

GREEK ORTHODOX ATHLETIC LEAGUE

GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF CHICAGO

UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE OFFICE OF YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULT MINISTRIES



2010-2011

GOVERNING RULES AND REGULATIONS

THE GOVERNING BOARD of the G.O.A.L. will be the COMMISSIONER, Mr. Chris Avramopoulos, the Metropolis Youth Director, and the committee/board. All matters of concern regarding issues, schedules, games, conduct, etc. should be conducted with the BOARD of the G.O.A.L. care of:

Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministries
40 East Burton Place
Chicago, IL 60610
312-337-4130
630-654-3514 (Fax)

All decisions will be made by the GOVERNING BOARD of the G.O.A.L.

TEAM DIVISIONS

Each parish will pay an entrance fee to the League by **NOVEMBER 1, 2010**. Checks should be made payable to the **GREEK ORTHODOX ATHLETIC LEAGUE** as follows (these fees include a year end single elimination Tournament)

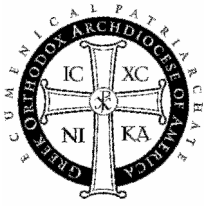
PAYMENT DUE & ROSTERS DUE NOVEMBER 1, 2010

JUNIOR G.O.Y.A. / SENIOR G.O.Y.A. GIRLS AND BOYS FEES:

Churches with Three (3) Teams	\$2,550.00
Churches with Two (2) Teams	\$1,950.00
Churches with One (1) Team	\$900.00
Men's League	\$825.00

REFEREE'S

Three (3) Illinois High School Association Referees will be provided for each game. One Referee will be used at the Score's Table on a rotating basis during game day. The Referee at the Score's Table will only be responsible for the Official Score Book. He will not be responsible nor will be allowed to run the clock. Therefore, the Church hosting the game must have an adult present to run the clock for as many games as will be played that day. Games must be played if only one referee is present. If no referee is present, the game will be played with both teams agreeing to substitute(s) filling in as referee(s). These games will be counted as OFFICIAL, if played or FORFEITED, if not. There will be two (2) Officials for the Men's League, and games will be played on Wednesday's and/or Sunday's unless otherwise noted in the schedule.



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ELIGIBILITY AND OPERATIONS RULES

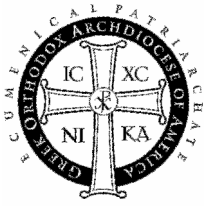
I. JUNIOR G.O.Y.A. DIVISION

- A. Junior G.O.Y.A. Teams are defined to include any boy or girl from the age of 14 and under, and is still in Grade School/Junior High.
- B. Any boy or girl who reaches his/her 15th birth date on or prior to **February 27, 2011** or is in High School is ineligible for further Junior G.O.Y.A. competition, but may matriculate to the Senior G.O.Y.A. Team and play to its season's conclusion.
- C. Girls will only be allowed on the Junior G.O.Y.A. roster if they comply with the eligibility rules for Junior G.O.Y.A.
- D. Boys and Girls playing on the Junior G.O.Y.A. Team will be ineligible to play on the Senior Boys/Girls G.O.Y.A. Teams.
- E. Players must be involved and active members in their parish's youth programs such as Junior G.O.Y.A. or J.O.Y. throughout the year and must attend Church (the Divine Services) faithfully and on a regular basis (to be determined and interpreted by the parish priest)

II. SENIOR G.O.Y.A. DIVISION

- A. A player reaching his or her 19th birthday on or prior to **February 27, 2011** or has graduated from his/her High School is ineligible to compete in the Senior G.O.Y.A. Divisions, but a male may matriculate the Men's Division.
- B. Players must be in an accredited High School/Junior High School for participation in the Junior and/or Senior G.O.Y.A. Divisions.
- C. Players must be involved and active members of their parish's G.O.Y.A. Program throughout the year and must attend Church (the Divine Services) faithfully and on a regular basis (to be determined and interpreted by the parish priest)
- D. **Any player who will be (a) trying out for; or (b) is playing on his or her High School or College Basketball Team (at ANY scholastic level, i.e. Freshman, Sophomore, JV, or Varsity) is not eligible to (i) play in the G.O.A.L. Basketball League (even after IHSA eligibility is completed); (ii) be listed on an official G.O.A.L. Basketball Roster. If a player does not make their school team or quits their school team, they are eligible to play for the G.O.A.L., provided they are added to the official G.O.A.L. Roster on or before January 1, 2011.**

(PLEASE NOTE: This is a verified NCAA, NAIA, and IHSA Rule for all levels.)



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III. MEN'S DIVISION

- A. The Men's Division will be comprised of individuals who have graduated from High School or are 19 years of age and up. There is no age limit.
- B. Same rules and regulations will apply to the Men's Division. Each individual must be an active Steward in the Greek Orthodox Church that he is playing for. This will be verified by their parish priest and office staff with proof of stewardship both financially and ecclesiastically. Individuals also are required to be active participants in their Churches as well as Church (the Divine Services) attendance. More than one Men's Team is allowed for each Church. Individuals can play for another Church provided their Church does not sponsor a team. However, they must be active stewards of their Church.
- C. College players who are participating on their College Basketball Teams cannot participate in the Men's Division.

IV. RULES COMMON TO JUNIOR G.O.Y.A., SENIOR GIRLS & BOYS G.O.Y.A., MEN'S DIVISION, AND COACHES.

- A. Each Parish must field at least two (2) teams in either the Junior G.O.Y.A. Division, Senior G.O.Y.A. Girls and Boys Divisions, in order to be eligible to participate in the G.O.A.L. League. (Men's Division is part of the G.O.A.L. but separate from the younger division teams. Therefore, you still must have at least two (2) teams registered from the Junior G.O.Y.A. and High School Divisions.)
- B. EACH TEAM must submit an OFFICIAL ROSTER OF ELIGIBLE PLAYERS signed by the Proestamemos and the Athletic Director to:

Mr. Chris Avramopoulos
Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministries
40 East Burton Place
Chicago, IL 60610-1697

DUE BY NOVEMBER 1, 2010 WITH PAYMENT IN FULL AT THAT TIME.

Thus Payment to the League and Rosters will all be due by:

NOVEMBER 1, 2010.

Failure to have Team Rosters in by **NOVEMBER 1, 2010** will result in forfeitures of all games played and any future games, until a validated roster is received, with full payment of fees.



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- C. The **OFFICIAL ROSTER** is to include information regarding the following of each player.
1. Players Full Name (Last Name, First Name, Middle Initial)
 2. Address
 3. Telephone Number
 4. Emergency Telephone Number
 5. Birth Date
 6. Age
 7. Grade
 8. Church
 9. Membership Verification of Parish
 10. Photo
- D. At least one of the player's parents/guardians or the player himself/herself, must be a member in good standing of the sponsoring parish. For the Men's Division, individuals 25 and under are allowed to be under their parent's stewardship. If they are over 25 years of age, they must be stewards themselves.
- E. To be eligible, a player must be on his/her team roster. A player not on the official team roster may not participate in the League. Final additions or subtractions to the roster must be made by January 1, 2011.
- F. A player cannot change teams unless there is a geographical move into a new parish area [for example: a family leaving a south side parish and attending a north side parish without making a geographical move is ineligible to play in the G.O.A.L.; also if a family wishes to change from one parish to another in the same geographical area, a player is ineligible to play on the new parish team.] Should a player wish to change teams without a geographical move, he/she must sit out one year or basketball season. A player can play for another parish if his/her parish does not have a team in the league. He/She must be a steward of their current parish and does not need to become stewards of the church they play for, unless told so by the parish priest and the parish council of said parish. If a parish comes into the League after a brief hiatus, its players are eligible to play for this parish even if they have been playing for another parish. However, these players must show proof they have been stewards of said parish for at least a full year.
- G. **To be eligible to play in a game, a player and coach must attend the Divine Liturgy on the day of the game or the day after a game (if the game is played on a Saturday).** (A Wedding or Baptism does not count) It is also highly recommended that each player attend Sunday School. Sunday School is an important part of the catechesis of the Church and all youth should participate and learn about their faith and the Church. However, Sunday School **CANNOT REPLACE** worship in the Divine Liturgy. (to be determined and interpreted by the parish priest)



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- H. Additions to a roster, after the date of submission, may be made in writing only and presented to the G.O.A.L. Board for review and approval by January 1, 2010. Please send all additions to the Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministries (630-654-3514 Fax)
- I. In the event of ineligible player(s) in a game, his/her team will automatically forfeit the game(s) in which he/she has participated.
- J. Each parish is required to have a Mandatory Parents/Coaches/Athletes Meeting before the season begins to discuss the G.O.A.L. Basketball Season in its entirety with those will be participating, especially parents, players and coaches, with the clergy of the parish present.
- K. Any questions relating to eligibility are to be resolved by the G.O.A.L. Board.

V. GAME RULES

- A. Unless specified below, G.O.A.L. will abide by the rules of the Illinois High School Association.
- B. A prayer will be offered before each game by the home team or by any clergyman present. At the conclusion of the prayer and game, teams will shake hands at half court. There will be no player introductions prior to games.
- C. The G.O.A.L. is a Competitive League however strongly suggests that every player on a roster be allowed to play. Blatant refusal and/or continued neglect of this suggestion will not be tolerated.
- D. **Running Up the Score is a gross neglect of Sportsmanship. Every effort must be made to keep this from happening. It is not only detrimental to the team that is being beaten, but also goes against any sense of Christian brotherly love. If a pattern is detected as a result of complaints or Game Reports, an initial warning will be given followed by game suspensions or forfeitures of the coach and team. (To be determined by the Board)**
- E. Abusive behavior by members of the crowd, parent(s), fan(s), player(s) and/or cheerleaders from a given parish or parishes must be reported **IN WRITING** to the G.O.A.L. Board immediately following the incident. Complaints submitted in writing will be sufficient cause for review by the G.O.A.L. Board of Directors; resulting in possible forfeiture of game(s) and/or suspension of the Parish from the League and/or other sanctions to individuals that are disruptive to the program.
- F. Only the Head Coach and two Assistant Coaches will be allowed on the bench with the players. No other adults or children will be allowed on the bench. The Head Coach is the only one allowed to stand. Assistant Coaches will sit on the bench along with the players.
- G. Bench and Stand Decorum is of the utmost importance. No Coach, player, parent or fan shall use profanity before, during, or after the game. Coaches, players, parents and fans will conduct themselves with the highest integrity, knowing that this is a Church League and that behavior unbecoming the love, respect, dignity, and discipline expected of those associated or connected with G.O.A.L. will not be tolerated. Any form of abuse, verbal, physical or psychological toward anyone in the gym will also not be tolerated.



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JUNIOR G.O.Y.A., SENIOR GIRLS AND BOYS G.O.Y.A. DIVISIONS

H. **The Game** – will consist of four (4), eight (8) minute quarters, with one (1) minute in between quarters and five (5) minutes in between halves. The clock will stop on free throws and time-outs, except in the **LAST ONE (1) MINUTE OF EACH QUARTER**, where the clock stops on all whistles. There will be a five (5) minute warm up and/or five (5) minutes between games. Every player's full name and uniform number must be entered in the scorebook. Only **THREE (3) FULL TIME-OUTS** and **TWO (2) 30 SECOND TIME-OUTS** are allowed per game.

1. ***Junior G.O.Y.A. and Girls*** games will not allow press until the last two (2) minutes of each ***quarter***.
2. A set of G.O.A.L. Basketball Rules (This Document) must be provided by the **HOST CHURCH** and present at the Score's Table for each game played during the season and during the year end Playoff and Championship Tournament, as well as all Tournaments.
3. An assigned Referee, responsible for the **SCORE BOOK**, and a responsible **ADULT**, versed in the operation of the **TIME CLOCK**, must be present (and working all games played) at the **SCORE'S TABLE**. **THE OFFICIAL SCORER will be the designated Referee at the Score's Table for the game being played.** (NOTE: at "neutral site games", the HOME TEAM will be the last number on the schedule.)
4. **OVERTIME** – will consist of a **THREE (3)** minute period (clock to stop at free throws and time outs), with the clock stopping at every whistle during the **LAST MINUTE**. Conclusion of game will be determined by **OVERTIME PERIOD(S)**.

MEN'S DIVISION

- I. **The Game** – will consist of **TWO (2) 20 MINUTE HALVES** with a running clock. The Clock will stop on all whistles during the **LAST MINUTE (1) OF EACH HALF**. **THREE (3) FULL TIME-OUTS** and **TWO (2) 30 SECOND TIME-OUTS** for the entire game. Every player's full name and uniform number must be entered in the scorebook.
 1. There will only be **TWO (2) Referees'** for each game. Score's Book and Clock must be provided by the Home Team. The Men's Division games may begin games with only **FOUR (4) players**.
 2. **If a team is ahead by 20 or more points with 2 minutes left in the game, the game will be called.**
 3. The Division will allow only **TWO (2) forfeits** for the season. Any team who has more than **TWO (2) forfeits** will be suspended for the rest of the season, plus all tournaments with no refunds.
 4. **All athletes participating in the Men's League must have played in at least three games prior to the playoffs and Championship games.**



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J. OVERTIME – will consist of a **THREE (3)** minute period (clock to stop at free throws and time outs), with the clock stopping at every whistle during the **LAST MINUTE**. Conclusion of game will be determined by **OVERTIME PERIOD(S)**.

K. RECORDING OF SCORES AND STANDINGS – The **HOST TEAM** must **FAX or E-MAIL** in **ALL** the scores of **ALL DIVISION GAMES** by the **MONDAY** of the week the game is played.

Score and Standings will be recorded by the G.O.A.L. Board, c/o:

G.O.A.L. League
Attn. Mr. Chris Avramopoulos
40 East Burton Place
Chicago, IL 60610
Fax: 630-654-3514

L. Playoff and Tournament Games will be conducted at the end of the season. A Tournament will ensue during the end of the season with all participants from all the Churches and all Divisions participating. In case a similar or close record within the standings occurs, the following guidelines will help determine Tournament seeding as determined by the G.O.A.L. Board. There will also be a Thanksgiving Tournament for the Youth Divisions.

1. Best Example of Sportsmanship, attendance at the Divine Liturgy, Sunday Church School attendance, Youth Group involvement (including retreat participation and overall behavior). This information is to be supplied by the Parish Priest or lay youth minister.
2. Adherence to the G.O.A.L. Rules during the season and overall conduct reflected on the court.
3. Overall Record of Games Played for the Season. (It should be noted that a “1st Place” won/loss record does not guarantee a number 1 seed).

M. The G.O.A.L. Tournament will be a single elimination playoff during a TWO (2) weekend tournament format, which is sanctioned by the G.O.A.L. during the course of the year. No other tournaments will be sanctioned or blessed by the G.O.A.L. or the Metropolis of Chicago.

*The Sanctioned G.O.A.L. Tournament will follow the rules provided in this document **without exception** or the host parish will risk losing sponsorship of any future tournaments.*

N. The G.O.A.L. Tournament seeding will take place in this manner and in this order:

- a. Won/Loss Record
- b. Head to Head
- c. Point differential between the head to head game
- d. Flip a coin



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- O.** Church Teams and/or Coaches participating in other outside tournaments or leagues from the 1st of September through the G.O.A.L. Basketball Season is strongly discouraged if they interfere with Metropolis programs, either educational, liturgical, spiritual, or athletic. As requested by His Eminence, Church teams should not participate in athletic events outside of Metropolis sponsored programs if they conflict with Metropolis programs and if they at all impede the spiritual and religious development or education of the young people involved, in being absent from their Church's Divine Services, Sunday School, Altar Service, or Choir.

VI. POSTPONEMENTS AND/OR RESCHUEDELING OF GAMES

- A.** The Priests, Pastoral Assistants, Athletic Directors, Youth Directors, and/or Coaches must agree and must notify the Metropolis Youth and Young Adult Ministries Director at 708-288-2876 before 12:00 NOON on the Friday prior to a Sunday Game and 12:00 NOON on the Thursday prior to a Saturday Game, if postponement and/or rescheduling of games is desired. If this is not done, any team failing to appear for a game will automatically forfeit and will be financially responsible for payment of referees not used for the game(s). Athletic Directors, Youth Directors, and/or Parish Priests will be held responsible for any communication regarding any cancellations pertaining to: Section VI, Articles A & B in Postponements and/or Rescheduling of Games.
- B.** Exceptions will be made in cases of severe weather conditions; in which case, the team which is unable to attend must notify the host facility of schedule changes or cancellations immediately. To find out if games are to be played because of weather, call Mr. Chris Avramopoulos at 708-288-2876.
- C.** Cancellations due to inclement weather on a league wide basis will be made no later than 12:00 p.m. Noon on the day of the game. The A.D. will be notified by phone and e-mail.
- D.** **There will be a 15 minute grace period after the original starting time of a game for team's who do not have five players to start. After 15 minutes if a fifth player has not arrived, the game will be forfeited. However, if a fifth player arrives, the game will be played with two 16 minute halves and a running clock. **This rule only pertains to games played on days with inclement weather when games have not been canceled.****



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VII. DISCIPLINE

PLEASE NOTE: *All areas of disciplinary action will be dealt with by the G.O.A.L. Board, or in its stay, the commissioner and youth director of the Metropolis. All incidents are to be sent to the G.O.A.L. Board by your Parish Priest or Athletic Director.*

- A. Each team will furnish at least one responsible adult in the gymnasium for the duration of each game, and said adult will be in charge of keeping the conduct of fans in order and assisting in maintaining cleanliness.
- B. Any Player(s), Coach(s), and Spectators found and proven responsible for vandalism, theft, or damage of property will be suspended for the rest of the season and will be subject to further disciplinary action by the G.O.A.L. Board. **THIS MUST BE SUBMITTED IN WRITING** within one week of the matter in question by those wishing to bring it to the attention of the Commissioner and the Metropolis Youth Director.
- C. Any Player(s), Coach(s), and Spectators found and proven committing physical abuse to persons or fighting will be suspended for the rest of the season, and will be subject to further disciplinary action by the G.O.A.L. Board.
- D. **RULES OF CONDUCT** for Church Leaders, Athletic Directors, Coaches, Youth Directors and Advisors, Players, Cheerleaders, Parents, and fans in attendance at games:
 1. **Profanity will NOT be Tolerated.** Referees will be advised prior to the game of this rule. No warning is required prior to being expelled from the game and gymnasium for violation of this rule. **ANYONE ejected from the game for profanity will be suspended for the rest of the season and will not be allowed to attend any G.O.A.L. Basketball Games.**
 2. **Players receiving a FLAGRANT TECHNICAL FOUL (intent to injure an opponent, fighting, et. al.) will be automatically ejected from the game and suspended for the rest of the season.**

***PLEASE NOTE:** A “flagrant foul” on a lay up (for example), with no intent to injure, even though considered a “technical”, will not count as a RULES OF CONDUCT violation.*
 3. **AN EJECTION from a game (i.e. unsportsmanlike conduct, fighting, flagrant fouls, et.al.) will result in a suspension from the League for the rest of the season.**



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4. ****SUSPENSION**** - Anyone who has been suspended will have the right to appeal the suspension to the G.O.A.L. Board. If the appeal is successful, the suspended player may be reinstated with the following provisions:
 - a) A meeting with the Offender, the Parish Priest(s), and the G.O.A.L. Board to discuss “in house service work” by the offender in the local parish, length of time and duties to be determined under the guidance of the Parish Priest, along with a FOUR (4) Game Suspension.
 - b) A letter of apology written and sent to the G.O.A.L. Board, the Parish Priest, and anyone else the Board considers as necessary of receiving a letter.
5. **Intimidation “Tactics”** of any kind by those people mentioned in Section VII, Article D, - RULES OF CONDUCT, whether they are on the court or not, constituting behavior unbecoming the love, respect, the dignity, and discipline expected of those associated or connected with G.O.A.L. WILL NOT BE TOLERATED. Foot stomping in the stands, taunting, profanity and/or disruptive behavior is strictly prohibited. Noncompliance with a request to stop may result in a technical foul or expulsion from the gym.

(Documented written reports from the Referee(s) and/or Church Official(s) must be submitted to the G.O.A.L. Board proving and detailing such “tactics” where upon appropriate disciplinary measures will be taken)
6. Cheerleaders will cheer away from the court during action; either in the stands, behind their team bench, or not at all. Baselines must and will be vacated during games at all times if their presence causes an obstruction, as determined by the Referees. Cheerleaders will be allowed to go on the floor during time-outs, at quarters, half-time, between games (alternating with the other squad present) as long as they do not interfere with warm-ups or display unsportsmanlike conduct (taunting, abusive language, bad attitudes, etc.)
7. Problems or incidents involving the use of alcohol and/or drug abuse within any Church Team must come to the attention of the G.O.A.L. Board as a matter of courtesy and point of information. Disciplinary measures for those infractions will be discussed privately among the Clergy and principal characters involved (offenders, coaches, athletic directors, lay assistants, parents, et. al.)
8. **THE EXECUTION OF ALL DISCIPLINARY MATTERS REGARDING THE G.O.A.L. WILL BE HANDLED THROUGH THE G.O.A.L. BOARD.**