

9/1/20

MBA Traveling families,

Please read the following detailed email if your child is interested in traveling basketball this season.

The registration link for traveling and in-house will be emailed to you, and posted on our website, in the next few days.

COVID-19 brings significant complexity and uncertainty to our season. This message is intended to provide transparency for our season ahead regarding traveling program fees. The MBA Board is working hard to provide the most economical solution to the uncertainty. Please see these topics below:

- Traveling player financials last year
- COVID-19's expected impact on traveling program financials
- Traveling player financials for this year due to COVID-19
- Traveling player payment timeline
- Traveling player refund policy

TRAVELING PROGRAM PER PLAYER FINANCIALS - LAST YEAR (2019-20)

- You may not have known this, but in past years, the \$360 registration fee you paid for your child to play traveling basketball only covered your child's portion of the team entry fees for some (~5) of the tournaments that their team played in
- The "volunteer" shift you worked at one of our hosted traveling tournaments in December earned you a subsidy (last year, \$130 per player) that covered your child's portion of an additional ~4 team tournament entry fees
- We have reciprocity with WBL Basketball, sending our teams to play in each other's tournaments without paying team entry fees, so 2 tournaments (MBA and WBL) are essentially "no charge"
- The graphic a few sections below shows the cost per player and value per player break-down for last season
- In summary, last season our teams played in 11 tournaments for a \$360 per player fee, assuming you volunteered at our tournaments; the value of the season was \$550

COVID-19 EXPECTED IMPACT ON TRAVELING 2020-2021 SUBSIDY

- Assuming we can hold our December tournaments, we may be limited in the number of teams that can participate (additional time between games so the building can be vacated and possible gym space limitations)
- We will almost certainly be limited in the number of spectators that are allowed to attend (due to social distancing requirements)
- Holding our hosted tournaments and having spectators who pay admission generates the revenue that allow us to provide the per player subsidy to traveling families who work a volunteer shift at our tournaments
 - **If we cannot hold our tournaments or hold the tournaments without any paying spectators, we cannot provide any subsidy to families**

- **If we can hold our tournaments, but with fewer teams and/or spectators, the subsidy amount will be less than past years**
 - Our models for this year suggest that MBA will be able to provide to families who work a volunteer shift with a \$45-70 subsidy per player
- As in past years, families can opt out of volunteering by paying the subsidy amount (but if too many families opt out, we will not be able to hold the tournaments because we need volunteers)

TRAVELING PROGRAM SEASON ADJUSTMENTS BASED ON SUBSIDY REDUCTION

- Asking families to pay up to \$130 additional this year (to ensure 11 tournaments) does not seem like the right thing to do; playing only 7 total tournaments (to ensure the fee does not exceed \$360) doesn't either
- Rather, MBA is reducing our number of tournaments per team to NINE, capping the additional charge per player at \$70 in the event that no subsidy can be provided
- The subsidy amount for families that volunteer will be **up to \$70**, based on actual tournament proceeds
- For this season, since we are not confident a subsidy will be available, the \$70 volunteer deposit will be charged with registration fees and the actual subsidy value will be credited back to families who volunteer, after the tournaments are held
- The graphic below also shows the traveling program financials for 2020-2021
- As in past years, teams that wish to play in additional tournaments can register on their own and pay the entry fee
- In summary, for this season, our teams will play in nine tournaments and the price per player will be in the range of \$360-\$430; the value of the season is \$490



* MBA will provide a volunteer subsidy, up to \$70, based on hosted tournament financials.

TRAVELING PROGRAM PAYMENT DETAILS

- Unlike past years, the full amount to play (assuming no subsidy money will be available) will be charged in installments and if there is a subsidy to provide (based on actual tournament financials) families will be provided a credit for the subsidy amount in January
- Traveling program fee = \$360 per player + \$70 volunteer deposit = \$430 max cost
 - \$5 will be charged upfront at the time of registration
 - \$212.50 will be charged on 9/15/20
 - \$212.50 will be charged on 11/15/20
 - = \$430 paid
- If there is a subsidy available from our tournaments, families that volunteer will get a credit back for the amount of the subsidy, in January 2021 (ideally tournament financials will allow for a \$70 per player subsidy credit, bringing the net cost to families back to \$360/player like last year)
- Families will earn the per player subsidy for all of the traveling players in their family by working a single volunteer shift
- Families that do not volunteer will not receive any subsidy credit in January

TRAVELING PROGRAM REFUND POLICY

- If tournaments that we have entered our teams to play in are cancelled due to COVID-19, we will register for replacement tournaments or pass along refunded tournament entry fees back to families
 - Note that if the MBA or WBL tournaments are cancelled, they will not be replaced and they have no refund value, since MBA does not pay a per team entry fee for those tournaments
- If we can't hold practices for a number of weeks or months this season due to COVID-19, we will issue refunds for the missed portion of the season
- If tournaments as whole can't be held, but we can schedule individual games against nearby traveling teams, we would credit families for the difference between what they paid and actual cost

We don't want financial hardship to prevent any child from playing basketball and MBA will continue to offer scholarships for families with a financial need. Please apply for a scholarship if your family needs support this year. The scholarship application can be found on our website:

<https://www.mahtomedibasketball.org/page/show/154698>

We wish this year was like past years, but like so many things in life right now, it's different. We wanted to provide full transparency prior to opening registration and we appreciate your understanding.

Please reach out to Megan Malvey if you have questions. Go Zephyrs!