

Chatham YBA Coaches Packet 2025-2026 Season

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YBA coaches responsibilities

1. Attendance at Coaches Meeting/Team Draft is mandatory. **Only one coach per team** will be admitted to the draft. See additional information on page 5.
2. Contact players as soon as possible after the Team Draft to confirm practice availability and interest in playing. Coaches must notify their League Coordinator when this is complete. If a player needs to be traded after the draft due to practice conflicts, contact the League Coordinator for approval.
3. Properly supervise players during practices and games. Be aware that the Chatham YBA and coaches may be responsible for all damages incurred to the schools and the Community Center. During a YBA function, you represent the Chatham YBA.
4. Water is the only drink allowed in the facilities during practices and games. Please do not bring food or other drinks to the facilities.
5. Contact your League Coordinator if you have a player quit the team, or consistently miss games or practices.
6. Make sure all players have been picked up before leaving your practice site.
7. Begin and end practice at the scheduled time.

Game day

1. For 5th-8th grade teams, arrive early enough to enter players in the scorebook (numeric order please) and recruit a scorekeeper and timekeeper before your team begins warm-ups.
2. The team on the left side of the scorekeeper will be the home team.
3. Teams that play the first games on Saturday and Sunday should arrive early enough to get out the benches and hook up the scoreboard equipment.
4. Teams that play the last game on Saturday and Sunday are responsible for putting the benches back on the stage (Community Center) and putting the scoreboard equipment back in the storage room along with any basketballs.

Contact information

2025-2026 YBA league coordinators

- Kindergarten: Andy Dickerson 217-414-7015
- 1st/2nd Grade Boys: Sharon Swain 919-610-6843
- 1st/2nd Grade Girls: Brent Kulavic 217-725-2217
- 3rd Grade Boys: Mike Kotowski 217-836-9011
- 4th Grade Boys: Andy Dickerson 217-414-7015
- 3rd/4th Grade Girls: Alex Monnett 217-816-6626
- 5th/6th Grade Boys: Raegan Hennemann 217-341-6974
- 5th/6th/7th/8th Grade Girls: Sharon Swain 919-610-6843
- 7th/8th Grade Boys: Sharon Swain 919-610-6843

General YBA Questions: Sharon Swain 919-610-6843

Registration: Ryan McCulloch 217-494-3344

Practice Scheduling: Sharon Swain 919-610-6843

Youth Ref Coordinator: Raegan Hennemann 217-341-6974

Chatham Community Center: 217-483-2488

Correspondence via mail (sponsor forms/payment) should be sent to:
Chatham YBA, Inc.
P.O. Box 151
Chatham, IL 62629

Practice/Uniforms/Game Schedules/Team Pictures

Practice: No YBA-sanctioned practices (Community Center gym or Ball-Chatham School District gyms) will take place Dec. 22 through Jan. 5.

Coaches may rent the Community Center gym for \$30 per hour with a minimum seven-day notification. Contact the Community Center staff at 483-2488 to make arrangements.

If you practice at the Community Center, you must contact the Community Center by noon if you cancel practice. Also, if you have the last practice of the night, you must stay until a Community Center employee arrives. Violation of these rules may result in the loss of using the Community Center as a practice facility.

If there is no school or school is closed or dismissed early due to bad weather, there will be no practices that evening at all BCSD schools and the Community Center.

Uniforms: Jerseys will be distributed the week before games begin.

Game Schedules: Posted on ChathamYBA.org and distributed to teams at least two weeks prior to the first game. The first weekend of games is Jan. 10-11. The last weekend of regular season games is Feb. 28 - March 1. The tournament for grades 5th-8th will be March 7-8.

Team Pictures: Team pictures will not be scheduled through YBA.

Coaches Meeting/Team Draft

Rules:

1. Every age group/league will have a draft.
2. If the head coach cannot attend the draft, the coach is responsible to find another person (assistant coach or another representative) to participate.
3. Prior to starting the draft, each coach will:
 - a. Confirm their assistant coach or choose an assistant from those who volunteered via registration. It is a requirement of the league that each team has an assistant coach.
 - b. Choose a practice time slot and location. *Coaches need to avoid selecting players with a conflict on their practice night.*
4. Coaches will draw a number to decide the order of the draft and selection of a team name.
5. Each coach gets two players before the draft selections begin - their child and the assistant coach's child.
6. If there are two grades in the league, the higher grade players are drafted first and then the younger grade.
7. After that, the draft occurs in a snake pattern, up and then back down (i.e. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1).
 - a. If there are siblings/twins in the same league and the parents want them on the same team, the coach who selects them has to use two draft picks.
8. If a coach needs to make a trade, they must speak with their league coordinator.

Rules 2025-2026 Season

Illinois High School Association basketball rules apply for grades 3-8 with the following exceptions:

SEC. I - All leagues

1. All games are four, eight-minute quarters with a running clock, except for mid-quarter substitutions (see list below), time-outs (3rd grade and above), during free throws (3rd grade and above) and the last two minutes of the second and fourth quarters (3rd grade and above). Referees have the discretion to not stop the clock in the fourth quarter if any team is up 15 points or more. If that happens, the coaches and timekeeper will be informed.
2. The following leagues will only sub at mid-quarter and the end of each quarter:
 - a. Kindergarten
 - b. 1st/2nd grade boys
 - c. 1st/2nd grade girls
 - d. 3rd grade boys
 - e. 4th grade boys
 - f. 3rd/4th grade girls
 - g. 5th/6th grade boys

This will result in each player participating in every quarter of the game. Unless a team has six or fewer players, every player must sit out at least once per half.

Substitutions will occur at the first dead ball at or under the 4:00 mark in the quarter, which could be after a basket, foul, violation, time out or at the official's discretion to stop play if neither team has an advantage.

3. Each team (3rd grade and up) is allowed three, one-minute time-outs and two 30-second time-outs per game. One 30-second time-out is awarded for overtime with no carry over of unused time-outs into overtime.
4. For 3rd grade and up, defensive pressure is allowed in the backcourt ONLY during the last two minutes of the 2nd and 4th quarters. Full court pressure will not be allowed by any team up 15 points or more during the last two minutes of the 2nd and 4th quarters.
5. If, at the end of regulation, the score is tied; there will be one two-minute overtime period. There will not be a running clock in overtime.

6. Ball sizes:
 - a. Kindergarten, 1st and 2nd grade boys/girls: 27.5 ball
 - b. 3rd and 4th grade boys/girls: 28.5 ball
 - c. 5th and 6th grade boys: 28.5 ball
 - d. 5th - 8th grade girls: 28.5 ball
 - e. 7th and 8th grade boys: 29.5 ball

SEC. II - Kindergarten, 1st and 2nd grade boys/girls

1. Kindergarten teams use a 7.25-foot hoop. Girls use an 8-foot hoop. Boys use an 8.5-foot hoop.
2. Free throws will not be shot in K-2 games.
3. Score will not be kept and fouls will not be tracked in K-2 games.
4. Jump balls will be awarded to the defense.
5. The five players on the court will wear colored wristbands. A player guards the player on the opposing team with the same color wristband.
6. One coach may be on the court to provide verbal assistance to their players.
7. The defense will remain inside the 3-point line.
8. Traveling, double dribble and similar violations will not be called unless a gross violation (running 4-5 steps or more) is committed. Coaches should strongly encourage their players to dribble the basketball and attempt to pass. If the referee stops play for a gross violation, the player will have the violation explained to them and the team will resume possession at half court.
9. If a foul is called by the referee, play will stop, the referee will explain to the players why the foul was called and the team with the ball will resume possession at half court. Coaches are strongly encouraged to talk to their players on the court and on the bench about why a foul was called.
10. When the ball is inbounded in the backcourt, a minimum of one pass is required after the ball crosses into the frontcourt before a shot can be taken. Violation of this rule results in the violation being explained and a change of possession will occur.

The YBA encourages coaches to develop an offense. Making one pass to the same player beyond where the defense can play and having that player drive to the basket and shoot without passing is not encouraged. Having players spend an entire possession outside the three-point line without any movement is not encouraged.

SEC. III - 3rd and 4th grade boys/girls

1. Girls use a 9-foot hoop. Boys use a 9.5-foot hoop.
2. An official scorebook will not be kept but the scoreboard will be used for points and time. If an official calls an excessive number of fouls on individual players, it will be their discretion to have the coach sub the player out of the game.
3. Players may touch or go over the line in the act of shooting free throws, however if the shooter crosses the line, they are prohibited from getting the rebound of their missed attempt until the ball is touched by another player.

Points of Emphasis

1. The YBA encourages coaches to develop an offense. Making one pass to the same player and having that player drive to the basket and shoot without passing is not encouraged.
2. Players may be called for a three-second lane violation but the officials will help remind players during the game to move in and out of the lane.
3. Each team must provide an adult timekeeper (3rd grade and up) and scorekeeper (5th grade and up) for every game. The scorebook (5th grade and up) should be completed before each game and include the name of the coach and all player's full names in numerical order by uniform number. There will be grade and gender specific scorebooks at each game site. Please make sure to use the appropriate book. These will be used to seed teams for the tournament.
4. Bench decorum will be enforced by officials. No physical, verbal, or mental abuse of the officials will be tolerated.
5. Except for K-2 teams, coaches may not come onto the court for any reason, except during time-outs.
6. Only the head coach and one assistant coach may be on the bench. The assistant coach must remain seated at all times.
7. No jewelry of any kind is permitted to be worn during a game. Earrings that cannot be removed must be covered.
8. Playing time can be reduced by the coach for a player who habitually misses practices and games. Before this happens, the parents and League Coordinator must be notified. On game day, the referees and other coach must be informed prior to the start of the game.
9. If a player arrives for a game anytime during the first half, the player is required to play one quarter. If the arrival is in the second half, the coach does not have to put the player into the game unless the parents of the player have notified the coach about the late arrival.
10. Any player or coach ejected from a game will have their conduct reviewed by the YBA board. This review could result in suspension of the coach or player from future YBA games for an amount of time determined by the board.