



# TEXAS AMATEUR ATHLETIC FEDERATION

## ADULT BASKETBALL

### State Tournaments:

Men's 45 & Over – April 13 – 14, 2024 – Longview, TX

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*A non-profit organization established in 1925, incorporated and dedicated to develop and perpetuate interest in amateur sports and to further the spirit of sportsmanship in Texas.*

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**PLEASE READ ALL RULES –THERE ARE IMPORTANT ARTICLES PERTAINING TO AGE DETERMINATION DATES, REGISTRATION DEADLINE DATES AND FEES.**

The following rules and regulations apply to all sports and all participants must meet these requirements. Unless a rule specifically names an exception for one of the divisions (member city, independent, affiliate, etc.), the following Sports General Regulations pertain to all teams and participants. See the specific sports sections for any special regulations that may exist.

**ARTICLE 1      RETURNING TEAMS**

1.1 All T.A.A.F. team champions (except youth basketball) shall be eligible to return to state tournament as defending champions provided they have not been reclassified and have the following minimum returning players:

|                     |            |
|---------------------|------------|
| SOFTBALL SLOW PITCH | 10 PLAYERS |
| SOFTBALL FAST PITCH | 9 PLAYERS  |
| FLAG FOOTBALL       | 6 PLAYERS  |
| BASKETBALL          | 4 PLAYERS  |
| VOLLEYBALL          | 4 PLAYERS  |

**ARTICLE 2 ADULT BASKETBALL**

2.1 Each individual player must be a member of the team that they participate with in T.A.A.F. Each individual player must be a member of the team that they participate with in a T.A.A.F. State Basketball Tournament by the roster deadline established by the state tournament host. Players may not be added to state tournament rosters once tournament play begins. League teams may pick up two players who were not on their league roster. Pick up players must meet the eligibility requirements of the division that they are playing in. (Examples of meeting eligibility requirements include: regular attendance of the sponsoring church for any team in the church division, full time employment with the sponsoring company for any team in the industrial division. Also, height restrictions will apply for any six foot and under division pick up players and age restrictions will apply for any 35 and over division pick up players).

A maximum of 12 players are allowed for men's basketball teams or a maximum of 13 players are allowed for women's basketball teams on a state tournament roster, including any pick up players. A player cannot be on two or more team rosters at any state basketball tournament. If any players appear on two or more rosters in the same tournament, that player is ineligible to participate until that player is only listed on one team's roster participating in the tournament.

2.2 Adult basketball teams must be registered with T.A.A.F. by the next business day after the published state tournament entry deadline. Any teams registering after the state tournament entry deadline will be eligible to compete in the following year's state basketball tournament.

2.3 In order for a team to be eligible for T.A.A.F. playoffs, the team may not have a player compete with the team during the current season if:

- .01 The player is still registered in the same college, university or junior college after January 1 (current season), where the player was a member of any basketball squad or team. This rule does not include P. E. classes or intramural participation; OR
- .02 The player was a member of a military basketball squad or team playing an off-base schedule during the current season.

2.4 The host city shall have the privilege of entering a host team when hosting regional or state tournaments.

2.5 The state tournament shall be twenty-four (24) teams or less, single elimination with a consolation bracket.

- .01 There will not be an "extra" game played to determine third place, both semi-finalist will receive a semi-finalist team trophy.
- 2.6 Prior to the state tournament, a "draw" will be conducted by the state commissioner to determine each team's place in the bracket
- 2.7 RULES: Current NCAA men's playing rules will be used with these exceptions:
  - .01 GAME CLOCK: An official game shall consist of two (2) twenty minute halves with a running clock for the first eighteen (18) minutes of each half.
    - a) A running clock stops for only free throws and time-outs.
    - b) A NCAA regulation clock will be used the last two (2) minutes of each half.
    - c) A regulation clock will stop for all whistles the last two minutes of each half and each successful field goal in the last minute of the second half or overtime period.
  - .02 HALF TIME: A five (5) minute half time will be observed.
  - .03 TIME OUTS: Each team will be allowed four (4) one (1) minute time-outs and two (2) thirty second timeouts per game.
  - .04 OVERTIME: Each overtime will consist of a three (3) minute period with the clock stopping for all whistles during the entire period. Each team will be given one (1) extra time-out.
  - .05 Jerseys & Numbers: Players on each team must wear jerseys that are identical in the base color of the jersey and must have a six (6) inch number on the back and a four (4) inch number on the front.
    - a) Jersey numbers may not be duplicated on the same team and must be either one or two digit Arabic numerals between 0 and 99. Fractions, symbols, decimals or roman numerals are not allowed
    - b) Numbers must be permanently affixed to the jersey, not taped or pinned to the jersey.
    - c) Numbers that are hand written in pencil, marker, or any type of ink pen will not be allowed
  - .06 Point Ahead Rule: A point ahead rule of (20) twenty points will be used in all adult basketball games.
    - a) If a team is ahead by (20) twenty points, the clock will not stop except for injuries and time-outs until the team ahead is ahead by less than (20) twenty points.
    - b) Like the rest of the game, the clock can be stopped by a time-out.
  - .07 SHOT CLOCK: A shot clock will not be in effect for any T.A.A.F. Regional or State Basketball Tournament.
  - .08 THREE POINT FIELD GOAL: The three point field goal rule will be in effect for all T.A.A.F. State Tournaments. T.A.A.F. will utilize the three-point line that is 19 feet, 9 inches from the center of the goal as the official distance for three-point field goals in all state tournaments.
  - .09 The "five second closely guarded" rule, which was eliminated in N.C.A.A. basketball play, shall apply for all T.A.A.F. adult basketball championship play. The "five second closely guarded" rule states that an offensive player in possession of the basketball in his or her front court may not hold the basketball or dribble the basketball for five seconds while being "closely guarded". Closely guarded is

defined as a defender being in a guarding stance at a distance no more than six feet from the ball handler. The distance shall be measured from the ball handler's front of the foot closest to the defender to the defender's front of the foot closest to the ball handler. After the start of the five second guarding count by a referee, in order for a closely guarding violation to occur, there must be continuous guarding by the same opponent within the prescribed closely guarded area. The five second closely guarded count shall be terminated if there is an interrupted dribble. The referee will stop play for any violation of the "five second closely guarded" rule and the penalty will be a loss of possession of the basketball for the team in possession of the basketball, which violated the "five second closely guarded" rule. The opposing team will be awarded possession of the basketball for a throw in at the out of bounds location closest to the point of the violation.

.10 All basketball rules covered on these pages shall apply to both regional and state tournaments for each specific basketball division.

2.8 STATE TOURNAMENT DATES: Effective with the bids for the 2009 state basketball tournaments, each state basketball tournament will be held on the specified weekend. State basketball tournament bids that contain proposed dates that are not in accordance to the following schedule will not be accepted. The schedule of T.A.A.F. state basketball tournaments will be as follows:

- .1 The Men's 35 & Over State Tournament will be held the last full or partial weekend of February (which may include March 1 when it falls on Sunday).
- .2 The Men's 45 & Over State Basketball Tournament will be held either on the first or second full weekend of April.
- .3 The Men's Major State Tournament will be held on the first full weekend of March (first weekend that both Saturday and Sunday fall in March).
- .4 The Men's Six Feet and Under State tournament will be held on the second full weekend of March.
- .5 All Boys' and Girls' Winter State Basketball Tournaments in addition to the Men's Industrial State Tournament will be held on the third full weekend of March.
- .6 The Men's Church and the Women's State Tournament will be held on the fourth full weekend of March.

### **.ARTICLE 3 MEN'S BASKETBALL**

#### 3.1 MAJOR & 6 FT. AND UNDER

- .01 The regular playing roster shall not exceed twelve (12) players including a playing manager.
- .02 A 6' and Under team must consist of players who do not exceed 6' or 72 inches in height.

#### 3.2 35 & OVER

- .01 The regular playing roster shall not exceed twelve (12) players including a playing manager.
- .02 Eligible players must be 35 years of age or over within the calendar year of the state tournament.
- .03 Players must provide pictured identification (with birth date indicated) when requested by a tournament official prior to and/or during regional and state competition.

#### 3.3 45 & OVER

- .01 The regular playing roster shall not exceed twelve (12) players including a playing manager.
- .02 Eligible players must be 45 years of age or over within the calendar year of the state tournament.
- .03 Players must provide pictured identification (with birth date indicated) when requested by a tournament official prior to and/or during regional and state competition.

#### 3.4 MEN'S CHURCH

- .01 The regular playing roster shall not exceed twelve (12) players including a playing manager.
- .02 The Men's Church playing rules are the same as the Men's Major playing rules except for player eligibility (see MOP Article 6).
- .03 A player may play on his church team as well as any other non-church (open) team provided he meets the eligibility requirements to participate on his church team stated in MOP Article 6.

### **ARTICLE 4 WOMEN'S BASKETBALL**

- 4.1 The regular playing roster shall not exceed thirteen (13) players including a playing manager.
- 4.2 Current NCAA men's playing rules will be used.

### **ARTICLE 5 WHEELCHAIR BASKETBALL**

- 5.1 Current National Wheelchair Basketball Association (NWBA) rules will govern qualifying and state tournament play.
- 5.2 Teams may register independently with the state commissioner through sanctioned league play.
- 5.3 Tournament will be open to any T.A.A.F. registered wheelchair team.

## **T.A.A.F. Manual of Procedures**

### **ARTICLE 2 GENERAL PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS**

No player shall be eligible to play in any T.A.A.F. sport unless the player meets all of the following rules:

- 2.1 Must be an amateur in said sport and shall receive no pay to play for any team. An amateur is defined as "one who engages in sport for pleasure and for the physical, mental or social benefits, which he or she derives from that sport and to whom the sport is nothing more than an avocation."

- 2.2 Any player who has played professional sports shall be ineligible to participate in that sport for one (1) year after his last day as a member of a professional team. This rule shall not conflict with the AABC rules in baseball.

Note: The protesting individual(s) bear the entire burden of proof regarding a player's participation as a member of a professional team. The T.A.A.F. state commissioner has the final authority to accept or reject the protesting individual(s) proof.

- 2.3 Meets all team qualifications in MOP Article 4.

- 2.4 Does not play under an assumed name.

- 2.5 In order to compete in any T.A.A.F. play, a foreign player must reside in the state of Texas continuously for a minimum period of one (1) year prior to being eligible to play.

Exception: Men's and women's fast pitch foreign softball players' eligibility will be determined by the national governing body of softball. To be eligible to participate in T.A.A.F. softball, a copy of any document required to be on file by the NGB for softball must also be filed with the T.A.A.F. state office. The same filing deadline applies for the NGB and T.A.A.F.

- 2.6 An adult player may play on more than one team within a region, but must choose one team as his/her own prior to T.A.A.F. championship play.

.01 No player may be on more than one roster, in a T.A.A.F. division, during T.A.A.F. championship play (region and state tournaments).

.02 A player must be on the sports roster by the deadline state in the participant guide.

- 2.7 A player forced to transfer from one region to another by his employer may participate in the new region providing the player has been employed by the firm for at least one (1) full year prior to the transfer and the player remains employed by the same firm.

- 2.8 Individual sport participants must reside in the state of Texas.

- 2.9 The team or individual attempting to qualify for state competition must attempt to qualify through the regional qualifier of the region in which they are registered. No participant in an individual sport or a team in team sports may attempt to qualify through more than one city, region or affiliate. Should any team or individual be discovered in violation of this rule, he/she/they shall be disqualified from that sport for that year.

- 2.10 Any region competition must take place within the established boundaries of the assigned region. If it becomes necessary to host a region competition outside of the designated boundary, prior written consent is required by the region in which the event is being held.

- 2.11 Player identification:

.01 A player must be prepared, at all times, to provide proof of identification. A driver's license or comparable identification, which includes a current photograph and signature, is acceptable.

.02 A player must be prepared, at all times, to provide proof of age when participating in T.A.A.F. sports categorized by age classifications or divisions. A driver's license or copy of a birth certificate from the Bureau of Vital Statistics is acceptable.

.03 A player failing to provide appropriate proof of age or identifications, when requested by a meet director, tournament director or state commissioner, may be declared ineligible and the team/player subject to disqualification.

- 2.12 All teams must wear like colored, non-duplicated numbered jerseys for regional and state tournaments.

2.13 All participants in adult team sports must have attained the age of sixteen (16) prior to the registration date for teams in that sport, unless specific sport regulations provide otherwise.

2.14 Age determination for youth sports

| Sport                              | Age Determining Date                          |
|------------------------------------|---|
| Basketball (Boy's & Girl's Winter) | September 1 of current school year            |
| Basketball (Boy's & Girl's Summer) | September 1 of current calendar year          |
| Boxing                             | Based on age as of the Games of Texas         |
| Cheerleading                       | September 1 of current year                   |
| Flag Football – youth              | September 1 of current year                   |
| Golf – youth                       | September 1 of current year                   |
| Gymnastics                         | January 1 of the year of competition          |
| Inline Hockey                      | September 1 of current year                   |
| Kickball – Youth                   | September 1 of the current school year        |
| Softball – Youth                   | December 31 of current year                   |
| Swimming – Summer                  | June 1 of current year                        |
| Swimming – Winter                  | Age as of the Winter Games of Texas swim meet |
| Tennis                             | Age as of Games of Texas dates                |
| Track and Field                    | Based on year the athlete was born            |
| Volleyball – Youth                 | September 1 of current school year            |

**ARTICLE 4 TEAM SPORT REQUIREMENTS**

4.1 Team Sports

.01 Deadline for T.A.A.F. Registration:

| Sport                                   | Deadline   |
|---|--|
| Basketball - Adult                      | One Business Day after the State Tournament Entry Deadline |
| Basketball - Winter - Youth/High School | January 15   |
| Flag Football - 8 on 8                  | November 1   |
| Flag Football - 4 on 4                  | March 1  |
| Flag Football - Youth                   | November 1   |
| Hockey - In-line                        | Register at State Tournament                               |
| Kickball                                | Register at State Tournament                               |
| Soccer                                  | Register at State Tournament                               |
| Softball - Spring/Summer - Adult/Youth  | June 1   |
| Softball - Fall                         | Register at State Tournament                               |
| Volleyball - Adult                      | Register at State Tournament                               |
| Volleyball - Sand                       | Register at State Tournament                               |
| Volleyball - Youth                      | April 15   |

4.2 Team Fees:

.01 Member Cities and Affiliate Members will pay the following registration fees to T.A.A.F.:

- All Sport Fee: \$15 per team if all teams within that given sport are registered. (Example: Youth Basketball, Adult Flag Football.)
- Unattached Sports Team Fee: \$25 per team if not all teams within a given sport are registered, those teams are considered unattached and will not be eligible for the lowest level of play in that sport if multiple levels of play are offered.

\*Region registration fees may be added to the state team registration fees up to \$2.00 per team

- .02 REGION MEMBERSHIP FEES:
  - a. Regions that charge a fee in excess of the state fee may not exceed that fee by more than \$2.00 / team.
  - b. Regional membership fees may not exceed \$25.00
  - c. Any fee proposal exceeding the above limits must be approved by the executive board.
  - d. Any region charging a regional fee must provide the T.A.A.F. State Office proof that they have a federal tax identification number by January 2nd of the current year.
  - e. Regional fee schedule must be submitted to the T.A.A.F. State Office seven (7) days prior to the January 2005 board meeting and at the annual meeting in 2006 and thereafter.
  
- .03 Insurance may be purchased for an additional fee. Contact the T.A.A.F. state office for fees and enrollment information.
  
- .04 A late fee of five dollars (\$5.00) per team may be charged to any registration after the deadline date.
  
- 4.3 Unattached Teams (adult and youth sports only):  
The fee for an unattached team are fifty (\$50) per year. This fee allows the unattached team to participate in the highest division of adult and youth team sports
  - .01 Teams playing in a T.A.A.F. league cannot register as an unattached team.
  
- 4.4 Registration Requirements
  - .01 Member Cities/Affiliate Members/Unattached Teams must furnish the following to the T.A.A.F. State Office by the registration deadline date:
    - f. One (1) copy of the league registration form, including division codes
    - g. One (1) copy of the team registration form
    - h. All registration fees
  - .02 Team registrations must be certified by the city where they compete, if a Member City. An Affiliate Member will mail their registrations directly to the T.A.A.F. State Office.
  
- 4.5 Team Roster Requirements
  - .01 To advance in T.A.A.F. championship play, each team will be required to submit a complete team roster as follows:
    - a. It must be written or typed on an approved T.A.A.F. team roster form. Exception: Softball rosters may be submitted on the official roster from the national organizations whose rules are governing the state tournament (i.e. ASA, USSSA)
    - b. Each individual listed on the roster must sign it in ink.
  - .02 Member Cities and Affiliate Members are required to submit team rosters for those teams advancing to championship play.

.03 It is recommended that all youth teams advancing to a state tournament have a minimum of one (1) T.A.A.F. approved national certified coach, to be listed on the team roster.

4.6 Returning Teams

.01 All T.A.A.F. team champions (except youth basketball) shall be eligible to return to the state tournament as defending champions, provided they have not been reclassified and have the following minimum returning players:

|                     |            |
|---------------------|------------|
| SOFTBALL SLOW PITCH | 10 PLAYERS |
| SOFTBALL FAST PITCH | 9 PLAYERS  |
| FLAG FOOTBALL       | 6 PLAYERS  |
| BASKETBALL          | 4 PLAYERS  |
| VOLLEYBALL          | 4 PLAYERS  |

4.7 Region/State Tournament Participation

01 Sport Penalty

- a. Gymnastics only: Failure to register a gymnast with T.A.A.F. prior to competition will result in a fine of \$100 assessed to the gym for each unregistered gymnast
- b. Gymnastics only: Failure to have a gymnast ranked by the January 1 deadline will result in a late fee of \$25.

.02 In order to be eligible to compete for state honors, each team must have:

- a. Registered with T.A.A.F. by the deadline date.
- b. Fulfilled all roster requirements as specified by the Member City, or, if an Affiliate or Unattached Team, by the Regional Director.

.03 To enter a regional tournament, the local T.A.A.F. Member City representative must certify the roster. The roster must be submitted to the regional tournament director (adult men's basketball and flag football only) prior to the deadline established by the region.

.04 To enter a state tournament, the regional director must certify the roster, including if from another organization (i.e. ASA, USSSA). Note: this is NOT the regional tournament director. The roster must be submitted to the state tournament director prior to the state deadline.

- a. Affiliate and Unattached teams need to check with the T.A.A.F. state office for their requirements.

.05 Each Member City will have the right to advance any team that has registered with T.A.A.F. in all team sports except the following sports/classifications:

- a. Men's 8 on 8 Flag Football
- b. Youth Flag Football
- c. Winter Youth Basketball

.06 The state tournament director may or may not limit the number of teams that are accepted in the state tournament. The state tournament director must accept a minimum of 20 teams in each division of youth and adult basketball and youth or adult volleyball. The state tournament director must accept a minimum of 32 teams in each division of adult or youth flag football and adult or youth softball.

- a. In the Men's and Youth Flag Football State Tournaments and Girls Fast Pitch Softball Tournaments each Member City member will have the right to advance one (1)

T.A.A.F. registered team to participate in the T.A.A.F. State Championship Tournament. The state tournament host city will have the authority to accept additional teams, if team registrations for the state tournament from the "automatic berths" do not fill the tournament.

b. The teams in the Winter Youth State Basketball Tournament must qualify through regional tournament. The Winter Boys and Girls State Basketball Commissioners will set the number of teams that qualify for the Winter Youth State Basketball Tournament. The State Commissioners and State Tournament Directors will determine the total number of teams accepted in the Boys and Girls Winter State Basketball Tournaments.

.07 In a regional or state T.A.A.F. tournament, any team that fails to show up may be suspended from T.A.A.F. play for one year unless the team notifies their regional director and the state tournament director of their intent to be a no show. This notification must be made prior to the start of the tournament. This rule applies to every participant; all team members and all coaches, on the official team roster.