

RAMS BASKETBALL CLUB

AMENDED BYLAWS

I. PURPOSE

1. We are an association of coaches, parents and student-athletes, who are supporters of public education, and who want to develop a competitive athletic feeder program for female athletes who plan to attend Southeast Polk High School. We are committed to help each other become better athletes, develop a sense of teamwork, sportsmanship, discipline, and have fun in the process. We will help SEP continue its successful athletic programs by building a successful competitive feeder program. We seek to instill in the athlete the knowledge, attitude and desire to be successful personally and as a team.

II. PHILOSOPHY OF COACHING

2. Good coaching makes a difference. A coach is in a position of influence and responsibility with each child. The coach's attitude and conduct will have tremendous impact on the lives of each child and their families. In serving as a youth coach, we assume a responsibility to: (a) be a good teacher of fundamentals, teamwork, discipline and character; (b) be a leader and role model for a group of young girls who want and need our leadership and (c) be a person who helps each child become a good citizen, who can set goals, become self-disciplined, be accountable, become a team player and be a person who respects and cares for herself and others. Our knowledge of the sport will be helpful, and we will work to improve our knowledge of the sport we coach. However, knowledge is not as important as our ability to build a team that will work together, and have fun along the way. Success in athletics is a process of becoming a better person, and a better student-athlete; the best that each individual is capable of

III. ADMINISTRATION

3.1 OPERATING BOARD: RBC is a corporation managed by a board of directors, initially consisting of six organizing members and thereafter as selected by the Board. The board will recruit and oversee the coaches; the team selection process; establish rules for players and coaches conduct; assist in finding facilities and equipment; distribute information about available coaches clinics, league play and tournaments; promote the teaching of fundamentals; and do such other things as needed to develop a successful feeder program.

3.2 MEETINGS: The Board will meet periodically, at least once per year. Minutes of the meetings will be made.

Board members will serve for a term of three years; however each year there will be one or two member positions up for election each year. The board members whose term is not expiring will elect members to the board positions whose term is up for election. Nominations to the board may be made by any person, coach, parent or officer.

3.3 RULES: The board may set the rules and policy of the association from time to time as needed (i.e. the Coaches Expectations of Conduct). All coaches are asked to follow these policies/rules.

3.4 OFFICERS: There will be a President/Secretary, a Vice President, a Marketing Specialist/Players Representative, an Administrative Assistant, and a Treasurer with customary duties of each office. Each year of the term will be from August to July of each year. The President may serve more than two consecutive terms, unless four members of the board approve a different term. The financial records of the association will be informally reviewed by the board. The Treasurer's written report of all income/disbursements will be made to the board on a regular basis.

3.5 COACHES: All coaches that join or help will follow RBC rules and policies. Coaches are advisors to the board, and their opinions and recommendations very important.

IV. TEAM STRUCTURE

4.1 FEES: Each player that joins will pay a fee in an amount as set by the Board from time to time. Fees may vary by age group, because tournament and league fees may vary. Some tournaments are priced based on cost per team. The player's fee will be intended to cover costs of tournament/league admission, uniforms, coaching materials, basketballs, and possible liability insurance and so RBC breaks even. RBC parents will assist in fundraising. The season fee must be paid before the first game or the ordering of uniforms unless special arrangements are made.

4.2 PRACTICES: This is a competitive and developmental program. Each athlete is expected to attend team practices each week, unless excused in advance by the coach. Each player is expected to practice individual skills on their own time. Each player is expected to be on time for practice and games. Each player is to give full attention and effort at practices and the games, and be willing to learn. Absence affects a child's and team's ability. Unexcused absences will affect playing time. Each athlete and parent will be respectful to the coaches, teammates, the other teams,

4.3 TEAMS: The number and make up of any of the Rams Basketball Club teams will be decided by the board, from time to time, with input from the coaches.

(A) 5TH – 8TH GRADE TEAM(S): 5th thru 8th grade teams will be created based on number of participants, number of coaches and skill level. There will be tryouts for these teams. Each team usually will have 8-12 players.

Division of teams may be based on talent or skill level of the players, with players grouped by skill level (i.e. A and B teams). The board reserves the right to decide if cuts are necessary. Playing time is at the head coach's discretion, based on talent, effort, attendance, strength of opponent, followed team expectations and other factors. It is normally expected all players will play in each tourney they attend. Younger grades of 5th & 6th will normally have more equal playing time than those in older grades (7th and 8th). Each grade will try to practice as a grade together, one-three times per week in order to learn similar offensive and defensive skills and schemes. The goal is to have a fluid movement or transferability of players among the girls on grade teams.

(B) 3RD & 4TH GRADE TEAM(S): We will take a child who is mature enough to listen to instructions and gain enjoyment without causing undue disruption to others. This may be their first introduction to playing as a team and working with each other. They may be entered in league play and/or tournaments. There will be tryouts for these teams. Each team usually will have 8-12 players. Division

of teams may be based on talent or skill level of the players, with players grouped by skill level (i.e. A and B teams). The board reserves the right to decide if cuts are necessary. Playing time, while at the coaches' discretion, will be as equal as possible. Participation in games will be based on practice attendance and level of skill attained. If you don't show up for practices don't expect to play in

4.4 **Playing Time:** There is no guarantee of the amount of playing time in a game. Numerous factors including age level, individual skills & effort, attendance & tardiness, coachability & attitude, knowledge of team skills, & size & quality of the opponent, and the match-up are important factors considered for playing time. We want the player to have a fair chance at being successful in the game. Just as there are different grades given in the classroom for talent and effort so too will there be a disparity in the level of athletic ability and game time. Coaches are however encouraged to use their best effort to get each team member into each game at each tournament with meaningful playing time, and more equal time at the younger grades.

4.5 **SEASONS:** There will be one main season for RBC which will occur from Oct-early March. The league fee will cover tourneys and leagues during that timeframe within the limits on number of tourneys or total cost given to coaches at beginning of season. Participation outside of this main season is at discretion and financial support of the coaches.

4.6 **TRAVEL:** Parents of the athletes are expected to share and help in the transportation of all team players and/or pay for costs of transportation for their child. Parents may be asked to advance the costs for their child's room and board, as needed for out of town trips. Team members will stay with the team or with their parents on out of town trips.

4.7 **ROSTER:** RBC players are expected to hold RBC as #1 priority over any other team except during school season where the school team will take priority. RBC players will be expected to play in the offered number of tourneys or league stated each year by the RBC board. No RBC player can choose to play on a non RBC team if it conflicts with an RBC team event. RBC teams will have a roster turned into the board before the first game of each season. The teams may need to be balanced again or as the board determines appropriate.

4.8 **TOURNAMENT:** Selection of the tournament or league play will be made by the Board & coach from time to time with recommendations from the Board.

V. RULES AND GENERAL POLICIES

GAME TIME - WHAT TO EXPECT

5.1 **REGISTRATION & WAIVER:** Each player's parents will need to sign a registration and waiver of liability for the RBC and for most tournaments. If the coach does not have the signed waiver from a player, the sponsoring organization will not allow her to play. The registration forms must be completed and fees paid. Proof of age and grade level (i.e. birth certificate and report card or other documents) is to be provided to the coach by each player when requested from time to time throughout a year. It is possible that tourneys will also require proof of age or grade level.

5.2 OFFICIALS: Officiating is beyond our control. Please understand that it will be inconsistent at best and non-existent at worst. Then you will not be puzzled as to someone played the best game of her life, but fouled out. It is part of the game. Players must learn to play in all sorts of situations. At this level you generally make matters worse.

5.3 CLOCK: In order to keep games on time most games use a running clock. That means it doesn't stop for fouls, or to tie shoes, or any one of a thousand things. Seven, ten or twenty minutes goes by in a flash. Sometimes coaches don't or can't get a player the playing time that was intended.

5.4 GAME TIME: Players are expected to show up at the time for games and practices as designated by the coach. Generally players must be at a game thirty to sixty minutes before the game starts with all uniforms, equipment water, medicine and shoes. They need to bring both uniforms (if the team has two uniforms). Players should have her own supply of water and extra socks at each game and practice. No player is allowed to wear hard barrettes or hair ties, metal bands, jewelry, watches, earrings or hair clips of any sort during a game. The IHSA rules for apparel apply.

Generally, players are not allowed to tape over offending articles. Girls must stay together as a team and behave themselves. Coaches will not be babysitters.

5.5 SPORTSMANSHIP: The girls are to learn good sportsmanship and practice it. Some of the teams your daughter will face will have great skills, and others will not. Most will play a physical game. Some teams show little or no mercy. Others will have a lot of class. We will try to teach your child how to deal with it and rise above it.

5.6 PARENTS: Parents are members of the Club. Your participation is important. Parents are expected to help and do

(A) Coaches need your help to keep stats, get water and supplies, or transport kids.

(B) Girls are not playing to satisfy an adult's ambition. Please be patient with your child, the coach and the team.

Do not criticize a player, the team or coach in the presence of your child or another. Talk to the coach directly.

(C) The girls are involved for their enjoyment, not the parents.

(D) You are responsible to encourage the girls to play by the rules and respect the coaches and teammates.

(E) Do not allow your child to gloat in victory or pout in loss.

(F) Never ridicule, mock, taunt or shout at any child, the team, a coach, or referee. Praise them or keep quiet. Criticism should be sandwiched between praises/positive statements.

(G) Recognize the value and importance of the coach who is giving up their time to help the young people.

(H) Players are to be picked up/delivered on time.

(I) Follow the Bylaws, rules and policies established for RBC.

(J) Be a SEP team fan first, daughter fan second.