

Groton-Dunstable Youth Basketball Policy: Playing Up a Grade Level

Policy Overview: The town recreational basketball league aims to foster a fun and competitive environment for all players. To ensure the appropriate placement of players, this policy establishes the criteria for players who wish to play up a grade level in the recreational league.

Eligibility Criteria for Playing Up:

1. **Previous Experience:**
 - Players are only eligible to request playing up a grade level in the recreational league if they have previously played on a travel basketball team.
2. **Age Requirement:**
 - Players must meet the age criteria to be eligible for the grade level above them. This means they must be old enough to be in the higher grade according to the GDRSD school age cutoff dates.
3. **Written Request:**
 - A formal written request must be submitted by the player's parents or guardians to the league board. This request should detail the player's basketball experience, including previous travel team participation, and explain why playing up would be beneficial for the player.
4. **League Board Approval:**
 - The allowance for playing up a grade level is at the sole discretion of the league board. The decision will be made based on a review of the written request, the player's previous experience, feedback solicited from previous coaches (rec and travel) and the overall impact on the teams and league. Approval is not guaranteed and is not based solely on parental request.

Playing Up in Travel Basketball:

- The rules governing playing up in travel basketball are set by the Central Massachusetts Youth Basketball League (CMYBL). Requests to play up in travel basketball are subject to CMYBL guidelines and are not governed by this recreational league policy.

Final Decision:

- The league board's decision regarding any request to play up a grade level in the recreational league is final. The board reserves the right to deny a request if it is determined that playing up would not be in the best interest of the player, the team, or the league as a whole.

This policy ensures fair and appropriate player placement while maintaining the competitive balance and integrity of the town recreational basketball league.