Shallowater Boys & Girls Basketball League

The Bylaws which follow summarize the structure of the Shallowater Boys & Girls Basketball League, also known as SYBL, the rules by which it shall be governed, and the requirements for association membership. All association meetings and activities shall follow the procedures contained in the most current edition of "Robert's Rules of Order."

EXECUTIVE BOARD

PRESIDENT: WES DIPPREY

VICE PRESIDENT: JARED THORNHILL

SECRETARY: SHELBI BONDS

TREASURER: CHRIS CODY

DIRECTOR of OPERATIONS: JERIN TYLER

AT LARGE BOARD MEMBERS

MELISSA WALTISPERGER

KAMERI HOFFMAN

CASIE NEWMAN

TANNER OGDEN

TIFFANY RICKMAN

COORDINATORS

1/2nd Grade Boys:

1/2nd Grade Girls:

3/4th Grade Boys:

3/4th Grade Girls:

5/6th Grade Boys:

5/6th Grade Girls:

ARTICLE 1

NAME

The name of this League shall be the Shallowater Boys & Girls Basketball League. For the remainder of this document; the league will be noted as SYBL.

ARTICLE 2

OBJECTIVE

The objective of the SYBL shall be to teach the fundamentals of basketball, the principles of good sportsmanship, and the benefits of team play. The SYBL shall seek to instill in the youth of our community the ideals of courage, honesty, loyalty, and persistence through the sport of basketball.

ARTICLE 3

STRUCTURE

Section A: The association shall be governed by a Board of Directors consisting of the executive officers (collectively, the "Executive Board"), the at-large board members, and one coordinator from each Age Division. Each director shall have one (1) vote on matters before the Board of Directors. All directors shall be residents of Shallowater, Texas or have a child that lives in or attends school within our school district boundary. This can include kids that attend private school within the boundary of the independent school district. The Board of Directors shall have general oversight regarding the responsibilities for the business of the association.

Section B: The executive officers of the SYBL shall be a president, a vice president, a secretary, a treasurer, and a director of operations. These officers shall perform the duties prescribed by these bylaws and by the parliamentary authority adopted by the league.

Section C: Definitions. As used in these bylaws: (1) "SYBL," "league," and "association" each mean the Shallowater Boys & Girls Basketball League; (2) "Board of Directors" or "Board" means the governing body described in Section A of this Article, and "director" means any voting member of the Board of Directors, including the executive officers, the at-large board members, and the coordinators; (3) "Executive Board" means the five executive officers listed in Section B of this Article; (4) "at-large board member" means a director elected to an at-large position under Article 5; (5) "coordinator" or "Division

Coordinator" means the director appointed under Article 6 to represent an Age Division; and (6) "Age Division" means each of the separate boys and girls programs within the Rookie, Junior, and Major Divisions described in Article 23.

ARTICLE 4

BOARD MEMBER TERMS

Section A: The term of office for SYBL Executive Board Members and At-Large Board Members shall run from May 1 to April 30. Executive board members and at-large board members shall be voted into each position on a two-year basis.

Section B: The SYBL fiscal year shall run from May 1 to April 30 of the following year.

Section C: Regular SYBL meetings shall take place Monthly at the discretion of the President.

Section D: The regular governing season will begin September 1.

ARTICLE 5

EXECUTIVE BOARD AND AT-LARGE BOARD MEMBER ELECTIONS

Section A: To be an eligible candidate for the SYBL executive board or an at-large board position, all nominees shall reside within the Shallowater Independent School District or be the parent or legal guardian of a child who attends a private school located WITHIN THE BOUNDARY OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT and be present at the meeting when nominations are made. Eligible candidates must not have felony convictions of any type or child related criminal convictions of any kind from a court of law in any state in the United States or from any other country in the world.

Section B: Nominations and elections for executive board and at-large board positions shall take place during the final meeting of the season.

Section C: Election of new executive officers and at-large board members shall be conducted by the current Executive Board and decided by a majority vote of the directors present at the officer election meeting, provided a quorum exists. Any person may submit a nomination, but only directors may vote.

Section D: The executive officers and at-large board members shall serve for two (2) years or until their successors are elected. Their term of office shall run from May 1 to April 30.

Section E: No Board Officer shall hold more than one executive office or at-large board position at a time.

Section F: Any executive officer or at-large board member may be removed only in accordance with Article 8, Section F. Any resulting vacancy shall be filled under Section G of this Article. An executive officer or at-large board member may resign at any time by giving written notice to the president or the secretary. Said resignation shall take effect on the date such notice is received or at any later time specified therein. Unless otherwise specified, the acceptance of such resignation shall not be necessary to make it effective.

Section G: A vacancy in any executive office or at-large board position due to the death, resignation, removal, or other disqualification of the executive officer or at-large board member previously filling said office or position may be filled by a majority vote of the remaining Executive Board Officers. The Board Member appointed to such vacancy shall serve for the remainder of the term of the executive officer or at-large board member he or she replaces. Any person appointed to fill a vacancy shall meet the eligibility requirements of Section A of this Article.

ARTICLE 6

COORDINATORS

Nominations for coordinator shall be submitted each season on the nomination form published by the league, within the period set by the Executive Board. Any person may nominate an eligible candidate, including themselves; nominees must meet the requirements of Article 7, Section B. The Board of Directors shall appoint one coordinator for each Age Division by a majority vote of the directors present at a meeting at which a quorum exists, at or before the September meeting. A coordinator vacancy arising during the season shall be filled in the same manner. Coordinator terms shall run from September 1 through the conclusion of that season's tournament play.

ARTICLE 7

RESPONSIBILITIES

Section A: Board Members

The executive and at-large board shall have general oversight regarding the responsibilities for the business of the association.

Specific responsibilities of the executive board include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Conduct elections of officers.
2. Monitor disbursement and/or transfer of all SYBL funds.
3. Develop an association budget for each fiscal year.
4. Oversee regular season and tournament meetings.
5. Ensure that all matters which could be a detriment to the league are addressed and resolved in a timely manner.
6. Enforce all league policies.
7. Promote goodwill and harmony.

Section B: Coordinators

SYBL coordinators shall reside within the Shallowater Independent School District or be the parent or legal guardian of a child who attends a private school located within the school district boundary. The term of each coordinator shall run from September 1 through the conclusion of that season's tournament play. The secretary shall keep a complete list of active coordinators. SYBL coordinators shall abide by the governing rules and regulations of the association. The SYBL will recognize only one coordinator from each age division and each coordinator shall serve as a voting director with one (1) vote on matters before the Board of Directors, except matters reserved to the Executive Board by these bylaws.

Specific responsibilities of the coordinator include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Establish policy and oversee the programs of the SYBL.
2. Act in accordance with the SYBL guidelines set forth in these bylaws.
3. Assume complete responsibility for all internal matters within their respective Age Division, including, but not limited to, organizing and governing players, parents, volunteers, coaches, referees, and gymnasiums.
4. Participate in all scheduled meetings or arrange to have a representative from their Age Division participate during their absence.
5. Maintain a good relationship with their respective school community and provide a gymnasium for regular season games and tournament play.

Section C: President

The president shall be the chief executive officer of the league. He/she shall have all of the general powers and duties which are usually vested in the office of president of a league.

Specific responsibilities of the president include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Act as chief executive officer of the association.
2. Preside at all executive board and/or league coordinator meetings. Upon board approval, attend civil, government, or other outside activities for the purpose of representing the league.
3. Ensure that all orders and resolutions of the executive board and/or the association are implemented correctly.
4. Direct overall operations of the league and appoint special committees as required.
5. Maintain authority to co-sign all checks for payment of bills and other expenditures approved by the association.
6. Break any tie vote resulting from any issue voted on by the executive board or the coordinators.
7. Chair the rules committee.
8. Promote goodwill and harmony.

Section D: Vice President

The vice president shall assist the league president in all duties defined above for the league. If for any reason the president is not able to complete his or her term of office, the vice president shall assume all responsibilities delegated to the president.

Specific responsibilities of the vice president include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Act as primary aide to the president.
2. Perform the duties of the president in his or her absence or in case of president's inability to perform such duties.
3. Maintain authority to co-sign all checks with the president or treasurer.
4. If needed, assist coordinators with handling of their programs and activities.
5. Serve as chairman of the protest committee in all matters except those involving his or her own community.

6. Promote goodwill and harmony.

Section E: Secretary

Specific responsibilities of the secretary include, but are not limited to the following:

1. Record and preserve minutes of all meetings. Present minutes of the previous meeting at the beginning of all league meetings.
2. Serve all special notices of the league.
3. Maintain a file of all correspondence and documents.
4. At the conclusion of their term, pass all league documents on to the next secretary.
5. Assume responsibility for all publicity related to the league, including, but not limited to, newspaper articles, bulletin boards, school announcements, and signs.
6. Attend all meetings of the executive board and/or the league coordinators and record results of all matters requiring a vote.
7. Maintain the original copy of the association bylaws, along with all bylaw amendments, alterations, and revisions.
8. Maintain authority to co-sign all checks with the president or treasurer.
9. Promote goodwill and harmony.

Section F: Treasurer

Specific responsibilities of the treasurer include, but are not limited to the following:

1. Oversee all association funds. Receive moneys of the league and maintain accurate records of all receipts, expenditures, and deposits. Manage all vouchers for disbursement of funds of the association and render an account of all transactions.
2. Present a financial report at each SYBL meeting and provide a copy of the report to the secretary for recordkeeping. Ensure that the association checkbook is available during all meetings. Pay all expenses by check, electronic transfer, debit card, or another payment method approved by the Executive Board, provided that each payment is supported by a receipt or other documentation and recorded in the league's accounting records.
3. Provide tax data for completion of tax forms required for operation of the league.

4. Reimburse any expenses incurred which are substantiated by the proper receipt(s) and approved by the executive board or by the appropriate coordinator with authority to authorize such expenditures.

5. Disburse the funds of the association as set forth in these bylaws or as ordered by the executive board if not in direct conflict with these bylaws.

6. Promote goodwill and harmony.

Section G: Director of Operations

1. Oversee the league calendar and season timeline. Coordinate with division coordinators on facilities and scheduling.

2. Coordinate with Shallowater ISD to coordinate gym reservations and practice schedules. Ensure gyms are prepared before games.

3. Maintain League Equipment:

    a. Basketballs

    b. Scorebooks

    c. First Aid Kits

4. Track inventory and recommend replacement purchases.

5. Report injuries to the Executive Board.

6. Promote goodwill and harmony.

NOTE: Every member of the association shall have the right to examine at any reasonable time the membership roster, records of accounting, and records of the proceedings of the executive board or the association.

ARTICLE 8

MEETINGS

Section A: Regular season meetings shall be held monthly beginning May 1 ending April 30. If deemed appropriate by the executive board, some meetings may be conducted via email or via virtual meeting. The league president shall determine the time and place of each meeting.

Section B: Coordinators for the upcoming season shall be appointed under Article 6 at or before the September meeting. During the final meeting of the season, new executive board and at-large board member nominations and elections shall be conducted.

Section C: Special meetings may be called by the president or the executive board upon request of the league coordinators. Except in cases of emergency, at least three days' notice shall be given.

Section D: League meetings are open to everyone except in special instances where the president shall declare a "closed" meeting. A meeting shall be designated "closed" only when an open meeting would be detrimental to the league, executive board, or coordinators.

Section E: A simple majority (more than half) of the directors then in office shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business by the Board of Directors. When these bylaws require action by the Executive Board, a simple majority of the executive officers then in office shall constitute a quorum. Except as otherwise provided in these bylaws, action shall be taken by a majority vote of the directors present at a meeting at which a quorum exists. A two-thirds (2/3) vote of the directors present at a meeting at which a quorum exists shall be required to amend these bylaws or to remove a director. Where another Article of these bylaws expressly requires a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Executive Board, that Article shall control.

Section F: Board Attendance and Removal

Board members are expected to actively participate in board meetings and league activities. A member who is absent from three (3) consecutive regular board meetings without an excused absence (Excused absences do not count toward the threshold if approved), or who attends fewer than seventy-five percent (75%) of regular board meetings during a league year, may be removed from the Board of Directors.

Any director may be removed, with or without cause, including for failure to meet the attendance expectations above. Before any removal vote, the director shall be given written notice and an opportunity to respond. Removal shall require a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the directors present at a meeting where a quorum exists. Any vacancy created by removal shall be filled in accordance with these bylaws.

Excused Absences

Examples of excused absences may include:

- Illness
- Family emergency
- Work obligations
- Military service
- Other reasons approved by the Executive Board

ARTICLE 9

COMMITTEES

Section A: A three-person auditing committee shall be appointed by the president at the June meeting. Said committee's duty shall be to audit the treasurer's accounts at the close of the fiscal year.

Section B: When deemed necessary, other committees, standing or special, shall be appointed by the president or executive board to carry out the work of the league. The president shall oversee all committees.

ARTICLE 10

INDEMNIFICATION

The SYBL shall indemnify, to the fullest extent permitted by applicable law, any person who is or was an executive board member, coordinator, coach, referee, volunteer, or agent of the league against claims, liabilities, and expenses arising from their service to the league, provided that such person acted in good faith and in a manner reasonably believed to be in the best interests of the league. This indemnification shall not apply to acts of willful misconduct, gross negligence, or conduct in violation of these bylaws or applicable law.

ARTICLE 11

CONTRACTS

Neither executive board members nor coordinators of the SYBL shall enter into contracts or other commitments as agents for the league without approval by the league. Upon league approval, neither executive board members nor coordinators shall have personal liability for said contracts or commitments.

ARTICLE 12

PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE

The rules contained in the most current edition of “Robert’s Rules of Order” shall govern the league in all cases which are applicable and which are not inconsistent with these bylaws or any special rules of order the league adopts.

ARTICLE 13

AMENDMENTS

These Bylaws may be amended at any league meeting, provided the amendment was submitted in writing at the previous meeting or earlier. All amendments to these bylaws must be approved by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the directors present at a meeting at which a quorum exists, as provided in Article 8, Section E.

ARTICLE 14

ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY

Section A – Prohibited Conduct: The SYBL has a zero-tolerance policy regarding physical violence, fighting, and/or threatening behavior. Physical or verbal attacks or threats against SYBL executive board members, coordinators, coaches, referees, volunteers, parents, participants, or fans shall be considered violations of the SYBL zero tolerance policy and shall subject the offender to suspension from the association for a time period of at least one year. Said offender shall also be subject to further disciplinary action set forth by a two-thirds majority vote of the Executive Board which could include permanent removal from all SYBL activities.

Section B – Other Prohibited Conduct: Other actions expressly prohibited by the SYBL and which subject the offender to suspension or permanent removal include, but are not limited to, using profanity, alcohol, illegal drugs, or tobacco products during league activities, interrupting game play, and committing violence against children.

Section C – Scope: This Article applies to conduct occurring at any SYBL practice, game, tryout, draft, meeting, or other league activity, and to conduct occurring immediately before or after any such activity in any parking lot, entrance, hallway, gymnasium, or other area at or adjacent to the facility.

Section D – Immediate Removal and Interim Suspension: Any coordinator, coach, or executive board member present at the scene of a suspected violation of this Article may direct the offending party to leave the facility or premises immediately. Where the safety of participants or others requires, the President, or in the President's absence the Vice President, may impose an interim suspension barring the offending party from all

SYBL activities pending review by the Executive Board. An interim suspension is a temporary safety measure only, shall not exceed thirty (30) days, and shall not constitute a final determination of any kind. The President shall notify the Executive Board of any interim suspension within forty-eight (48) hours.

Section E – Executive Board Determination: All final determinations under this Article, including whether a violation has occurred, the length of any suspension, and any permanent removal or expulsion from the SYBL, shall be made only by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Executive Board at a meeting at which a quorum is present as defined in Article 8, Section E. The Executive Board shall consider the matter at its next scheduled meeting, or within fourteen (14) days if an interim suspension is in effect. Before any such vote, the offending party shall be given written notice of the alleged violation and a reasonable opportunity to respond to the Executive Board, in person or in writing. The Executive Board shall issue its determination in writing, and the Secretary shall record the determination in the minutes of the meeting. The determination of the Executive Board shall be final and binding.

Section F – No Unilateral Expulsion: No individual officer, executive board member, coordinator, or coach, acting alone, shall have authority to expel or permanently remove any person from the SYBL. Nothing in this Article limits the authority granted under Section D to remove a person from a facility or to impose an interim suspension as an immediate safety measure.

ARTICLE 15

INSURANCE

The SYBL shall offer a medical insurance policy each year which provides coverage to all players and coaches. The cost of the policy shall be included in the Annual Player Registration Fee. The insurance which is provided will be Excess Medical Coverage and General Liability. The Excess Medical Coverage will cover expenses not already covered by the players or coaches' primary insurance carrier.

ARTICLE 16

BACKGROUND CHECKS

All adult coaches, assistant coaches, coordinators, directors, volunteers, and other adults who have regular or unsupervised access to players shall be screened and successfully pass a criminal background check each year. The league shall ensure that

no volunteers or coaches have felony convictions of any type or child related criminal convictions of any kind from a court of law in any state in the United States or from any other country in the world. Each coordinator shall be responsible for making sure all coaches submit to the online background checks in a timely manner. All negative or pending results must be presented to the league and voted on for participant eligibility. The Executive Board reserves the right to review any and all instances on a case-by-case basis.

ARTICLE 17

FINANCES

Section A: All players shall pay an annual registration fee which will be set by the Board of Directors. SYBL will pay for the cost of their background check for all coaches.

Section B: The SYBL shall implement the following financial controls to ensure transparency and accountability:

1. The league bank account shall require a minimum of two authorized signatories from the Executive Board. All Executive Board members shall all be authorized signatories.
2. A written financial report, including bank statements and a summary of receipts and disbursements, shall be presented at each monthly meeting and made available for review by any board member or coordinator.
3. No single individual shall be solely responsible for collecting, counting, and depositing cash. At minimum, two people shall count cash together and both shall sign the cash tally sheet before deposit.
4. The Treasurer shall reconcile the league bank account monthly. Reconciled statements shall be available at each board meeting.
5. A three-person auditing committee, appointed by the President, shall audit the Treasurer's accounts annually at the close of the fiscal year per Article 9.

ARTICLE 18

REFEREES

The league is responsible for assigning, training and paying referees for all scheduled league games. Coordinators are required to ensure that all referees working games in

their age division are properly trained and are familiar with SYBL rules. All referees must be familiar with the Special Rules and must agree to enforce those special rules.

ARTICLE 19

SCORERS TABLE

Each team is required to provide one person at the scorer table during all games to maintain order with the clock and the scorebook. Only persons that are familiar with how to keep score or run the clock should be allowed to work at the score table.

ARTICLE 20

PARTICIPANTS

Participants shall be residents of or students in their Shallowater Independent School District or pay tuition to any private school WITHIN THE BOUNDARY OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT to participate in SYBL.

The SYBL shall operate separate but equivalent programs for boys and girls. Co-ed teams are not permitted in SYBL local league play. Each division shall maintain separate boys and girls' teams, rosters, brackets, and All-Star selections. The Executive Board shall have final authority to resolve any eligibility question arising under this article.

ARTICLE 21

CONFLICT RESOLUTION

When conflicts arise between coaches, parents, players, and/or referees, all parties are expected to engage in good-faith, adult discussion focused on the best interests of the children in the SYBL. If informal resolution is not achieved, the following formal process shall apply. This Article does not apply to conduct governed by Article 14 (Zero Tolerance Policy); any suspected violation of Article 14 shall be reported directly to the Executive Board and handled exclusively under that Article. Game protests are governed by Article 24, Rule 8 and are not complaints under this Article.

Step 1 — Coach or Coordinator Level: The complaint shall be presented verbally to the coach of the team involved. The coach has 48 hours to address and resolve the complaint directly with the reporting party.

Step 2 — Coordinator Level: If Step 1 does not resolve the matter, the complaint shall be submitted in writing to the Division Coordinator within five (5) days of the original incident. The coordinator shall review the matter and issue a written response within seven (7) days of receipt.

Step 3 — Executive Board Review: If the Coordinator's resolution is contested, the complaint and Coordinator's written response shall be submitted to the SYBL Executive Board. The Board shall hear the matter at the next scheduled meeting (or within 14 days if urgent) and issue a final written ruling. The Board's decision shall be final and binding.

Step 4 — Conduct Violations: Any complaint involving a potential violation of a Code of Conduct adopted under Article 29 shall bypass Steps 1 and 2 and be submitted directly to the Executive Board, which shall follow the notice, opportunity to respond, and written determination requirements of Article 14, Section E. Any suspected violation of Article 14 (Zero Tolerance Policy) shall be handled exclusively under that Article and shall not proceed through Steps 1 through 3 of this Article.

ARTICLE 22

Household Eligibility for Team Placement

Section 1. Purpose: To promote fairness and consistency in team formation while recognizing immediate family relationships, the League permits players from the same household to be placed on the same team only as provided in this Article.

Section 2. Definition of Household: For purposes of these Bylaws, a "household" shall mean children who have maintained the same primary residence for at least fifty percent (50%) of the calendar year immediately preceding the registration deadline. Documentation may be requested by the Executive Board to verify residency when necessary.

Section 3. Team Placement: Players meeting the definition of the same household may request to be placed on the same team, subject to the League's player placement procedures and any competitive balance requirements established by the Executive Board. Players who do not meet the household definition under Section 2 shall not be considered eligible for same-team placement based solely on family relationship, friendship, or any other affiliation.

Section 4. Verification: The Executive Board reserves the right to request reasonable documentation to verify household residency. Providing false or misleading information

regarding residency may result in denial of the request and any additional action deemed appropriate by the Executive Board.

Section 5. Final Authority: The Executive Board shall have final authority to interpret and enforce this Article. All decisions regarding household eligibility shall be final.

ARTICLE 23

Player Age Eligibility

Section 1. Local League Eligibility — Grade-Based Divisions: SYBL local league play shall be organized by school grade level as follows:

- Rookie Division: Grades 1–2 (basket height: 8 feet, ball size: 27.5)
- Junior Division: Grades 3–4 (basket height: 9 feet, ball size: 28.5)
- Major Division: Grades 5–6 (basket height: 10 feet, ball size: 28.5 girls / 29.5 boys)

A player shall participate in the SYBL division corresponding to their current enrolled grade level. The Executive Board may approve exceptions for individual players in extraordinary circumstances by a two-thirds (2/3) vote.

Section 2. Proof of Age: The league reserves the right to require proof of age for any player. Acceptable documentation includes an original or certified birth certificate, U.S. passport, or other government-issued documentation, or report card. Failure to provide acceptable proof of age upon request may result in the player being declared ineligible for All-Star competition until verification is received.

ARTICLE 24

GENERAL PLAYING RULES (ALL DIVISIONS)

The following rules apply to the following SYBL divisions — Junior and Major — for both boys and girls. Division-specific rules are set forth in Articles 25 through 27 and shall control over these general rules to the extent of any conflict.

1. Games will consist of four (4) eight-minute quarters. The game clock will run continuously for the first three quarters. During the fourth quarter, the clock will stop on all dead balls or official whistles. There shall be one (1) minute between quarters, three (3) minutes for halftime, and fifteen (15) minutes between games.

2. The SYBL shall support a minimum playing time policy for all regular season games and the end-of-season tournament, if one is held. Each player must play at least ONE COMPLETE, UNINTERRUPTED QUARTER, and 2 total quarters in every regular season and tournament game. The following exceptions apply: (a) a player who is injured, ill, removed for fouls, or ejected need not complete the minimum; (b) a player who arrives after the start of the game shall receive as much of the minimum as the remaining quarters allow; (c) a coach may hold a player out of one (1) required playing period as permitted by Article 28, Section D; and (d) if a team has too few available players to give every player the minimum, the coach shall distribute playing time as evenly as possible. A coach who applies an exception shall inform the Division Coordinator and the opposing coach before the affected quarter begins, or as soon as practicable for injuries.

3. Each team shall have three (3) one-minute timeouts per game, to be used anytime.

4. Overtime play will be two (2) minutes. Each team will be awarded one additional timeout for each overtime. After one overtime session, the game will be played to sudden death, and the winner will be determined by whichever team scores first.

5. A team may start and continue playing a game with four (4) players. The opposing team may still play with five (5) players but can also agree to play 4 versus 4.

6. Each player is allowed five (5) fouls per game. After a fifth foul, the offending player will be removed from play for the remainder of the game.

7. A game will be considered a forfeit if a team does not take the court at the scheduled game time. Exceptions can be given if the coach notifies the coordinator prior to the scheduled game time. Referee fees for a forfeited game shall be the responsibility of the forfeiting team if the league is not notified in a timely manner so that the game can be cancelled. The referees on duty will be released at the time of the forfeit and are not obligated to officiate the forfeited game. If a forfeit is declared because the forfeiting team was late and the coaches still choose to play the game, they will be required to supply their own referees. This game must not delay the next game.

8. There shall be no protesting of any judgment call by a referee. A protest of a rules interpretation must be made by a head coach to the Division Coordinator at the time of the play and before the next live ball. The Division Coordinator shall decide the protest on the spot, and that decision shall be final for purposes of completing the game. Either head coach may request Executive Board review of

the Coordinator's rules interpretation by written request within forty-eight (48) hours after the game. The Executive Board's determination shall govern future games but shall not change the result of the completed game.

9. Only two coaches per team are allowed on the bench during games. One coach is permitted to roam in the designated coach's box only. The second coach must remain seated at all times. Any violation of these rules shall result in a technical foul for the offending team.

10. All teams must furnish their own warm-up balls. The League will furnish game balls. Team player jerseys must be tucked in at all times.

11. Each team must provide a person to work at the score table, either keeping the official book or running the score clock. Score table volunteers must be knowledgeable of the duties they are to perform. Coordinators are responsible for collecting the Official Scorebook at the end of each game day and having it ready for the next game day.

12. Games must have two qualified officials. Officials must be familiar with the special playing rules of the division they are officiating.

13. A Master Schedule will be provided to each team prior to the start of local league games. Game changes must be approved by both teams and must go through the Division Coordinator. Any changes to the master schedule must be made in a timely manner so that the scheduled officials can be notified of the change.

14. Coaches must furnish a written lineup with player names and numbers to the official scorekeeper prior to game time.

ARTICLE 25

ROOKIE DIVISION RULES

The following rules apply to the Rookie Division (Grades 1–2), in a Clinic / 3v3 Format. The General Playing Rules in Article 24 do not apply to the Rookie Division except where a rule below expressly adopts them.

1. BASKET: The basket shall be eight (8) feet from the floor.

2. BALL: A 27.5 (youth) ball shall be used for all Rookie Division games, boys and girls.

3. FREE THROW LINE: In the Rookie Division only, the free throw line shall be twenty-four inches (24") in front of the standard free throw line.

4. LANE VIOLATION: No lane violations will be enforced in the Rookie Division, including free throws and 3 or 5 second rules.

5. 3-POINT RULE: There will be no 3-point rule in the Rookie Division.

6. ZONE DEFENSE: A zone defense shall not be permitted at any time during the game.

   Penalty: Technical Foul. Repeated violations may result in forfeiture of the game.

   Comment: A zone defense penalty should be called when:

   a.) A defensive player plays the ball as opposed to guarding an offensive player (“chasing the ball”), or

   b.) A defensive player guards an area of the court as opposed to guarding an offensive player.

   Additionally: Whether or not a defensive player is “zoning” will be a judgment call of the official. Officials are cautioned that the zone defense rule does not prohibit a defensive team from “double teaming,” “trapping,” “switching,” or “sagging.” The rule does not require the defensive player to remain within a certain distance of his offensive player, unless required by the National Federation Rules. (This rule does not require a team to guard the person throwing in the ball on an inbounds play.)

   The intent of the rule is to prevent the “chaser” defense, where one or more players chases the offensive player having the ball; and the traditional zone defense, where one or more defensive players’ primary responsibility is protecting an area of the court. Each of these situations is easily detected by anyone knowledgeable of basketball and should be strictly enforced. This rule is applicable in the frontcourt and backcourt.

   Coaches and players should not expect complete uniformity in the enforcement of this rule. No two officials will judge a situation exactly the same. A good team will be one that is coached to adapt its offense and defense according to how the officials are calling the game. This is true regarding how the officials call fouls, lane violations and traveling violations. It should be the same with the zone defense rule.

7. All games will be played in a ½ court format.

8. ISOLATION OFFENSE: No isolation-type offense involving one or two players will be permitted. Clearing the floor to one side for a one-on-one or two-on-two offense is prohibited. Teams must involve all of their players in the offensive

pattern. This will be a judgment call of the official. This rule is applicable during the entire game, including overtime play.

ARTICLE 26

JUNIOR DIVISION RULES

The following rules apply to the Junior Division (Grades 3–4), in addition to the General Playing Rules in Article 24.

1. BASKET: The basket shall be ten (10) feet from the floor.
2. BALL: A 28.5 (intermediate/women's) ball shall be used for all Junior Division games, boys and girls.
3. 3-POINT RULE: The 3-point rule is in effect in the Junior Division.
4. DEFENSE: In the first half, man-to-man defense only shall be permitted. In the second half, a team may choose to play either zone or man-to-man defense. Full-court pressing and trapping are permitted only during the final quarter of the game, subject to the mercy rule below.
5. MERCY RULE: A 20-point mercy rule will be used in the backcourt. Once a lead of 20 or more points has been established, the team with the lead may not press or trap in the backcourt. Pressing and trapping in the backcourt may return if the lead drops below 20 points. The head coach will be warned after the first violation of this rule. For each violation during the remainder of the game, the head coach will be given a technical foul.

ARTICLE 27

MAJOR DIVISION RULES

The following rules apply to the Major Division (Grades 5–6), in addition to the General Playing Rules in Article 24.

1. BASKET: The basket shall be ten (10) feet from the floor.
2. BALL: The official women's ball (28.5) shall be used for Girls Major Division games. The official men's ball (29.5) shall be used for Boys Major Division games.
3. 3-POINT RULE: The 3-point rule is in effect in the Major Division.

4. MERCY RULE: A 20-point mercy rule will be used in the backcourt. Once a lead of 20 or more points has been established, the team with the lead may not press or trap in the backcourt. Pressing and trapping in the backcourt may return if the lead drops below 20 points. The head coach will be warned after the first violation of this rule. For each violation during the remainder of the game, the head coach will be given a technical foul.

ARTICLE 28

PRACTICE RULES

Section A: Practice times shall be assigned to each team at the time of the team draft process or shortly thereafter by the Director of Operations or Division Coordinator. All practice times shall be submitted to Shallowater ISD to be placed on the District Calendar.

Section B: Each team shall be assigned at least one (1) practice per week. Half-court use may be required during practice. Certain courts shall be shared between two (2) teams during scheduled practice times.

Section C: Coaches and all participants shall treat SISD gym facilities with care and respect. SYBL access to school facilities is granted by consent of Shallowater ISD and may be withdrawn at any time. All non-playing children and guests shall sit in designated spectator areas during practice. No children shall be permitted to free play while in the facility.

Section D: As permitted by Article 24, Rule 2, a coach may bench a player for one (1) required playing period for unexcused absences from practice, or for arriving late to a game, at the coach's discretion. Parents shall notify the coach in advance if a practice or game absence is unavoidable.

ARTICLE 29

CODES OF CONDUCT

Section A – Adoption: The Executive Board shall adopt Codes of Conduct for Players, Coaches, and Parents, and may amend or replace any Code of Conduct by majority vote of the Executive Board at any regular or special meeting. A Code of Conduct adopted under this Article is not part of these bylaws and may be revised without amendment of these bylaws under Article 13.

Section B – Availability and Recordkeeping: The Secretary shall maintain the current version of each Code of Conduct with the league records, together with the date of adoption and the date of each amendment. The current versions shall be published and made available to all participants, parents, coaches, and volunteers before registration opens for each season, and shall be furnished on request to any member of the association. Any amendment adopted after registration opens shall take effect only upon written notice to all affected participants.

Section C – Acknowledgment: During player registration, each player and that player's parent or guardian shall read and sign the applicable Codes of Conduct. Each coach and volunteer shall read and sign the Coaches Code of Conduct prior to the first scheduled practice. Each Division Coordinator shall verify that all players, parents, and coaches within that Coordinator's division have submitted a signed Code of Conduct prior to the first scheduled game. No player shall participate in a game, and no coach shall be permitted on the bench, until the required acknowledgment has been submitted.

Section D – Violations: Any violation of a Code of Conduct by a coach, player, parent, or volunteer shall be referred to the Executive Board for disciplinary action. The Executive Board shall follow the notice, opportunity to respond, and written determination requirements of Article 14, Section E, and any suspension of more than thirty (30) days or any permanent removal from the SYBL shall require a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Executive Board. Conduct that also constitutes a violation of Article 14 shall be handled exclusively under Article 14.

ARTICLE 30

Selection of All-Stars for Post League Tournament Play

Following completion of the regular season and any league postseason event, Junior and Major Divisions for both boys and girls will select a tournament team to participate in regional tournaments selected by the Executive Board. The team selection will follow these guidelines:

1. All players that completed at least 50% of local league games are eligible for consideration for the All-Star team.

2. Only players who meet the age, grade, and other eligibility requirements of the tournament or affiliated organization in which the All-Star team will compete shall be considered. Those requirements govern All-Star eligibility even where they differ from the grade-based divisions in Article 23.

3. All-Star players must live or attend school within the boundary of the local independent school district.

4. All-Star players must be passing all classes at the time of selection and must remain academically eligible through the conclusion of tournament play. Academic eligibility shall be verified in writing by the player's parent or guardian on the All-Star Evaluation Form prior to the selection meeting. The SYBL strongly recommends following Shallowater ISD's No Pass / No Play policy standards as a minimum eligibility threshold.

5. The coaches of each age division will meet to select the All-Star Team for their age group. The head coach of each team will fill out an All-Star Evaluation Form for all players from their team who they feel have earned a position on the All-Star Team. Other coaches may then nominate players from other teams that they feel should be considered. The head coach shall complete an All-Star Evaluation Form for all players from their team they wish to nominate. Completed forms must be submitted to the Division Coordinator prior to the All-Star selection meeting. Only players with a completed and signed evaluation form, including confirmation of academic eligibility, shall be eligible for the All-Star ballot.

6. Once all nominations have been made, a secret ballot vote will be held to select the team. Each team will vote for their top ten players.

7. A Coordinator from another age division or an Executive Board Member should tally the votes and announce the results.

8. In the case of a tie, another secret ballot vote will be held to break the tie.

9. The head coach of the team with the best record will have first option to coach the All-Star team. This coach may select another coach to be an assistant. If the top coach defers his/her position, the 2nd place head coach is eligible for the position. This can continue down the order of team rank until a coach is selected. All-Star coaches must be confirmed by the Executive Board.

10. A player may compete on only one (1) SYBL All-Star team per season.