



BY-LAWS  
OF  
TIDEWATER CATHOLIC BASKETBALL LEAGUE

Article 1.  
Definitions

Section 1.01 TCBL. The “TCBL” shall mean: Tidewater Catholic Basketball League hereinafter.

Section 1.02 Board. The “Board” shall mean: The Board of Directors of the TCBL hereinafter.

Section 1.03 Tidewater. “Tidewater” shall mean: the cities of Chesapeake, Norfolk, Portsmouth, Virginia Beach, Hampton, and Newport News hereinafter.

Section 1.04 CCD. “CCD” shall mean Confraternity of Christian Doctrine hereinafter.

Article 2.  
Purposes, Objectives and Governing Instruments

Section 2.01 Purposes and Powers. The TCBL shall have the same powers as an individual to do all things necessary or convenient to conduct the purposes, as set forth in these Bylaws. The specific purposes of the TCBL shall be to provide the physical, mental, and spiritual development of the youth of Tidewater by fostering faith within an organized basketball program among the Catholic parishes/schools of Tidewater.

Section 2.02 Governing Instruments. The TCBL shall be governed by the Board, which shall consist of one representative/director from each member parish/school, and an elected President.

Section 2.03 Nondiscrimination Policy. The TCBL will not practice or permit any unlawful discrimination on the basis of sex, age, race, color, or national origin.

Article 3.  
Membership

Section 3.01 Membership. The League shall consist of teams from the Catholic parishes/schools of Tidewater.

Section 3.02 Current Members. The League includes St. Patrick’s, Christ the King, Holy Trinity, Portsmouth Catholic, St. Gregory the Great, St. John the Apostle, St. Matthew’s, St. Pius X, and Star of the Sea.

Section 3.03 New Member Application. Any Catholic parish desiring membership in the TCBL by applying to the TCBL President no later than the first day of August immediately preceding the season in which they desire to begin participation. The TCBL Board shall act upon such an application by commencement of the TCBL season.



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Section 3.05 Membership Approval. The TCBL Board shall act upon such an application by commencement of the TCBL season. The first year of membership shall be probationary. Permanent membership shall be acted upon at the conclusion of the TCBL season. Any member parish/school thereafter may be removed from the TCBL at the request of the member parish/school or by a two-thirds vote of the entire Board.

#### Article 4. Board of Directors

Section 4.01 Annual Meeting. A meeting of the Board shall be held annually at such place, on such date and at such time as may be fixed by the Board, for the purpose of electing officers, receiving annual reports, and for the transaction of such other business as may be brought before the meeting.

Section 4.02 Number. The number of Directors constituting the entire Board shall be fixed by the Board, but such a number shall not be less than four (4).

Section 4.03 Election and Term of Office. Each Director shall hold office until the next meeting of the Board and until such Director's successor has been elected and qualified, or until his or her death, resignation, or removal.

Section 4.04 Powers and Duties. Subject to the provisions of law and these By-Laws, but in furtherance and not in limitation of any rights and powers thereby conferred, the Board shall have the control and management of the affairs and operations of the TCBL and shall exercise all the powers that may be exercised by the TCBL.

Section 4.05 Additional Meetings. Regular meetings of the Board may be held at such times as the Board may from time to time determine. Special meetings of the Board may also be called at any time by the President or by a majority of the Directors then in office.

Section 4.06 Quorum. At any meeting of the Board, a majority of the Directors then in office shall be necessary to constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. However, should a quorum not be present, a majority of the Directors present may adjourn the meeting from time to time to another time and place, without notice other than announcement at such meeting, until a quorum shall be present.

Section 4.07 Voting. At all meetings of the Board, each Director shall have one vote. In the event that there is a tie in any vote, the President shall have an additional vote to be the tiebreaker.

Section 4.08 Action Without a Meeting. Any action required or permitted to be taken by the Board or any committee thereof may be taken without a meeting if all members of the Board or any such committee consent in writing or verbally to the adoption of a resolution authorizing the action. The resolution and the written or verbal consents thereto by the members of the Board or any such committee shall be filed with the minutes of the proceedings of the Board or such committee.



Section 4.09 Removal. Any Director may be removed for cause by vote of the Board provided there is a quorum of not less than a majority present at the meeting at which such action is taken.

Section 4.10 Committee. The Board, by resolution adopted by a majority of the entire Board, may designate from among the Directors an executive committee and other standing committees, each consisting of two or more Directors, to serve at the pleasure of the Board, and each of which, to the extent provided in such resolution, shall have the authority of the Board. The Board may designate one or more Directors as alternate members of any such committee, who may replace any absent member or members at any meeting of such committee.

Section 4.11 Participation by Telephone. Any one or more members of the Board or any committee thereof may participate in a meeting of the Board or such committee by means of a conference telephone or similar communications equipment allowing all persons participating in the meeting to hear each other at the same time. Participation by such means shall constitute presence in person at a meeting.

## Article 5. Officers

Section 5.01 Election and Qualifications; Term of Office. The Officers of the TCBL shall be President and a Vice-President. The Officers shall be elected by the Board at the final meeting of each season or when deemed necessary by the Board. The Board may appoint other Officers as may be deemed desirable, such Officers shall serve for such period as the Board may designate.

Section 5.02 Vacancies. Any vacancy occurring in any office, whether because of death, resignation, or removal, with or without cause, or any other reason, shall be filled at the discretion of the Board.

Section 5.03 Powers and Duties of the President. The President shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the TCBL. The President shall from time to time make such reports of the affairs and operations of the TCBL as the Board may direct and shall preside at all meetings of the Board. The President shall have such other powers and shall perform such other duties as may from time to time be assigned to the President by the Board. The President shall also have custody of and keep accurate records concerning TCBL funds.

Section 5.04 Powers and Duties of the Vice-President. The Vice-President shall have such powers and shall perform such duties as may from time to time be assigned to such Vice President by the President or the Board.

Section 5.05 Delegation. In case of the absence of any Officer of the TCBL, or for any other reason that the Board may deem sufficient, the Board may at any time and from time-to-time delegate all or any part of the powers or duties of any Officer to any other Officer or to any Director or Directors.

Section 5.06 Removal. Any Officer may be removed from office at any time, with or without cause, by a vote of a majority of the Directors then in office at any meeting of the Board.



Section 5.07 Resignation. Any Officer may resign his or her office at any time, such resignation to be made in writing and to take effect immediately without acceptance by the TCBL.

## Article 6. Team Registration

Section 6.01 Team Formation/Registration. Member parishes may enter boys' and/or girls' teams in any divisions. No organized practice shall begin prior to October 15 of the current season. Co-ed teams can be formed at the discretion of the Board at the Youth level. Each team member should have a registration form on file to be officially rostered on a team.

Section 6.02 Roster Size. There is no maximum roster size for a TCBL school team composed solely of eligible school-enrolled players.

Section 6.03 Roster Details. An official roster should be provided for each team which contains full name, school, grade, and indication of whether the player's eligibility is by virtue of school or CCD criteria for each player on the team, Head Coach, and division. A participant may be rostered on and participate for only one school team during the TCBL season. A participant may not be rostered on or participate for any other school team or school-affiliated basketball league during the same season. If a player is participating by enrollment in CCD, they should adhere to the rules as stated in 7.01. A participant may not play in a division lower than the specified grade in 6.05-6.07.

Section 6.04 Roster Certification. The TCBL will certify that each player on the roster satisfies the requirements of Articles VI and VII concerning eligibility.

Section 6.05 Senior Division. Teams in the senior division shall be composed of players who are enrolled in the 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, or 8<sup>th</sup> grade of an eligible school.

Section 6.06 Junior Division. Teams in the junior division shall be composed of players who are enrolled in the 5<sup>th</sup> or 6<sup>th</sup> grade of an eligible school.

Section 6.07 Youth Division. Teams in the Youth division shall be composed of players who are enrolled in the 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> grade of an eligible school. Co-ed teams are permitted and will play in the boys' division.

## Article 7. Player Eligibility

### Section 7.01 CCD Eligibility.

Cheer participants are not CCD eligible and must be enrolled in a school participating in the TCBL. All CCD participants are required to be enrolled in a CCD program at the school/parish of play, or in a CCD program formally approved by the school/parish. TCBL representatives, or their authorized designees, shall maintain and provide monthly attendance reports for all CCD enrollees.

A CCD participant may be rostered on and participate for only one school team during the TCBL season. A participant may not be rostered on or participate for any other school team or school-affiliated basketball league during the same season.

A school may use CCD participants on a TCBL team when the school has fewer than ten (10) eligible school-enrolled players available to participate and cannot field a ten-player team using only school-enrolled players.

CCD participants may be used to supplement the school's school-enrolled players and fill the team's roster to ten (10) players. CCD participants may not be used for the purpose of creating, expanding, or facilitating the formation of additional school teams.

### **Board Exception**

A school that is unable to field a ten-player team using eligible school-enrolled players may submit a request to the TCBL Board of Directors for permission to roster more than ten (10) players, including additional CCD participants.

The Board may approve such a request when it determines that the additional CCD participants are necessary to allow the school to field and maintain a viable team. Approval of an exception shall be at the sole discretion of the Board and shall not be construed as establishing a right to exceed ten (10) players or to use CCD participants for the purpose of forming an additional team. Any team receiving a Board-approved exception shall remain a single team for the remainder of the season and may not subsequently be divided into two or more teams.

### **Illustrative Examples**

1. A school has seven (7) eligible school-enrolled players. The school may add three (3) CCD participants to field a ten-player team without Board approval.
2. A school has seven (7) eligible school-enrolled players but believes it needs additional players to maintain a viable team because of anticipated absences, injuries, or other circumstances. The school may petition the Board to approve more than ten (10) total players, including additional CCD participants.
3. A school has ten (10) or more eligible school-enrolled players. It may not use CCD participants to create or facilitate an additional team.

The TCBL Board reserves the right to deny or revoke the eligibility of any CCD participant at its discretion.

All CCD participants remain subject to the enrollment, attendance, reporting, and disciplinary requirements set forth in this Section. Any player with unexcused absences, or any team failing to comply with attendance documentation requirements, shall be subject to disciplinary action at the discretion of the Board. An unexcused absence shall be defined as any absence from a scheduled CCD class/session that is not pre-approved by the CCD program director, or supported by valid written justification (e.g., illness, family emergency, or other reason deemed acceptable by the CCD program director and/or Board). Disciplinary actions may include suspension or



permanent dismissal of the player from the team, and/or forfeiture of games equal to the number of unexcused absences.

Section 7.03 Ejection. Any player ejected from a game shall be suspended for the next TCBL game. Any action by a player deemed inappropriate or detrimental to the TCBL will be investigated by the Board for action.

Section 7.04 Ineligible Player Use. Any use of a player in a TCBL game who is ineligible under the provisions of Articles VII shall result in forfeiture of all the games in which said ineligible player participates. Any coach or parish/school member who knowingly conceals the fact that a player is ineligible will be permanently barred from the TCBL.

Section 7.05 Injury. If any athlete is suspected of having a concussion during gameplay or practice, he or she should be removed from play by referee or coach until clearance can be given by a licensed health care provider.

#### Article 8. Coach Eligibility

Section 8.01 Eligibility. All coaches or team representatives will undergo background checks, be in good standing with their parish/school, and complete the required TCBL coaching form.

Section 8.02 Ejection. Any coach or team representative ejected from a game will be suspended for the next TCBL game. Any action by coaches or team representatives deemed inappropriate or detrimental to the TCBL will be investigated by the Board for action.

#### Article 9. Playing Rules

Section 9.01 Rules. All divisions will be governed by the current National Federation of State High School Association (NFHS) rules including provisions in Article IX. Coaches and/or Parish representatives will not adjust playing rules prior to game time.

Section 9.02 Youth Exceptions. Refer to youth rules.

Section 9.03 Junior Exceptions. 1) A regulation game will consist of four (4) six (6) minute quarters. 2) All players in good standing are required to play each game, excluding tournament play. 3) A team in possession of a lead of twenty (20) or more points will be restricted to play within the three-point arc when on defense. After one (1) warning, the team will be assessed for a technical foul against the bench. 4) Overtime will be three (3) minutes. 5) A running clock will be employed when a team is in possession of a thirty (30) or more point lead in the 3<sup>rd</sup> and/or 4<sup>th</sup> quarter.

Section 9.04 Senior Exceptions. 1) All players in good standing are required to play each game, excluding tournament play. 2) A team in possession of a lead of twenty (20) or more points will be restricted to play within the three-point arc when on defense. After one (1) warning, the team



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will be assessed a technical foul against the bench. 3) Overtime will be four (4) minutes. 5) A running clock will be employed when a team is in possession of a thirty (30) or more point lead in the 3<sup>rd</sup> and/or 4<sup>th</sup>

Section 9.05 Violation. Violation of any rule by coaches or team representatives will be investigated by the Board for action.

## Article 10. Tournament

Section 10.02 Seeding. Pairing for the tournament for the Junior and Senior divisions will be determined based on the regular season standings. When applicable the Junior and Senior Divisions will seed the Gold Division as the high seeds, followed by the Silver Division. In the event of a tie for any place order of finish for the regular season, the tie will be decided by head-to-head > point differential to a maximum of 10 points > points against. Seedings for the Youth divisions based on the regular season standings. In the event of a tie for any place order of finish for the regular season, the tie will be decided by head-to-head > point differential to a maximum of 10 points > points against. The Youth division tournament will be restricted to the top 6 teams in each division. If no split is required only the top 12 teams will make the tournament.

Section 10.03 Elimination. The tournament will be single elimination.

Section 10.04 Awards. Team trophies or plaques will be awarded to the 1<sup>st</sup> place teams in each division for the tournament and regular season.

## Article 11. Admission

Member parishes may charge admission for their regular season home games and any tournament games. Prior to the opening day of each TCBL season, the Board will establish a set of guidelines for admission charges. The member parishes shall not exceed the guidelines in their admission charges. The admission charges for the TCBL Finals will be set by the Board and go to the TCBL.

## Article 12 Amendments

These By-Laws may be altered, amended, added to, or repealed at any meeting of the Board called for that purpose by the vote of a majority of the Directors then in office.