

VIRGINIA STARS



2011 Parent & Player Handbook

*"Reach for the moon and you will be surrounded by
STARS!"*

The purpose of this handbook is to familiarize both parents and players with the Virginia Stars Basketball Association and to provide a better understanding of our program. Our hope is that this handbook will answer many of the questions that may arise during the year. The rules outline in this handbook must be followed to insure the success of the Stars.



Different types of Tournaments

Virginia Stars Mission Statement

Pro's and Con's of AAU Basketball

Games & Tournament Information

Fees/ Expenses

- ❖ **Annual Fees**
- ❖ **Other Expenses**

Fundraiser Information

Travel Information & Updates

Director's & Staff

Parent/ Player Code of Conduct

THE DIFFERENT TYPES OF TOURNAMENTS

Amateur Athletic Union (AAU)

United States Basketball Association (USBA)

United States Specialty Sports Association (USSSA)

United States Junior Olympics (USJN)

Youth Basketball of America (YBOA)



MISSION STATEMENT

The Virginia Stars Basketball Association is a club Level III, AAU-member, 501-C-3 tax exempt, organization based in Henrico. This organization emphasizes the importance of continuing education, teamwork, and good sportsmanship, academic and athletic excellence through a competitive sports program.

In our program we are looking to:

- ☛ Bring athletic that understand the level of commitment and dedication needed to excel both on and off the court.
- ☛ develop the competitiveness of focused athletes, and positioning themselves to become productive contributors in our community, nation and world
- ☛ promotes sportsmanship, athletic excellence and team play
- ☛ increase our player's exposure making it possible for recruiters to see and evaluate their talent
- ☛ help our players earn scholarships and to continue their education while reaching their full basketball potential
- ☛ expose players to new environments and experiences through tournament play
- ☛ provide strong adult coaches for role models
- ☛ create teams that will be competitive at the local, state and National level



PRO'S OF A TRAVEL PROGRAM

- ☛ Meet new players
- ☛ Opportunity to travel to new places
- ☛ Games are more competitive
- ☛ Longer basketball season
- ☛ Mini-vacation trips to different cities for games
- ☛ Nationals is always in a Sunny Resort location



CON'S OF A TRAVEL PROGRAM

- ☛ Registration fees
- ☛ Longer season: runs November - mid July
- ☛ Players must try-out for teams
- ☛ Travel commitments
- ☛ Hotel expenses
- ☛ Longer and more frequent practices
- ☛ FUNDRAISER: a must!!!
- ☛ Games are more competitive; you must win to advance
- ☛ No guaranteed playing time!



GAME & TOURNAMENT INFORMATION

The Tournament Director and coaches will find competitive tournaments for the players to participate in. The focus is to set each team up with tournaments that will assist them in making it to the Nationals. Our goal is to have all our teams qualify and play in at least one National Tournament. We attempt to schedule our teams in tournaments within a three-hour drive radius (note: Super Regional, National and Showcase tournaments are held in areas outside our three-hour target, therefore teams maybe required to travel longer trips to participate.)



WHEN ARE TOURNAMENT SCHEDULES PASSED OUT?

Most tournament directors try to have schedules for tournaments by the Wednesday before the game. Sometimes schedule will be available earlier. Due to the many changes with teams entering and canceling, the tournament directors of the hosted tournament prefer not to post the schedule to early, to avoid scheduling issues.





FEES AND EXPENSES

VA Stars adds up all the expected costs to operate for the season and divide that total by the number of expected players on the roster.

Fees associated with players:



- AAU membership fees
- USBA team fees
- USSSA membership fees
- Tournament entry fees
- Insurance
- Equipment fees
- Uniform usage
- Gym rental fees



The registration covers membership fees, insurance, offset gym expense, use of uniforms.

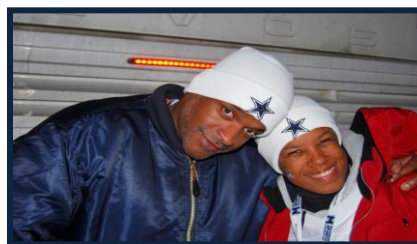
\$150 is due at Registration. No spot is guaranteed until registration fees have been paid in full. **The balance is due 30 days from the Registration date.**

Registration fees are non-refundable.

OTHER EXPENSES INVOLVED?

Other additional costs to the parents/guardians are out of town trips that might require an overnight stay. Examples: Gas, food, and hotel expenses for the weekend. These are additional cost, which are not pre-collected, unless a player is traveling with the coach.

Team bag, jogging suit and team Sneaker purchase are optional. The team will receive a discount rate for the purchase of sneakers as a team. Your coach and team manager will advise you if this is an option for your team. We prefer that all the players purchase the same (color) sneakers. *(This is an optional expense)*





FUNDRAISER INFORMATION

It is expected that each parent will support the VA Stars program through active participation and contribution of time for various tasks at our hosted tournaments. Parents are also encouraged to participate in the various fundraisers your team chooses to do.

Fundraisers are a necessary evil. All proceeds from team sponsored fundraisers go directly in each team's account. These funds are used to pay for tournament each team participate in. If you do not fundraise or have enough funds in your teams account you will limit the number of tournaments you can participate in.

As part of your paid registration fees, the VA Stars will pay for entry in the VA Stars hosted tournaments

DO I HAVE TO FUNDRAISE?

YES, parents or a responsible party for each player must participate in fundraisers or pay the opt out fee

TYPES OF FUNDRAISERS

We are always open to ideas from parents. Some of the ideas currently presented are:

- Shoot A Thon
- Patron List
- Candy Fundraiser
- Raffle
- Dance
- Joe Corbin pizza
- Sponsorships
- Yard sale
- Car wash w/fish fry
- Black Art Christmas
- Annual STARS overnight bus trip to Cowboy/Redskin Football Game





TRAVEL INFORMATION & UPDATES



- ❖ Your team manager will set up all travel arrangements as a courtesy to the team.
 - ❖ Parents are welcome to find their own hotel accommodations, however we prefer that the players stay at the same hotel to assure all players receive the tournament updates. This also provides a greater bonding experience for the team.
 - ❖ All players at any hotel are required to follow the direction of their Coaches or team Chaperones.
- ❖ Coaches may determine a curfew time which will be followed by ALL players.
- ❖ Hotel rules **MUST** be followed at all times. Any type of loud or disruptive behavior that may disturb other hotel guest will not be tolerated.
- ❖ When sharing a room, players are expected to be respectful and considerate to their teammates at all times.
- ❖ Players **MAY NOT** go anywhere alone. Players must receive permission from parent, coach or chaperone to leave the team group and then must partner with other team members before leaving the group.

HOW WILL WE RECEIVE TEAM UPDATES?

All information will be given to each team manager to filter down to parents and players. If an email address is provided we will forward the same information to the email recipient. Please make sure we have your email address on file, to assure delivery.

Information/ Updates are always available on the website.

"Talent wins games, but teamwork and intelligence wins championships."

Michael Jordan



**VIRGINIA STARS EXECUTIVE BOARD
AND BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S
COACHING STAFF**



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Kim Thompson	President	Vastars01@yahoo.com	(804) 399-9649
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Paula Giles	Secretary/ Registration Director		
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VA STARS

PARENT/PLAYER CODE OF CONDUCT

This program and its philosophy are about preparing young student-athletes to compete in the game of basketball and life. It's about skill development, beginning at a young age, and continuing throughout their basketball career. It's about positive reinforcement, encouragement or consolation and self esteem. About having fun! And no matter what, it is always about the young players who are entrusted to our care and supervision. **Never underestimate the importance of such a responsibility to our organization.**

- We Are Family!!!! It's our desire to create a family-type environment. For the whole season they are together they are all friends. Never tolerate criticism of a teammate on or off the court. Kids are expected to urge each other on. Promote team dinners, outings and move quickly to break up cliques.
- Profanity of any kind and fighting is not allowed and will not be tolerated. Parents AND Players are required to be in control of themselves during games.
- Show respect to those around you.
- Parents/Players must practice good sportsmanship and maintain a positive attitude at all times. The VA Stars is committed to good sportsmanship. A violation of the Code of Conduct may result in action including reprimand, suspension or dismissal from the team and organization.
- Be a team player and always support teammates with encouragement and so support for your coach.
- Parents/Players are expected to understand and be willing to make the time commitment required for this type of program. School and recreation athletics are different from travel leagues.
- Notify your coach and Executive Board of any player who is injured no matter how minor the injury.
- Encourage and maintain an ongoing open and regular dialogue with your coach.
- Be aware of your team schedule and attend all practices, games and other team events.

- Parents and spectators are not to speak to the referees, and parents should refrain from attempting to coach their children from the stands.
- If you have a concern you need to address with the coach about your son and the tournament our general rule is that parents are not to approach coaches within the first 24 hours after a tournament. Call or email your coach after this timeframe to setup a time to talk.
- Additionally, you will be required to support and participate in a variety of VA Stars program sponsored activities. These activities may include volunteering to work at hosted tournaments or clinics, assisting with distribution of uniforms and/or equipment.
- All VA Stars equipment and uniforms must be returned at the conclusion of the season.

Playing Time: The VA Stars program is competitive basketball and is designed for players who possess more advanced basketball skills and who desire a more challenging playing experience. There is no promise of minimum playing time. Playing time is earned and this is an important consideration for any basketball program. Playing time depends on a number of factors such as practice attendance, attitude and effort, game match-up, foul trouble and basketball ability. Coaches have COMPLETE discretion over playing time and nothing will detract from a tournament experience more than repeated playing time discussions.

Player Signed: _____ Division: _____

Printed Name: _____ Date: _____

Parent Signed: _____ Division: _____

Printed Name: _____ Date: _____

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