

# **Table of Contents**

Section	Section Page		Page	
Welcome	2	Volunteer Opportunities	17	
Mission Statement	23	Insurance	17	
About Us	3	Basketball Coaching	18	
Guiding Principles	3	Selection of Coaches	18	
Game Plan	3	Coach Training	18	
Essentials	3 4	Coach Responsibility	10	
Website Information	4	Coaching Best Practices	20	
Not For Profit Status	4	Coaching Equipment	21	
Executive Board	5	Player Playing Time	21	
Contact Information	5	Practices & Practice Times	21	
Safety	5	Gym Time Violations	22	
Weather Information & Communications	5	Complaint Process	22	
Food & Drinks	6	Disciplinary Action	22	
OSBA Season	6	Addenda		
Registration Fee's	8	Search Institute 40 Developmental Assets		
OSBA Apparel & Equipment	9	Staying Hydrated		
Tournaments	9	Concussion Protocol		
OSBA Hosted Tournaments	10	Forms		
OSBA Sports Pledge	10	Registration Form		
General OSBA Sports Policy	10	Waiver		
OSBA Player Responsibility	11	Injury Report Form		
OSBA Players Code of Conduct Pledge	11	Complaint Form		
OSBA Code of Ethics	12	RI BCI Request Form		
Player Best Practices	12			
Player Bill of Rights	12			
What Parents Can Do to Help?	13			
OSBA Parent Responsibility	14			
Parent Best Practices	15			
Parent Code of Conduct	16			

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1790 Warwick Avenue Warwick, RI 02889 U.S.A.



Dear Players, Parents and Contributing Partners,

Do Your Best, Inc., our Board of Directors and Management Staff welcomes you to the Ocean State Basketball Association. We look forward to an engaging and productive journey with positive memories and lessons that will benefit a lifetime. Our goal is to impact lives, make a measurable difference and encourage our players to pass the torch on to the next generation.

This OSBA handbook describes the Ocean State Basketball Association's sports program. Please take a few minutes and read the information inside this handbook. This material may answer some of your questions, as well as give you the Youth Sports Philosophy and the Do Your Best, Inc. mission statement. We strive to be different in the right ways.

The Do Your Best, Inc. Youth Sports programs are possible by the dedication of volunteers. Many volunteers put in several hours of work to make the Ocean State Basketball Association a success. Thank you to all of our OSBA and DYB volunteers who invest time and energy into the lives of young people today. If you are interested in future volunteer opportunities, please contact us.

Famílíes are very important to us. Please take an interest in your child by encouraging them in practice and game participation to do their personal best. Also, time spent with your child at home in sport skills development builds confidence and parent-child relationships.

Thank you for your participation. We look forward to serving you and your child in our Youth Sports program. We encourage all of our OSBA Players to take full advantage of the Do Your Best, Inc. program. If you have any comments or questions, please call the Ocean State Basketball Association at 401-226-3169 or visit our website <u>www.oceanstatebasketball.org</u>.

God Bless **Michael J. Malloy** Míchael J. Malloy Presídent & Coach

## **Mission Statement**

In concert with our parent organization, "Do Your Best Inc.," our mission on and off the court is to prepare players to make ethical, honorable and the "best choices" for them over their lifetimes. Through the game of basketball we work to instill values of team play, leadership, good sportsmanship, good citizenship, pursuing excellence and passing the torch to the next generation of players.

## About Us

The Ocean State Basketball Association (DBA) is part of the "Do Your Best, Inc." family 501(c) (3) Not-For-Profit organization. Our website is located а at www.oceanstatebasketball.org. Please visit our parent org website: doyourbestusa.org. Do Your Best, Inc. offers a host of opportunities for youth and young adult life betterment.

Organized in June of 2018 the OSBA is open to all boys and girls, grades four through twelve. OSBA embraces and promotes diversity as our strength, beauty and team success foundation. Preference is given to those having economic need.

## **Guiding Principles**

We work hard to prepare our young players for excellence on and off the court-including but not limited to:

- > Promoting ethical and honorable choices over their lifetimes
- > Furthering dignity, honor, integrity and respect for others as the rule
- > Embracing: Team play, leadership, and good sportsmanship
- > Encouraging a personal pursuit of excellence and enjoying the journey with passion
- Nurturing both high talent and those needing more, by facilitating betterment at every level of skill
- > Appealing to ALL on sharing of their talent and time to the next generations and successfully pass the torch.

## Game Plan

**Safety**: At all times to do all in our power to promote a safe and healthy environment during practices, games, and OSBA functions.

**Development:** To educate our athletes about the game of basketball by establishing and gradually building upon sound basketball skills (mental and physical) character, and sportsmanship. Ultimately, the developmental process will assist basketball

athletes to mature and be prepared for the next steps in their basketball careers and personal lives. For the 5<sup>th</sup> through 12 grade levels basketball rules adapted by the National Federation of State High School Associations will be adhered to. The exception being house rules that must be abided by in any given tournament OSBA participates in. The 4<sup>th</sup> grade level is discretionary and will follow house rules. The NFHS rules manual is available on our website.

**Teamwork:** To teach athletes the importance of setting aside individual interests to cooperatively work towards a result that benefits others in your group. Positive social interaction, selflessness, and discipline are all essential ingredients in the establishment of the team environment.

**Competition**: To compete, regardless of skill level, in games and game-like situations, which are an essential teaching component for the youth in our program. Competition in practice and game settings is healthy to the overall developmental process.

**Enjoyment**: To foster an environment where positive reinforcement and fun lead to excitement for the game of basketball.

## Essentials

The OSBA strongly encourages participation in age/skill level appropriate AAU Tournaments. We also advocate participation in all quality local leagues. Quality defined as a program consisting of honor, Player Centric practices, fair application of rules and play, promoting of skill building and always putting the safety of our players first.

Choosing not to be involved with OSBA game or tournament activities does not exclude boys and girls from participating in OSBA programs for basketball activities. Where possible by location and enrollment, OSBA will run training clinics and in-house basketball leagues. Age appropriate skills and concepts being taught will be determined and continually assessed by the Executive Board and shared with the coach' at each grade level.

## **OSBA Website**

For the convenience of all our OSBA Coaches, Players, Parents and Contributing Partners a website is available. The address is <u>www.oceanstatebasketball.org</u>. You will find most information needed during the season posted on this website, including important notices. It is each coach's responsibility to check the website, at least weekly, for any updates. A copy of the OSBA manual can be found on the website as well. Our parent company website is doyourbestusa.org.

## **Not-For-Profit Status**

The OSBA (a DBA) is a member affiliate of "Do Your Best, Inc." and is a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization.

## **Executive Board**

The Do Your Best, Inc. Board of Directors' oversees responsibility for the Ocean State Basketball Association organization and our Treasurer submits an annual written report to the Executive Board at the end of the season and fiscal year. Donations and/or sponsorships given to the OSBA are for the benefit of the entire organization and can't be directed to one specific team or program. The Ocean State Basketball Athletic Director and Do Your Best, Inc. President administer the Ocean State Basketball Association day to day business.

#### Administrators of OSBA

President/Chairman: Athletic Director: Michael J. Malloy Jeremy Wilner

## **Contact Information**

Jeremy Wilner: jwilner@oceanstatebasketball.org Michael J. Malloy: mmalloy@oceanstatebasketball.org

#### Coaches

Visit <u>www.oceanstatebasketball.org</u> regularly to find updated coaching lists. Anyone interested in coaching should contact Jeremy Wilner for an interview.

## **Coaches' Online Training Website**

If you are a volunteer coach and unable to attend the scheduled training, you are required to complete training online. See website for details.

#### Safety

All sporting activities will be monitored by OSBA staff who are trained in CPR and First Aid. First Aid kits are available at all OSBA sites.

## Weather Information/Cancellations/Communications

For severe weather conditions, go to <u>www.oceanstatebasketball.org</u>. We will do our best to ensure timely postings. We will have the latest information regarding game day cancellations and weather-related information.

Cancelled practices will not be made up. Cancelled games will only be made up if the schedule allows. Wherever possible, coaches, players and parents will be notified within one-week of a cancellation on the make-up status.

## Food and Drinks

We thank you in advance for helping to keep any of our practice or game facilities clean. Please do not bring food or drink in the gymnasium during practices or games. Exception being water or Gatorade needed to replace bodily fluids of our Players.

**Your opinion matters to us!** A web-based survey is available on line at all times for our OSBA families. A survey will be sent to you via email before the end of the season. If your email is not on file with us, visit our Member Services Desk to have it added.

## **OSBA Season**

The fiscal year begins January 1st of each year and ends December 31st.

Registration for the OSBA begins on September 1st of each year for 4th-12th grades. The fall basketball AAU season starts in September ending in late October. Local league basketball starts in November and lasts until March. The formal AAU seasons begin in March and conclude in July.

Tryout, practice dates and times are scheduled by the OSBA Athletic Director. Once the teams are formed and gym time is assigned, the coaches will contact each parent with that information. Registration for  $4^{th}$ —12<sup>th</sup> grades begin September 1<sup>st</sup> and continue throughout the season as needed to accommodate league play. Tryouts, clinics and open gyms will be posted on our website.

#### Note:

- ➤ Fall AAU season begins in September and Concludes in Lat October. Aside from practice clinics, during this season there are minimal practice times for those participating in AAU tournaments and on average 1 to 4 AAU tournaments are booked during fall season.
- Winter Season begins in November ending in March and has anywhere from one to two practices weekly for local league play.
- Spring AAU Season begins in March and ends in July having two practices weekly and up to a maximum of 8 Tournament selections not including nationals and/or finals.
- Given the mission of Do Your Best, Inc. and the Ocean State Basketball Association we understand and promote organized middle and high school basketball as a priority. To this end the OSBA and its coaches will maintain communication and where possible work with school coaches to bring about the best result for our players.

**Fourth Grade**: Practices will be once or twice a week during winter and spring seasons. OSBA Directors and coaches are responsible for choosing teams with coaches conducting practices, games and scrimmage coaching. The fourth graders are encouraged to participate in one or two tournaments and various local scrimmages that the OSBA will be participating in.

**Fifth Grade**: Practices will be once or twice a week during winter and spring seasons. OSBA Directors and coaches are responsible for choosing teams with coaches conducting practices and game and scrimmage coaching. The fifth graders are encouraged to participate in two to three tournaments and the various local scrimmages that the OSBA will be participating in.

**Sixth Grade**: Practices will be once or twice a week during winter and spring seasons. OSBA Directors and coaches are responsible for choosing teams with coaches conducting practices and game and scrimmage coaching. 6<sup>th</sup> graders are encouraged to participate in two to three tournaments and the various local scrimmages that the OSBA will be participating in.

**Seventh Grade**: Practices will be once or twice a week during winter and spring seasons. OSBA Directors and coaches are responsible for choosing teams with coaches conducting practices and game and scrimmage coaching. 7<sup>th</sup> graders are encouraged to participate in two to three tournaments and the various local scrimmages that the OSBA will be participating in.

**Eighth Grade:** Practices will be once or twice a week during winter and spring seasons. OSBA Directors and coaches are responsible for choosing teams with coaches conducting practices and game and scrimmage coaching. 8th graders are encouraged to participate in two to three tournaments and the various local scrimmages that the OSBA will be participating in.

**Ninth Grade:** Practices will be once or twice a week during winter and spring seasons. OSBA Directors and coaches are responsible for choosing teams with coaches conducting practices and game and scrimmage coaching. 9th graders are encouraged to participate in two to three tournaments and the various local scrimmages that the OSBA will be participating in.

**Tenth Grade:** Practices will be once or twice a week during winter and spring seasons. OSBA Directors and coaches are responsible for choosing teams with coaches conducting practices and game and scrimmage coaching. 10th graders are encouraged to participate in two to three tournaments and the various local scrimmages that the OSBA will be participating in.

**Eleventh Grade:** Practices will be once or twice a week during winter and spring seasons. OSBA Directors and coaches are responsible for choosing teams with coaches conducting practices and game and scrimmage coaching. 11<sup>th</sup> graders are

encouraged to participate in two to three tournaments and the various local scrimmages that the OSBA will be participating in.

**Twelfth Grade:** Practices will be once or twice a week during winter and spring seasons. OSBA Directors and coaches are responsible for choosing teams with coaches conducting practices and game and scrimmage coaching. 12<sup>th</sup> graders are encouraged to participate in two to three tournaments and the various local scrimmages that the OSBA will be participating in.

## **Registration Fees**

**Note:** Within the mission of Do Your Best, Inc. and the Ocean State Basketball Association we provide economic assistance to those players and families having demonstrated economic need. The OSBA has a confidential process to work with parents in these instances. When our not-for-profit status gets IRS approval it is our goal to fund most if not all registration and participation fees with our valued Contributing Partners. At present (July 2018) our fee schedule is as follows:

**Fall Season:** Players pay for their individual uniforms and warm up jerseys which are theirs to keep. Cost is \$100.00. We normally enter 1 to 4 fall tournaments and the cost per tournament is \$25.00 per player payable in advance.

**November 1 through March:** Recreation & Travel Team Basketball along with Development Clinics will be published on our website along with rates. We will participate where possible.

#### Spring AAU Season Registration fees for the grades are as follows:

(Note: As explained earlier if the OSBA is able to secure funding through donations for our league the goal is no charge to our players. Website updates will be posted on this).

**Fourth Grade:** \$350.00 payable prior to season start. This includes an OSBA uniform, coaching and practice fees. We shoot for a total team roster of no more than 12 players.

**Fifth Grade:** \$350.00 payable prior to season start. This includes an OSBA uniform, coaching and practice fees. We shoot for a total team roster of no more than 12 players

**Sixth Grade:** \$350.00 payable prior to season start. This includes an OSBA uniform, coaching and practice fees. We shoot for a total team roster of no more than 12 players

**Seventh Grade:** \$375.00 payable prior to season start. This includes an OSBA uniform, coaching and practice fees. We shoot for a total team roster of no more than 12 players

**Eighth Grade:** \$375.00 payable prior to season start. This includes an OSBA uniform, coaching and practice fees. We shoot for a total team roster of no more than 12 players

**Ninth Grade:** \$375.00 payable prior to season start. This includes an OSBA uniform, coaching and practice fees. We shoot for a total team roster of no more than 12 players

**Tenth Grade:** \$375.00 payable prior to season start. This includes an OSBA uniform, coaching and practice fees. We shoot for a total team roster of no more than 12 players.

**Eleventh Grade:** \$375.00 payable prior to season start. This includes an OSBA uniform, coaching and practice fees. We shoot for a total team roster of no more than 12 players

**Twelfth Grade:** \$375.00 payable prior to season start. This includes an OSBA uniform, coaching and practice fees. We shoot for a total team roster of no more than 12 players

## **OSBA** Apparel and Equipment

The OSBA will provide long sleeve shooting shirts for all teams. We allow players to keep their uniforms at Seasons End and ask if that uniform fits for future seasons that the player maintain and use it. Uniforms are a required purchase at registration time and cost is \$100.00 that counts towards the entire registration fee.

OSBA supplies all practice basketballs and practice equipment. We ask that our players respect that fact and maintain the equipment in as good shape as possible.

We also welcome additional uniform and fan support purchases of sweatshirts, jackets and more to help our cause. Go to the oceanstatebasketball.org on line store for more.

#### Tournaments

Coaches will receive a list of available tournaments at their mandatory beginning of the season meetings. They are required to register for the tournaments and submit payment requests for entry fees to the Board of Directors treasurer. All tournaments need to be selected by coaches and approved by the OSBA Executive Board with payments mailed in on time. Please be timely with your players tournament fee's so we avoid missing out on registrations.

## **OSBA Annual Tournaments**

The OSBA's intent is to host our own basketball tournaments where and when we can. Understanding we will be competing for court space with other organizations we will be working passionately to host our own tournaments. These events would represent the OSBA program's main fundraiser, and every team that participates in these events will be required to assist in one way or another. All OSBA teams are allowed to participate in these tournaments at no cost. More to come!

## **OSBA Sports Pledge**

As a member of the OSBA whether I/We Win or lose, I pledge to embrace good sportsmanship and comport myself with restraint and good judgement. I will at all times strive to bring honor upon myself, my family and the CLCF organization. I will do my best, try my hardest and be a team player that will respect my teammates, my opponents and officials.

## **General OSBA Sports Policy**

- 1. All siblings can be placed on the same team, provided they are in the same age grouping. Please indicate this request on the OSBA registration form (s) for both players.
- 2. Player and coach requests will be accepted; however, no guarantees are made. Please indicate this request on the OSBA registration form.
- 3. Games are canceled due to severe weather. A decision to games status is made 1 hour prior to the first game time scheduled. If a cancellation occurs, make-ups will be scheduled at the end of the season (if possible).
- 4. Schedules will be available to you by the Team Coach prior to first game/practice.
- 5. Uniforms will be handed out before the first game.
- 6. End of season awards will be given to coaches to present during the last game.
- 7. Pictures are taken for sports programs and will be passed out to the coach to pass out to the players. Purchasing your pictures is an option, not an obligation. However, please have your child present for the team photo. All picture concerns are handled by the photographer.
- 8. All children in youth sports should wear comfortable athletic clothing at practice.
- 9. Team t-shirts should be worn on picture days and at all games. Please have the Player dress appropriately for the sport and the weather.
- 10.We ask that you would be respectful to all OSBA property. Please do not smoke on the premises. If a mess of any kind is made, please clean it up prior to leaving. Some locations do not have trash containers available, so please bring trash bags if you are in charge of team snacks.

11.All parents have the opportunity to evaluate programs. Please take the time to do this on line. Thank You Very Much!

## **OSBA Player Responsibilities**

The student-athletes representing the OSBA are to behave in a manner that positively represents the OSBA, Do Your Best, Inc., their respective families, communities and most importantly their self-dignity and honor. The OSBA Players' Code of Conduct are listed below:

## **OSBA Players Code of Conduct Pledge**

- > I will at all times practice and encourage good sportsmanship from fellow players, coaches, officials, and parents at every game and practice.
- I will attend every practice and game that I can and will notify my coach if I cannot.
- I will do my very best to listen and learn from my coaches; I will not use profanity nor will I initiate a fights or exhibit behavior that is disruptive in any way.
- > I will treat my coaches, teammates, other players, officials, and all fans with respect regardless of race, sex, creed, or abilities and I will expect to be treated accordingly.
- I will never speak out publicly against my organization, my team, my teammates or players and will not participate in any bullying or berating of any kind. This includes bullying or berating on social media.
- I will do my personal best at all times on the court individually and as a team player.
- ➤ I will do my best to enjoy the journey and have fun with my teammates. I will alert my coaches and parents of any problems and issues I am having that detract from enjoying the journey.
- I deserve to play in an environment that is free of drugs, tobacco, and alcohol. Accordingly, I will refrain from ever using drugs, tobacco and alcohol while a member of the OSBA.
- > I will encourage my parents to be involved with my team in some way.

#### **OSBA Code of Ethics**

All players and their parents will be required to sign a "OSBA Code of Ethics" form during registration. This explains the expectations the OSBA requires from its participants. A copy of this form can be found on the website under "Forms". Violations of the OSBA Code of Ethics may result in removal from the OSBA.

## PLAYER BEST PRACTICES

- 1. Be ready to practice and play—giving it your all each time on the court.
- 2. Always perform up to your potential—Do Your Best and always have fun and enjoy the journey of OSBA youth sports!
- 3. Arrive at practice and games on time.
- 4. Show respect for your coach, adult volunteers and other players at all times. Ask questions when appropriate.
- 5. If you are injured tell the coach immediately.
- 6. Show respect to each member of the other team and to referee's and officials.
- 7. Be an unselfish team player—BE A PLAY MAKER.
- 8. Pay attention to the coach in practice and in the game and do your best to learn the skills being taught.
- 9. Have lots of fun and grow to love the game.

#### PLAYER BILL OF RIGHTS

- 1. The right to determine when to participate and in what sports and to what degree of involvement.
- 2. The right to play on the appropriate OSBA team.
- 3. The right to be taught the fundamentals of the sport by a teacher or coach that knows and teaches the proper rules.
- 4. The right to be coached by those who have been trained in or who have been made aware of the various stages of emotional and psychological development in children, and to be treated on a level equivalent to their emotional and physical maturity – not by standards of collegiate or professional sports.
- 5. The right to have a coach who places the child first, the team second,

himself or herself third, and winning fourth. The right to feel free to laugh after a defeat and to have fun participating even while playing on a losing team.

- 6. The right to have a coach who is patient and supportive, as opposed to one who believes in a harsh, negative, "professional" approach; a coach who takes time to work with each athlete, regardless of ability or potential.
- 7. The right to be treated as a valued member of the team, not a dictatorship, including the freedom to voice opinions openly to the coach without fear or repercussion.
- 8. The right to play in a safe and supportive atmosphere.
- 9. The right to report to a coach or parent any physical pain or emotional concerns such as fear or rejection without fear of ridicule or loss of esteem.
- 10. The right to freedom from physical and emotional punishment by their parents or the coach. Punishment leads only to fear and inhibition. The purpose of sports should be to help a child grow, feel expansive, and realize his or her potential.

#### What can parents do to help?

1. Sign up to coach a team if you have the skill to do so. The OSBA has many resources to help new coaches get started. You'll find it to be a very rewarding experience.

2. Sign up to be an assistant coach. Learn by helping another parent coach.

3. Be a part of the team. Get involved. Every parent should have duties to do for the team. Ask the coach what you can do to help. Do not overstep your bounds or become over involved!

4. Support your child. Give your child the encouragement he/she needs without putting pressure on him/her.

5. Get to know the coach. Who is he/she? What are his/her coaching philosophies? Are his/her methods of coaching appropriate for my son's/daughter's age level? What does my child think of him/her? Is he/she too focused on winning?

6. Support the coach. Let the coach do the coaching. If you want to coach, then coach a team yourself. If you're not the coach, then keep your comments to yourself and coach next season.

7. Get your child to practices and games on time! It's called commitment, and it will be one of the most useful traits to instill in your child for use in the "real world". That bewildered look on your child's face when he/she doesn't know what to do in a game comes from lack of experience. Experience happens in practice and in games.

8. Volunteer with timekeeping and scorekeeping during games and tournaments.

9. Volunteer to help during OSBA tournaments. These tournaments are the OSBA's largest fundraisers of the year. The proceeds from these tournaments allow the OSBA to keep costs at a minimum for participants.

10. Ask about being on the OSBA or DYB Board of Directors. We are always looking for new and fresh ideas to make the Ocean State Basketball Association program the best it can be.

#### **OSBA Parent Responsibilities**

The role of the parents is critical to the success of the OSBA program. It is, therefore, important that you follow the Parents' Code of Ethics listed below:

- I am responsible for transporting my child safely to and from practices in a timely fashion.
- I will drop my child off no earlier than 10 minutes before the beginning of practice and pick them up promptly at the conclusion of practice.
- ➤ I will not leave them unattended in the gyms or the schools without a coach present.
- I will remember that children participate for enjoyment and that the game is for youth, not adults.
- ➤ I (and my guests) will be a positive role model for my child and encourage sportsmanship by showing respect, courtesy, and by demonstrating positive support for all players, coaches, officials, and spectators at every game, practice, or sporting event.
- I (and my guests) will not engage in any kind of unsportsmanlike conduct with any official, coach, player, or parent such as booing and taunting, refusing to shake hands, or using profane language or gestures.
- ➤ I will teach my child to play by the rules and to resolve conflicts without resorting to hostility or violence. I will demand that my child treat other players, coaches, officials, and spectators. with respect regardless of race, creed, color, sex, or ability.
- I will teach my child that doing one's best is more important than winning so that my child will never feel defeated by the outcome of a game or his/her

performance.

- > I will never ridicule or yell at my child or other participants for making a mistake or losing a competition.
- I will promote the emotional and physical well-being of the athletes ahead of any personal desire I may have for my child to win.
- > I will respect the officials and their authority during games and will never question, discuss, or confront coaches at the court.
- I will take time to speak with the coach at an agreed upon time and place if a conflict arises.
- I will refrain from coaching my child or other players during games and practices unless I am one of the official coaches of the team.

#### PARENT BEST PRACTICES

- 1. Read and use all printed material provided by the OSBA.
- 2. Make sure your player arrives on time to all practices and games.
- 3. Ensure the player is properly equipped with shoes, shorts/sweats and team t-shirts.
- 4. Stay at practices and games whenever possible and support your player and team.
- 5. Volunteer to help the coach whenever possible, perhaps assisting in practice and sitting on the bench with players. All must undergo criminal background check and approval first.
- 6. Always inform the coach if the player is unable to attend practice or game.
- 7. Encourage your child, and the team; never insult, never degrade, and never be disrespectful to the other team or the referee's. Practice and encourage good sportsmanship.
- 8. Encourage your child to treat others with respect regardless of race, sex, creed or ability. Diversity is our strength and beauty.
- 9. Spend time at home practicing with your child on his/her skill development.
- 10. Acknowledge the other team's accomplishments.

- 11. Support and do not criticize the coach.
- 12. Support and do not criticize the referees.
- 13. Be positive at all times!
- 14. Enjoy the games and have fun!
- 15. Be drug, tobacco and alcohol free.
- 16. Be aware of the OSBA Youth Sports Philosophy and support it!

### PARENT CODE OF CONDUCT

- 1. I hereby pledge to provide positive support, care and encouragement for my child participating in OSBA Sports.
- 2. I will remember that the game is for youth not for adults.
- 3. I will encourage good sportsmanship by demonstrating positive support for all players, instructors, coaches and officials at every game, practice or other youth sports event.
- 4. I will place the emotional and physical well-being of my child ahead of a personal desire to win.
- 5. I will insist that my child play in a safe and healthy environment.
- 6. I will support the League Director, Coaches, Instructors and Officials working with my child, in order to encourage a positive and enjoyable experience for all.
- 7. I will demand a sports environment for my child that is free of drugs, tobacco, and alcohol and will refrain from their use at all OSBA Sporting events.
- 8. I will do my very best to make OSBA youth sports fun for my child.
- 9. I will ask my child to treat other players, coaches, instructors, fans and officials with respect regardless of race, sex, creed or ability.
- 10. I promise to help my child enjoy the youth sports experience by doing whatever I can, such as being a respectable fan or assisting with coaching if needed.
- 11. I will require that my child's coach be trained in the responsibilities of being a youth sports coach and that the coach fulfills his/her responsibilities.

12. I will strive to fulfill the mission of the OSBA and demonstrate adherence to the OSBA Sports philosophy.

## **Volunteer Opportunities**

Volunteers are CRITICAL TO OSBA Sports and Do Your Best, Inc. Without the help of volunteers, our programs would not exist! You don't have to be a coach to volunteer for the OSBA or Do Your Best, Inc. Some of the things parents, fans and friends can do include:

- **Be a Referral Partner:** Those having a talent that is teachable to our Youth that **Do Your Best, Inc.** can refer our Clients out to.
- Be an OSBA or DYB Contributing Partner: Help us with donations for our programs to assist our youth and young adults in life skill training, athletics, job placement, theater and the arts, music, agriculture, entrepreneurial & new venture exposure and more. Both individual and Corporate Donations are needed.
- > Buy from the OSBA and DYB on line store
- > Coaching or Assistant Coaching:
- > Officiating in the training leagues:
- Act as "Team Mom or Dad" to assist with team activities (i.e. coordinate snacks, make call, etc.)
- > Help maintain game and practice facilities
- > Help distribute information to teams
- > Using a special talent or skill you have for OSBA or DYB
- > Score Keeping or Team Statistician

#### Insurance

Parent (s) or legal guardian will be requested to sign a "Waiver of Liability / Player Participation Form". If the form is not signed, the player will not be allowed to participate in any OSBA related practices, games, or tournaments. These forms will be provided to Players and can also be found on the website under "Forms". Additionally, the OSBA carries an insurance policy issued by the AAU.

#### **Basketball Coaching**

Great Coaches are always in demand! Passion for the sport with an equal passion for making all of our youth better is usually the starting point. OSBA Coaches are first and foremost community role models and outstanding examples to our youth. Our Coaches must adhere to a strict code of ethics to include safety first, promoting family, leadership, good sportsmanship, team play, a love of the game, honor, respect, building self-esteem and confidence in our players, and appropriate age-related pursuit of excellence on and off the court.

#### **Selection of Coaches**

Any responsible adult, who requests to coach a team, must submit an OSBA coaching application. The OSBA Executive Board will make the determination to accept or deny any application. All coaches are volunteers and will not receive compensation for their time, although we hope to change this in the future. Coaches with any felony convictions or serious misdemeanors of moral turpitude will not be considered.

Coaches must obtain and provide official copy of an annual criminal background check from the RI Bureau of Criminal Identification in Cranston. Coaches must be good role models and represent our community in a positive manner. All coaches must attend mandatory meetings for both Do Your Best, Inc. and the Ocean State Basketball Association. Additionally, OSBA Coaches must obtain NFHS on line certification from selected courses at the beginning of the OSBA season.

If there are groups of youth that do not have a coach, the OSBA will assist in locating a coach. If no coach is located, and a player is not placed on a team, the player's registration fees will be refunded. A copy of the application can be found on the website under "Forms".

#### **OSBA Coach Training**

OSBA Basketball Coaches are required to participate in the OSBA **Coaches Training sessions prior to the start of each season.** The coach's trainings are not just another "meeting," but much more than that. It involves leadership training for volunteer coaches, learning the OSBA Brand and way of conducting youth sports, skill development, and program development.

Trainings are held prior to the start of each sports season. It is important that coaches are aware of OSBA Sports principles, making certain that positive competition in youth sports is a positive experience for all of your youth, parents, coaches, referees, and spectators.

#### **OSBA Coaching Responsibilities**

The role of a coach being a teacher and role model for players is not to be taken lightly. The experience is more than just teaching the fundamentals of basketball; it's

also about teaching life lessons that our players will remember throughout their lives. Coaches should adhere to the Coaches' Code of Conduct listed below:

- ➤ I will place the emotional and physical well-being of my players ahead of a personal desire to win.
- ➤ I will treat each player as an individual, remembering the large range of emotional and physical development for the same age group.
- > I will put the safety of my players first in all that I do.
- > I will teach my players in a positive, nurturing manner. I will not berate, intimidate, or bully my players into learning.
- I will promise to review and practice the basic first aid principles needed to treat injuries to my players.
- > I will do my best to organize practices that maximize skill building and are challenging for all my players while never forgetting the fun part of the game as a necessary component.
- I will lead by example in demonstrating excellence, fair play and sportsmanship to all my players.
- I will provide a sports environment for my team that is free of drugs, tobacco, and alcohol, and I will refrain from their use at all youth sports events.
- I will be knowledgeable in the rules of basketball, and I will teach these rules to my players.
- > I will use coaching techniques appropriate for each of the skills that I teach.
- > I will exhibit respect for the referees and other coaches. I will speak with the referees and other coaches in a civil, calm manner. I will not openly berate, taunt, or otherwise comment negatively on the referees or other coaches.
- ➤ I will remember that I am an OSBA basketball coach and that the game is for the Players and not the adults.
- I will adhere to the Coaches' Code of Conduct while participating in any activity related to the OSBA.

#### **Coaching Best Practices**

- 1. Be welcoming! Contact players prior to your first practice to welcome them and confirm practice times/dates/location.
- 2. Be accessible and approachable to players and parents before and after practices and games. Arrive early to help build relationships.
- 3. Be informative and distribute all printed materials and communicate any changes in the schedule or special announcements, such as Picture Day and Award Day information.
- 4. Take attendance and call players who have missed two practices or games in a row.
- 5. Promote exceptional sportsmanship and respect for ALL regardless of race, sex, creed or ability. Diversity is our strength and beauty!
- 6. Assure safe and fair play at all times.
- 7. Dress appropriately and smartly.
- 8. Plan practice sessions and game plans.
- 9. Encourage and be positive in correcting and instructing.
- 10. Know emergency procedures.
- 11. Listen to players.
- 12. Know the rules of the game and pass that knowledge on to other players.
- 13. Make it a rewarding and worthwhile experience.
- 14. Be drug, tobacco and alcohol free.
- 15. Understand that you are a representative of the OSBA during all events.
- 16. Lead by influence and influence by example among program parents to support the duties and responsibilities of the referees and league leadership.
- 17. Remember you are a role model in every sense.
- 18. Be aware of the OSBA Youth Sports Philosophy and support it.
- 19. Be at your best, have fun and always put your Players First!

#### **Coaching Equipment**

Coaches will receive equipment from the OSBA at the beginning of the season. This includes practice vests, cones, a whiteboard, and a whistle, basketballs, rope ladders and more. Keys to the gyms will be given out by the OSBA Athletic Director. All vests, cones, and keys are to be returned at the end of the season meeting. Coaches will also be required to fill out an end of the season evaluations to be given to players to use as a learning tool.

#### **Player Playing Time**

The OSBA does not have a playing time rule for AAU and Travel Teams and leaves playing time up to the discretion of each coach. The OSBA does recommend that each player plays in every game and that the 50/50 playing time rule applies to 4th thru 6th grades and a 60/40 rule for 7th and 8th grades, with a 65/35 rule for 9<sup>th</sup> through  $12^{th}$ .

#### Practices and Practice Times

Gym usage is a privilege and not a right. Make sure everything is picked up and put away. ALL OF THE DOORS MUST BE LOCKED and the lights turned off. IF GYM PROCEDURES ARE VIOLATED, YOUR GYM TIME MAY BE REVOKED FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE SEASON.

For teams in 4th-12th grades, the OSBA will attempt to schedule at least two weekly practice sessions during the main AAU Spring season. These practice sessions are generally between 1 to 1.5 hours. The OSBA will work with CLCF, Johnston Recreation Department and the Cranston Public Schools to coordinate season practices. Coaches are responsible to secure gym time outside of OSBA scheduled gym time.

ALL gym time must be scheduled through the OSBA Athletic Director. The AD will also be providing you with your schedules and gym keys. A coach may request additional gym time by contacting the AD. If the reserved time is not used and the AD is not notified via email, the Boards may revoke this privilege from the team for the rest of the season. Practice and tournament schedules will be found on the website.

#### **Gym Time Violations**

The use of the City of Cranston Public gyms is a privilege. OSBA values every gym time minute we have. Coaches who violate the school gym time rules or OSBA gym procedures may have their gym time taken away. An example would be coaches allowing youth to roam hallways, not cleaning up after themselves, neglecting to turn off lights and scoreboards, and not locking the school doors. These types of violations could result in a warning, or in the case of severe or continued violations, the Boards WILL revoke OSBA scheduled gym time for the remainder of the season. Gym time

begins September 1st and runs through July 31st of the following year. We need to value our gym time!

#### **OSBA Complaint Process**

Any complaints must first be brought to the attention of the team's coach to see if it can be resolved. If the complaint can't be handled by the coach, or the person with the complaint is not satisfied with the resolution, the complaint must be submitted in writing using the Ocean State Basketball Association Complaint Form. These can be located on the website under "Forms". No complaint will be investigated unless the reporting person puts it in writing. The Boards will investigate the complaint thoroughly and will submit a written disposition in a timely manner to the complainant.

#### **Disciplinary Action**

The OSBA has a zero-tolerance policy. Any player or coach who exhibits any such behavior as to bring embarrassment to the OSBA program may be suspended for a game, series of tournaments, or under the worst circumstances, be released from the program. In appropriate language or speech by coaches, players, or parents will also not be tolerated! Disciplinary action will be determined by the Boards with all decisions being final. There is no appeal process. The guidelines for disciplinary procedures are as follows:

- 1. Verbal discussion of the problem.
- 2. Verbal discussion and written documentation of the problem.
- 3. Verbal discussion and written documentation with suspension of activities.
- 4. Verbal discussion and written documentation with removal from the program.

# Addenda

## Search Institute

The **Search Institute** began in 1958. Search Institute's founder, Merton Strommen, a young youth director, was asked to develop a survey for his doctoral dissertation to understand the concerns and needs of young people in a newly merging Lutheran denomination. The resulting survey was administered to 2,000 youth and 2,000 adults.

It led to the establishment of Lutheran Youth Research in 1960 to continue scientific research on youth in religious institutions. The organization's name evolved until it became Search Institute in 1977, reflecting a broadened research agenda.

The organization's first book, What Youth Are Thinking, was published. It would be the first of a long line of youth-focused books and materials published by Search Institute.

The organization was incorporated as an independent non-profit, and gains credibility and support from the U.S. government on national youth projects.

## "The Search Institute's 40 Developmental Assets®"

## **EXTERNAL ASSETS**

#### Support

- 1. Family support—Family life provides high levels of love and support.
- 2. Positive family communication—Young person and her or his parent(s) communicate positively, and young person is willing to seek parent(s) advice and counsel.
- 3. Other adult relationships—Young person receives support from three or more nonparent adults.
- 4. Caring neighborhood—Young person experiences caring neighbors.
- 5. Caring school climate—School provides a caring, encouraging environment.
- 6. Parent involvement in schooling—Parent(s) are actively involved in helping young person succeed in school.

#### Empowerment

- 7. Community values youth—Young person perceives that adults in the community value youth.
- 8. Youth as resources—Young people are given useful roles in the community.
- 9. Service to others—Young person serves in the community one hour or more per week.

10.Safety—Young person feels safe at home, school, and in the neighborhood.

#### **Boundaries and Expectations**

11. Family boundaries—Family has clear rules and consequences, and monitors the young

person's whereabouts.

- 12. School boundaries—School provides clear rules and consequences.
- 13. Neighborhood boundaries—Neighbors take responsibility for monitoring young people's behavior.
- 14. Adult role models—Parent(s) and other adults' model positive, responsible behavior.
- 15. Positive peer influence—Young person's best friends' model responsible behavior.
- 16. High expectations—Both parent(s) and teachers encourage the young person to do well.

## **Constructive Use of Time**

- 17. Creative activities—Young person spends three or more hours per week in lessons or practice in music, theater, or other arts.
- 18. Youth programs—Young person spends three or more hours per week in sports, clubs, or organizations at school and/or in community organizations.
- 19. Religious community—Young person spends one or more hours per week in activities in religious institution.
- 20. Time at home—Young person is out with friends "with nothing special to do," two or fewer nights.

## INTERNAL ASSETS

#### Commitment to Learning

22. Achievement motivation—Young person is motivated to do well in school.

- 22. School engagement—Young person is actively engaged in learning.
- 23. Homework—Young person reports doing at least one hour of homework every school day.
- 24. Bonding to school—Young person cares about his or her school.
- 25. Reading for pleasure—Young person reads for pleasure three or more hours per week.

## **Positive Values**

- 26. Caring—Young person places high values on helping other people.
- 27. Equality and social justice—Young person places high value on promoting equality and reducing hunger and poverty.
- 28. Integrity—Young person acts on convictions and stands up for his or her beliefs.
- 29. Honesty—Young person "tells the truth even when it is not easy."
- 30. Responsibility—Young person accepts and takes personal responsibility.

31. Restraint—Young person believes it is important not to be sexually active or to use alcohol or drugs.

#### **Special Competencies**

- 32. Planning and decision-making—Young person knows how to plan ahead and make choices.
- 33. Interpersonal competence—Young person has empathy, sensitivity, and friendship skills.
- 34. Cultural competence—Young person has knowledge of and comfort with people of different cultural/racial/ethnic backgrounds.
- 35. Resistance skills—Young person can resist negative peer pressure and dangerous situations.
- 36. Peaceful conflict resolution—Young person seeks to resolve conflict nonviolently.

#### **Positive Identity**

- 37. Personal power—Young person feels he or she has control over "things that happen to me."
- 38. Self-esteem—Young person reports having high self-esteem.
- 39. Sense of purpose—Young person reports that "my life has a purpose."
- 40. Positive view of personal future—Young person is optimistic about her or his personal future.

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## Staying Hydrated As A Basketball Player

As a basketball player, it is vital to stay hydrated when you're out on the court. Whether you are playing indoors or outdoors, you can become dehydrated and it will affect your performance. Often times, when playing indoors, players don't realize that they are becoming dehydrated because of an indoor court's ability to trap in humidity. No matter where you play, proper hydration cannot be emphasized enough. Inadequate hydration will affect your bedyweight has been shown to negatively influence basic body functions. The best strategy is to gradually hydrate throughout the day and the most recommended fluids are water and sports drinks.

Hydrating before a game is absolutely essential to be at your best. Take in 14 to 22 ounces of fluid 2 hours prior to game time, including about 8 ounces within an hour of the game. That being said, consuming too much beyond 8 ounces directly before game time is not recommended. Forcing large amounts of fluid on yourself right before a game can have negative side effects and slow you down. Doing some pregame hydration can save you from fatigue throughout the game and give you a nice energy boost without you feeling the need to force feed yourself water to get ready for the game.

Just as vital as it is to be hydrated going into a game, staying hydrated during a game is just as important. During the game, you should be drinking somewhere between 6 and 12 ounces of fluid every 20 minutes or so. Depending on how much you are playing, you may need more or less than this, but this can be a helpful basic guideline to follow. If you are getting a lot of playing time, supplement your water intake with a sports drink to refuel your body. Sports drinks not only replace the fluids lost through sweat, but also replenish glycogen stores that are used during prolonged periods of exercise. During a game, take advantage of any breaks in play to rehydrate by taking small sips of a sports drink or water. Sometimes, during a game, breaks are few and far between, so take advantage of them every chance you get.

After a game, your body needs to recover from the fluid loss and muscle damage endured. A postgame drink of 16 to 24 ounces for every pound of body weight lost during the game will greatly enhance your body's ability to recover. Weighing yourself before and after vigorous activity will give you an idea of how much fluid you will generally need after a game. Consuming an adequate amount of liquid after the game (as well as before and during the game) has also been shown to greatly reduce muscle soreness and recovery time. Proper hydration is just as important after the game is over. Playing out in the elements, particularly in hot weather, really brings hydration into focus. When playing in hot weather, bring water or a sports drink with you. It's easy to forget, but nonetheless important. When playing outdoors in hot temperatures, you should be drinking about 20 ounces every 30 minutes, without exception. Make sure you are taking breaks every so often to allow yourself the opportunity to rehydrate. If you don't, your body will suffer along with your game. So preserve your health and your game and stay hydrated.

To avoid dehydration, drink water constantly. Don't let your thirst dictate when you get a drink. If you wait until you are thirsty, you've waited too long to hydrate yourself. Don't just drink water before, during, or after a game. Drink water throughout the entire day. If you try to start hydrating by overloading on water right before a game, it will do more harm than good. Dehydration can lead to cramping as well as other injuries or problems. Being aware and learning proper hydration is the key to maximizing your time on the floor.

## **OSBA Concussion Protocol**

OSBA Coaches will be trained and certified in concussion protocol via the NFHS on line training program. As a reminder:

"Any OSBA Player who exhibits signs, symptoms or behaviors consistent with a concussion (such as loss of consciousness, headache, dizziness, confusion or balance problems) shall be immediately removed from any practice or game or activity and shall not return to play until cleared *with written authorization* by an appropriate health care professional. An "appropriate health care professional" shall be a *physician* (doctors of medicine (M.D.)."

2018-19 SEASON



## DIVISION OF DO YOUR BEST, INC. BASKETBALL PROGRAM APPLICATION

Player Name	Date of Birth	_//	_Grade:	_School:	
Home Address:					
City Sta	te Zip Code _		Home Ph	one:	
Parent (s)/Guardian Name/Cel	l/Email:				
Parent (s)/Guardian Name/Cel	l/Email:				
Returning Player? Yes No	_ If no, please prov	ride the	following:		
Basketball background, includ camps or clinics attended, etc.		stic, trav	vel or any o	other playing expe	rience;
Provide Copy of Birth	ı Certificate and la	test Rep	ort Card v	with Application.	
Height:Weight:F	light/Left Handed:_	Po	osition (s) I	Played:	
Uniform Sizes: Jersey	Shorts	s		Jacket	
How did you hear about us?					
Applications or checks can h	e mailed to:				
Do Your Best, Inc. 1790 Wal Applications can also be em	ailed to: mmallo	y@ocea		ketball.org	
PLEASE COMPLETE ADD	UCATION IN ITS	ENITID	etv Ine	OPMATION	

PLEASE COMPLETE APPLICATION IN ITS ENTIRETY. INFORMATION NEEDED TO REGISTER YOU WITH AAU.

1790 WARWICK AVENUE WARWICK, RI 02889 PHONE: 401-226-3169 WWW.OCEANSTATEBASKETBALL.ORG



In exchange for participation in the "Ocean State Basketball League" (OSBA) for all practices, games and team activities organized by the Ocean State Basketball Association, **I agree for myself and my child (identified and listed below) to the following:** For my child to participate as a member of the Ocean State Basketball Association of 1790 Warwick Avenue, Warwick, RI 02889 in practices, games and team activities at diverse gym and court locations throughout New England, and:

1. I agree to observe and obey all posted rules and warnings, and further agree to follow any oral lawful instructions or directions given by OSBA Coaches and/or the employees, representatives or agents of the facility being used by the OSBA.

2. I recognize that there are certain inherent risks associated with the above described activity and I assume full responsibility for personal injury to my child and further release and discharge the Ocean State Basketball Association and Coaching Staff for injury, loss or damage arising out of my child's use of or presence upon the divers facilities to be utilized by the OSBA.

3. As Parent/Legal Guardian of address listed below, I consent to the participation of my son, (identified below) in the activity of the Ocean State Basketball Association and agree on behalf of my child (listed below) to all of the terms and conditions of this Agreement. By signing this Release of Liability, I represent that I have legal authority over and custody of my son listed below.

4. In the event of my not being present where and when an injury occurs to my child during the above described activities, I give my permission to OSBA Coaching Staff to arrange for all necessary & immediate treatment for which I shall be financially responsible. The OSBA shall have the following authority in such situations:

a. The power to seek appropriate medical treatment or attention on behalf of my child as may be required by the circumstances, including without limitation, that of a licensed medical physician and/or a hospital;

*b. The power to authorize medical treatment or medical procedures in an emergency situation; and* 

*c. The power to make appropriate decisions regarding clothing, bodily nourishment and shelter.* 

5. APPLICABLE LAW. Any legal or equitable claim that may arise from participation in the above shall be resolved under Rhode Island law.

6. I agree and acknowledge that I am under no pressure or duress to sign this Agreement and that I have been given a reasonable opportunity to review it before signing. I further agree and acknowledge that I am free to have my own legal counsel review this Agreement if I so desire.

7. This Agreement and each of its terms are the product of an arm's length negotiation between the Parties. In the event any ambiguity is found to exist in the interpretation of this Agreement, or any of its provisions, the Parties, and each of them, explicitly reject the application of any legal or equitable rule of interpretation which would lead to a construction either "for" or "against" a particular party based upon their status as the drafter of a specific term, language, or provision giving rise to such ambiguity.

8. The invalidity or unenforceability of any provision of this Agreement, whether standing alone or as applied to a particular occurrence or circumstance, shall not affect the validity or enforceability of any other provision of this Agreement or of any other applications of such provision, as the case may be, and such invalid or unenforceable provision shall be deemed not to be a part of this Agreement.

9. EMERGENCY CONTACT. In case of an emergency, please call Emergency Contacts identified below.

"I HAVE READ THIS DOCUMENT AND UNDERSTAND IT. I FURTHER UNDERSTAND THAT BY SIGNING THIS RELEASE, I VOLUNTARILY SURRENDER CERTAIN LEGAL RIGHTS."

Dated:					
Signature:	(Parent/Legal Guardian of Son Participating Below)				
Printed Name:	(Parent/Legal Guardian of Son Participating Below)				
Name of Child Participating in Activity:					
Date of Birth:					
Home Address:					
School Grade Entering at time signed:					
Emergency Contact (s	\$):				
Name:	Phone:				
Name:	Phone:Phone:				



## **Injury Report Form**

To be used by OSBA Coach when Player injury or illness occurs. Complete as soon as practicable following injury and email to mmalloy@oceanstatebasketball.org.

Name of Injured and/or Ill Player		
Date of Birth:	AAU:	
OSBA Coach & Team Name:		
Player Address:		
Player Parent or Guardian Contact Name	& Cell Phone	
Time/Date/Location Occurred:		
Nature of Injury or Illness:		
What was venue or event format at time of		
Actions Taken By Attendants/Coaches:		, practice, scrimmage, outing, etc.)
Disposition when Parent and/or Guardiar		
Reporting Person Signature	Date	Time

1790 Warwick Avenue Warwick, RI 02889 U.S.A. <u>www.oceanstatebasketball.org</u> Ph: 401-226-3169

# **Complaint Form**

Do Your Best, Inc.			
Attn: Board of Directors			
1790 Warwick Avenue			
Warwick, RI 02889			

#### Instructions:

1. Please print or type. Answer all questions fully and correctly.

2. Please mail copies of all documents that may relate to your complaint claim.

- 3. Return the information to the Board of Directors at above address.
- 4. You may also file a complaint online. Be sure to include copies of all relevant documents. www.doyourbestusa.org

YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS:	NAME OF NON-PROFIT OR PERSON COMPLAINT IS AGAINST:			
□ Mr. □ Mrs. □ Ms. Age:	Name:			
Name:	Address:			
Address:	City, State, Zip Code:			
City, State, Zip Code:	Primary Phone Number:			
Primary Phone Number:	Email Address:			
Email Address:	Website:			
Have you contacted an attorney? 🗆 Yes 🗆 No				
Name of Attorney:	Date Contacted:			
What do you think should be done to resolve your complaint fairly?				
Continue to next nece.				

Continue to next page.

Please sign on other side.

SUMMARY OF YOUR COMPLAINT – Please print or type. Use additional paper if necessary.				

"The facts written above are truthful and accurate."	1999 - 1999 - 1999 - 1999 - 1999 - 1999 - 1999 - 1999 - 1999 - 1999 - 1999 - 1999 - 1999 - 1999 - 1999 - 1999 -		-	
Signature		Date		

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#### RI Department of Attorney General Bureau of Criminal Identification 4 Howard Avenue Cranston, RI 02920

Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_ (Print or Type)

Maiden Name:

D/O/B:

#### Disclaimer

hereby direct and authorize the Bureau I, \_\_\_ of Criminal Identification of the Department of Attorney General for the State of Rhode Island to make available to the Ocean State Basketball Association of RI.---- any criminal record that the Bureau of Criminal Identification has on file in reference to me.

I hereby waive and release any and all manner of actions, cause of actions, and demands of every kind, nature and description, arising from any release of criminal records and requests therefrom, whatsoever against the State of Rhode Island, Bureau of Criminal Identification, the Attorney General, and employees of the Attorney General's Office in both law and equity which I may now have or in the future may have.

Signature of Applicant

this day of ,

Notary Public

**Commission Expires** 

**Respond to RI Department of Attorney General Address Above** With this form and your drivers license and a check for \$5.00 made payable to B.C.I.

All Coaches, Volunteers or anyone working with the Ocean State Basketball Association must obtain a B.C.I. background check.