



## MBA Player Sub Policy, effective January 2022

MBA expects players to be committed to their team and present for MBA events. Sometimes illness, injury or other extenuating circumstances leaves a team without enough players for a game. This policy has been created to identify the scenarios under which an additional player(s) can be requested from another MBA team and the process by which additional player(s) would be selected to fill in on a team to which they are not rostered. For the purposes of this policy, the additional player(s) will be called “subs.”

### How many and how few players must a team have to request a sub?

- If a team will have 7 or more players from their own roster for a game, they will play their game(s) with their own rostered players only
- If a team has 3 or fewer players from their own roster, they will forfeit (not play) their game(s)
- If a team has 4-6 of its own rostered players, the coach can request subs, via the process below, to bring the total number of players for the game up to 7
- Subs cannot be requested for practices. Players may only attend the practices for the team that they are rostered to.

### Which players are eligible to join a team as a sub?

- Traveling Program
  - The next lower team within the grade or a team from one grade lower
  - 4th grade traveling teams, if there is not a lower 4<sup>th</sup> grade traveling team, will have sub options from the 3/4<sup>th</sup> grade in-house players
  - Note – players cannot sub “down” meaning to a younger grade level or to a travel team that plays at a lower level in the same grade. Examples:
    - An 8<sup>th</sup> grader cannot sub onto a 7<sup>th</sup> grade team
    - A 7<sup>th</sup> grade Blue (typically A bracket) player cannot sub onto a 7<sup>th</sup> grade Gold team (typically C bracket)
    - If subbing up a grade, then the bracket “level” of the sub’s team doesn’t matter (7<sup>th</sup> grade Blue player CAN sub onto the 8<sup>th</sup> grade Gold team)
  - We will NOT sub from two grades or more younger than the team requesting the sub(s)
- In House Program
  - Players from the same grade level as the team or one grade younger
  - We will NOT sub from two grades or more younger than the team requesting the sub(s)
  - Note – traveling players cannot sub onto in-house teams
- Only current-season registered MBA players are eligible to sub

### Sub availability and interest

- A player should not miss their own team’s game in order to sub on a different team
- If there aren’t any MBA eligible players available to join a team that is short of players, based on their own team’s game times, then the team that is short players will have to play with what they have or forfeit

- If there aren't MBA players, per the criteria above, who wish to sub on the team, then the team that is short players will have to play with what they have or forfeit

### **Sub Selection Process**

- The head coach of the team requesting sub(s) should reach out to the program director (2021-2022 = Traveling Mike Cummins; In-House Andy Chilson) with as much notice as possible. If there isn't time to complete the process then the team will have to play with their own small number of players or forfeit. The head coach will need to indicate the number of subs that are desired (to get his/her team up to a max of 7 players) and the dates/times/locations of games in which the sub(s) would play.
- The program director will email the eligible subs (all players on the eligible teams) with cc to the head coach of the team who is requesting the sub(s) identifying the number of subs requested and the game details
- Families should reply-all to the email if their child is interested in subbing
- Sub(s) will be taken in the order that the emails indicating interest are received (first to reply gets the opportunity to sub); the coach of the team needing the sub will confirm with the sub(s).
- If there are additional opportunities to sub in the future, any player who has already subbed will not get another opportunity to sub until all other eligible subs who want to sub have had the opportunity to do so
- Traveling caveat
  - Most tournaments have a rule that a player can only play on ONE team. If we have a sub situation, the traveling tournament scheduling director (2021-2022 = Derek Maas) will need to be informed by the head coach requesting the sub(s) and the travel tournament scheduling director will request approval from the tournament director that they will allow us to have a player participate on multiple teams (if the sub's team is also playing in that tournament).

### **COVID-19**

- Subbing creates additional potential COVID-19 exposure for players, but since all families who are choosing to have their child play this season are accepting the risk of exposure to opposing teams, we will adopt this sub-policy to minimize the need for our team's to forfeit due to lack of players. Last-minute COVID positives are unlikely to allow for enough time to secure subs for a team.
- Families who are being asked if they want their child to sub will be told if the sub(s) are needed due to COVID protocols (meaning positive cases or exposures on the team requesting the subs) or non-covid related player absences (meaning injuries or other schedule issues)
- If there is a COVID positive case that impacts a team that had a sub, the sub would also be included in any potential quarantine
- If the sub is COVID symptoms/subsequent positive in the 2-day time frame after subbing, then the team they subbed on would have to follow COVID quarantine protocols as if the positive was a member of their own roster
- The head coach of the team that has a sub is responsible for keeping a record of exactly who is at each event (from their own roster and subs)