by the Constitution and By-Laws if a proposal were to come before the SCEAA group that would affect them when they return to good standing.

SECTION V

All scheduled games and times as per *"approved schedule" will be binding of all teams and may be canceled or changed only by mutual agreement or by the authority of the Athletic Director.

*An approved schedule is a schedule that has been presented to the Athletic Director and verified by that person.

SECTION VI

The Athletic Director, the Director of Schools, and/or the Board of Education shall have the power to suspend, to fine, or otherwise penalize any member school or component thereof for violation(s) or any rule(s) of the SCEAA or for other just cause.

Article II

Eligibility

SECTION I Student Status

Each player must be a registered student in good standing at the school he/she is representing.

SECTION II Academics

To be eligible to participate in athletic contests, the student must not have failed more than one (1) subject in the following subject areas: Math, Science, Social Studies, Reading, English, and Spelling, during the preceding 6 weeks school was in session. If a student fails more than one subject of the above listed subject areas during any 6 weeks period, then he/she shall be ineligible for the subsequent 6 weeks period or until a 6 weeks period has been completed in which the student returned to good academic standing. Grades will consist of A, B, C, D, and F.

SECTION III**A. Age Limit**

No student shall be eligible to participate in any athletic contest during any school year if he or she becomes fifteen (15) years of age on or before August 1 of that year.

B. Years of Participation

Students in the seventh or eighth grade can play only 2 seasons on the seventh and eighth grade teams. To be eligible to participate in athletic contests a student must be academically promoted to the next higher grade. Any student repeating a grade is ineligible to participate. A student who is ineligible at the beginning of the school year may gain eligibility the second semester by passing five (5) subjects or the equivalent the preceding semester provided the student is not repeating the same grade.

C. Eligibility rosters must be submitted to and approved by the Athletic Director prior to participation in athletic contests.**SECTION IV Physical Examination, Parental Permission, and Insurance**

No student shall be permitted to participate in athletic contests until there is on file with his/her principal a physical examination and a parental consent certificate signed by a practicing, licensed physician and a parent or legal guardian. The physical exam should certify that in the opinion of the examining physician, the student is physically fit to participate in athletics. The parental consent form should state that the student has parent/legal guardian permission to compete.

Each student participating on the elementary basketball program must be covered by insurance.

It is recommended that all students participating in elementary athletics take out the "school insurance." A written statement from parents/legal guardians attesting to insurance coverage for treatment of athletic-related injuries, should they occur, must be on file at the school. A written statement confirming insurance coverage for the aforementioned circumstances will serve the same purpose as the "school insurance."

SECTION V Transfers

Students may not transfer from one school in the county to another school within the county after the first two weeks (10 school days) of the school year and retain his/her eligibility without a corresponding change of residence by the student's parents and/or legal guardian. The Director of Schools and /or Board will have the power to waive this rule and allow a student to transfer to another county school within the school year and retain his/her eligibility for good reason. This applies only to students without an athletic record during the previous 12 months.

When a student makes a transfer due to the change of residence of his/her parents or guardian, he/she shall become eligible when all the criteria for eligibility have received an affirmative answer.

If a student transfers from school in the county to another school in the county during the summer or between school years, he/she shall retain their eligibility if the student meets all other eligibility criteria (i.e., if a student transfers from one school in the county to another school in the county following the last day of one school year, but prior to the eleventh (11th) school day of the subsequent school year, he/she shall retain his/her eligibility, provided other eligibility criteria are met).

SECTION VI Enrollment and Attendance

Unless a student has transferred into the Sevier County School System from another school system, has been ill, has been injured, or some other malady that would serve as a manifest injustice, a student to be eligible must be enrolled by the 20th school day of the year to be eligible to participate during that year.

SECTION VII Mitigating Circumstances

Closing of any school(s) by the Board of Education, consolidation of schools, zoning and/or rezoning of school districts and/or bus routes shall not cause a student to lose his/her eligibility within itself.

SECTION VIII Hardships

A student who is under circumstances that would be a manifest injustice may apply to the Director of Schools and Board of Education for a "hardship provision."

SECTION IX Grade level participation

Student athletes should not participate in any other organized basketball program during the regular season. Participation voids the player's eligibility for the remainder of the season, including the county tournament. In the large school division, seventh (7th) and eighth (8th) grade students only may participate in the elementary basketball program.. In the small school division sixth (6th), seventh (7th), and eighth (8th) grade students may participate in the elementary basketball program provided that the principal of the school notify the Director of Schools or designate.

Article III

Divisions

The elementary schools of Sevier County will be in two divisions based on student enrollment in the seventh and eighth grade as follows:

The large school division will be composed of Pigeon Forge, New Center, Northview, Sevierville, and Seymour.

The small school division will be composed of Caton's Chapel, Boyds Creek, Jones Cove, Pi Beta Phi, Pittman Center, and Wearwood.

Each team must play every other team within their division twice. These games will determine the seeding for the two division county tournament. If a team plays another team in their division more than twice, the first home and away games shall be used to determine seeding. To establish the seeding of the teams for the county tournament, the win-lose percentage of each team versus the division teams during the regular season will be the determining factor. The team with the best win-lose percentage will be seeded first; second best will be seeded second; etc.

The following shall be the method of breaking ties for the seeding in the county tournament. If two teams have identical win-lose records, then the head-to-head competition will be the determining factor. If one team has beaten the other team twice, then they will be placed higher in the standings that team. If two teams have identical win-lose records in division play and have split wins during division play, then their win-lose record against the highest ranked team in the division, then the next, etc., continuing through the entire division, will be the determining factor. If a tie still exists, then a flip of a silver dollar by the Director of Sevier County Schools will be the determining factor.

The maximum number of games a team may play, including tournament play, is 20. Tournaments will count as two games notwithstanding the number of games in which each team participates in a tournament. (This requirement established by the State Board of Ed.)

Article IV

Schedules

Regular season play must start no later than four (4) weeks from the first day of practice (dates as set by Athletic Director). Regular season ending dates and the dates for the divisional elementary tournament shall be set by the Athletic Director.

Article V

Practice Time

Tryouts for school basketball teams may begin at 12:00 midnight on a date set by the system athletic director.

Summer camps should be permitted only with the principal and Director of Schools approval. The regular May Board of Education meeting should be the time to approve summer camp requests.

No teams may practice basketball during school hours. No differentiated physical education curriculum shall be allowed for selected students participating in inter-scholastic athletics.

Junior or Community League practice or games shall not interfere with any regular scheduled program of SCEAA member schools for use of facility.

Article VI

Tournaments

Each team shall participate in the county tournament. Each team may participate in one pre-season, one tournament during the regular season, and two post-season tournaments other than the county tournament . Tournament shall count as two games toward the 20 game maximum, notwithstanding the actual number of games in which each team participates in a tournament.

Article VII

Recruiting

Coaches shall not talk to parents and/or students of other schools to induce potential players to attend their schools for the purpose of athletic participation.

Article VIII

Coaches

Game coaching duties may be performed only by system approved coaches employed by the Sevier County Board of Education.

Article IX

Cheerleaders

Cheerleaders are permitted only at regular season home games, unless there is mutual agreement of the two principals. Cheerleaders are permitted at the county tournament.

Article X

Conduct

A document detailing conduct will be developed by the Athletic Director, and distributed to principals and coaches of all member schools prior to the beginning of each season.

Article XI

Violations

Violations of any of the above mentioned by-laws may result in the school team not being allowed to participate in the Sevier County Elementary Tournament and/or any other post-season tournament.