

NATIONAL WHEELCHAIR BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION

WOMEN'S DIVISION RULES AND REGULATIONS

(Adopted February 27, 2008)

(Amended April 22, 2023)

(Amended May 12, 2024)

(Amended June 8, 2025)

Article I - Purposes

Section 1: Purposes

- (a) To promulgate and develop women's wheelchair basketball teams and players.
- (b) To advance the interests of women's teams and women players within the Constitution, Bylaws and Executive Regulations of the National Wheelchair Basketball Association (NWBA)
- (c) To coordinate the efforts of member teams for the benefit of women's wheelchair basketball and to encourage the formation of new teams.
- (d) To provide opportunities for women not rostered on women's teams to play on women's teams against other women's teams.
- (e) To serve the purposes of the National Wheelchair Basketball Association

Article II - Membership

Section 1: Eligibility for Membership

- (a) Any National Wheelchair Basketball Association team which only rosters women players is eligible for membership in this Division.
- (b) In order to play within the Women's Division, a female wheelchair basketball player must be classifiable in accordance with NWBA rules and regulations. If the female athlete does not have a permanent classifiable disability, they are eligible

to play as an able-bodied player, as a 4.5 classification.

Section 2: Conditions and Obligations of Membership

(a) The members of this Division agree to administer their women's wheelchair basketball program in accordance with the Constitution, Bylaws and other legislation of the NWBA and regulations of the Women's Division.

Section 3: Annual Dues

(a) No annual dues for the Women's Division will be collected from teams.

Section 4: Team Roster (Adopted June 1, 2011)

(a) Team rosters are limited to 15 accredited players. No additions of veteran players may be made after December 31st unless a same season transfer has been granted. Novices may be added to rosters up to 15 days prior to Women's Nationals. Novices shall not be considered part of the 15 accredited players.

(b) Teams will be allowed to ship in seven (7) classification points. Players who are rostered with their most proximal team will not be considered a ship in.

(c) All women's teams have adopted the functional classification system

(d) Teams are allowed a total of 15 points on the court.

Teams may play multiple AB (4.5) athletes at the same time given their total points on the floor is less than 15.

Section 5: Rules of Play

The Women's Division of the National Wheelchair basketball Association (NWBA) shall play according to Official Rules of the NWBA except wherein modifications, deletions and/or additions have been made, as follows:

Rule (1) Court & Equipment

The ball used for play in the NWBA's Women's Division shall conform to the specifications in the NCAA's Women's Rules

Rule (2) Uniforms (Adopted March 6, 2004)

Women's Division Team uniform pants will be of the same color, either short or long, and of the same design but do not have to be of the same material.

(Example: Pants if blue must all be the same shade of blue. Pants may or may not have stripes, etc., but must all be the same. Pants may be made of cotton, nylon, or other material.)

Article III - Organization

Section 1: Executive Committee

The establishment and direction of the general policy of the Division in the interim between annual meetings is committed to the Women's Division Executive Committee of five members, and Division Commissioner, and shall be elected at the Division's annual meeting as prescribed in this article.

(a) The Executive Committee shall be constituted as follows:

1. The Chairperson
2. The First Vice-Chairperson
3. The Secretary/Treasurer
4. Athlete Representative (Appointed by NWBA AAC)
5. Athlete Representative (Appointed by NWBA AAC)

(b) Any individual, regardless of race, color, sex, national origin, and physical or mental disability may be eligible for office in the Women's Division.

(c) For the transaction of business, a quorum shall consist of a majority of members of the Executive Committee. Each Executive Committee member will make every effort to attend all Women's Division Committee meetings either in person or virtual.

(d) The Executive Committee shall:

1) Transact the business and administer the affairs for the Division in accordance with the regulations of the Division.

2) Adopt a budget for the ensuing fiscal year to present to the NWBA Executive Committee

3) Adopt regulations providing for conduct of Division playoffs and tournaments.

4) Report its proceedings to the business session of the annual meeting.

5) Review proposed Association legislation for its impact on the Division; make recommendations at the annual meeting.

6) Name a replacement for any vacancy on the Executive Committee to fulfill the obligation of that office until the next Division meeting when an individual is elected by the delegates to serve the remaining part of the term of the vacated office.

(e) The Division's Executive Committee may transact part of its business by correspondence, as it may deem appropriate.

(f) Election of Division's Executive Committee

(1) Each officer shall be elected for a term of 3 years. The terms shall be staggered.

(2) The following pattern shall be used as a means of initiating the stagger:

- i. Chairperson - elected for a 3 year term in 1997
- ii. Vice-Chairperson - elected for a 3 year term in 1996
- iii. Secretary/Treasurer - elected for a 3 year term in 1998

(g) Duties of the Officers

(1) The Chairperson shall preside at the meetings of the Division and the Division's Executive Committee. In the absence of the Chair, or in the case he/she is incapacitated, the First Vice Chairperson shall take the Chair's place and perform those duties.

- i. First Vice Chairperson shall perform such duties, as the Chairperson shall elect.
- ii. The Treasurer is responsible for all funds of the Women's Division and submitting, at the annual meeting, a report of receipts and disbursements during the preceding fiscal year ending June 30th. Prior to the end of any fiscal year, he/she shall be responsible for presenting to the Women's Division Executive Committee a proposed operating budget for the ensuing fiscal year.

iii. The Secretary shall be responsible for keeping records of the meetings of the Women's Division meetings and of the Executive Committee, and reporting to the Division at each annual meeting the minutes of the Division meetings of the preceding year. He/she will send updated materials into the Secretary of the NWBA, as needed, to be included in the Rules and Regulations book. The Secretary, with another member of the Executive Committee, will be responsible for tabulating the results of the team ballots for All National Tournament Teams, MVP, and Sportsmanship.

(h) Termination of Office

(1) Any officer may be removed from office by a two-thirds vote of the delegates at the Division's annual meeting

(2) Charges of misconduct or ineffective performance of duty must be presented in a similar manner to the NWBA Constitution

Section 2: Commissioner of the Women's Division

The Commissioner of the Women's Division shall be a non-voting member of the Executive Committee of the Women's Division. The Commissioner of the Women's Division shall have executive authority and be responsible to the executive committee only. It is an appointed position by the NWBA President.

(a) The Commissioner of the Women's Division shall serve the role and fulfill the duties as outlined below:

- 1) Have an understanding of the Women's Division Rules and Regulations and the NWBA Constitution and Bylaws to ensure that action taken by the Women's Division is in accord with those documents.
- 2) Maintain and update National Women's Wheelchair Basketball Tournament records.
- 3) Maintain a listing of women players, their classifications, and date of their last National Tournament classification.
- 4) Receive Women's Division rosters and distribute to each Women's Division team upon request. The roster should include team name, as well as addresses, home and work telephone numbers for each team representative and player classification (if known) for each team member.
- 5) Maintain a register of women wheelchair basketball players who do not play or compete with women's teams and distribute to all teams.

- 6) Attend the National Women's Wheelchair Basketball Tournament and collect classification documentation, game records, score books, and statistics.
- 7) Assist in the assignment of officials to NWWBT Championship Round Play
- 8) Make and interpret all decisions of the Women's Division Bylaws, Rules and Regulations, including protests. (Refer to NWBA Constitution and Bylaws, Article Fifteen, Grievance Process.) Any decision made by the Commissioner of the Women's Division must be sent to all teams in writing within (1) one week of the receipt of the original protest. If a protest is lodged at the NWWBT, the decision made by the Commissioner of the Women's Division must be received by all teams in writing prior to the first game of the following day. The decision is effective immediately upon receipt by all member teams unless an appeal is made to the Executive Committee. Any decision made by the Commissioner of the Women's Division may be appealed to the Executive Committee of the women's Division. Decisions can be reversed with a majority vote of the Executive Committee of the Women's Division. All decisions of the Executive Committee of the Women's Division must be circulated to all member teams in writing within 1 week after a decision has been rendered. If the decision is rendered at the NWWBT, the decision must be received by all teams by noon of the following day. The decision is effective immediately upon receipt by all member teams unless an appeal is made. Any decision reversed may be appealed by any member team to the delegate's meeting at the NWWBT. Appeals must be received with a majority vote of the delegates present at the NWWBT. The decision is effective upon registration of the final vote into the minutes of the annual meeting.
- 9) Review, whenever possible, any matters not covered by the Women's Division Constitution and Bylaws, Rules and Regulations with the Executive Committee before rendering any decisions.

10) Serve as a professional advisor, consultant, and resource person between the Women's Division and the NWBA Executive Committee (re: international competitions, USA Basketball competition)

11) Prepare an annual written report for submission at the delegate's meeting at the NWWBT.

12) The Commissioner shall be appointed for a three-year term, at the annual delegates' meeting at the NWWBT. The Commissioner was appointed for a three-year term in 1999.

13) The Commissioner of the NWBA Women's Division may identify an advisory person or committee to assist with his/her duties. This person will serve at the discretion of the Women's Division Commissioner

Article IV - Meetings

Section 1: Annual Meeting

There shall be an Annual Meeting of the Division at a date established by the Women's Division executive committee and announced at least 45 days in advance.

The timeframe for holding the Women's Division Annual Meeting is determined by the NWBA Bylaws.

Options for participants to attend in person and remotely must be provided.

a) In the event that only one candidate is running for any given office, that candidate must receive a vote of confidence by a majority of delegates present and voting. No candidates may be declared the winner by default.

b) Election of Officers will be conducted as the last order of business during the Annual Meeting.

Section 2: Voting Privileges

- (a) Each Division member team shall be entitled to one vote and may be represented at the Annual Meeting by one accredited delegate
- (b) Member teams are authorized to send visiting delegates who shall be without voting power and shall not actively participate in the business proceedings of the Association.
- (c) The certification and voting of delegates shall be conducted as follows:
 - 1. Delegates shall be certified to the Secretary as entitled to represent the member team in question by the proper Executive Officers of their team.
 - 2. No delegate shall represent a member team unless he or she is actually identified with such member team.
 - 3. When the Division votes by roll call, either written or via voice, on any question, on demand of any delegate, the names of delegates as they vote shall be checked by the Secretary in order to verify the authority of the voter.
 - 4. The voting representative must be announced to the secretary prior to the start of the Annual meeting.

Article V - National Women's Wheelchair Basketball Tournament

Section 1: Eligibility

- a) All member teams having played in one tournament, or four games against any Association team and in good standing, shall be eligible to enter the NWWBT.
- b) A NWBA team in good standing with a sufficient number of women rostered to field a legal team shall be eligible to enter those as a team into the NWWBT.

Section 2: Structure

- (a) The NWWBT may vary from year to year to year depending upon:
 - (1) Number of teams entered.

- (2) Opportunity to participate in the National Wheelchair Basketball Tournament.
- (3) Resources of NWWBT host.
- (b) Tournament structure will be determined based on the number of teams attending and court availability of the National tournament host. Tournament structure will be approved by the Women's Division Executive Committee. A consensus on rankings for Nationals will be agreed upon by the Women's Division Team representatives.
- (c) The NWWBT tournament will guarantee a minimum of three games, with intent to provide 4 games if tournament structure permits.
- (d) The National Tournament dates for women shall avoid religious holidays.
- (e) The priority is that the NWWBT be scheduled prior to, or in conjunction with, the NWBT.
- (f) Tournament Most Valuable Player and 1st and 2nd Team All-Tournament awards will be voted on and awarded by NWBA Women's Division Commissioner and 2 others. Sportsmanship award will be voted on by the teams. (Adopted March 24, 2012)

Article VI - Amending Women's Rules and Regulations

Section 1:

These Rules and Regulations may be amended at any Annual Meeting by a majority vote of the delegates present and voting, provided that the proposed amendment shall have been submitted in writing to the Secretary of the Division four weeks prior to the Annual Meeting.

Section 2:

The Secretary shall email a copy of the proposed amendment to all members of the Division not later than two weeks before an Annual Meeting.

Section 3:

A proposed amendment to the Rules and regulations may be amended at the annual meeting by a majority vote of the members present and voting, provided that the amendment to the proposed amendment shall have been submitted in writing to the Secretary prior to one o'clock in the afternoon on the day preceding the final business session.

Section 4:

The WD Executive Committee may propose amendments to amendments at the time of the Annual Meeting without the procedural requirement described in Section Three for this Article, provided that in each instance, the proposed amendment has been approved by a majority vote of the Executive Committee and copies are distributed before or during the business session.

Section 5:

Unless otherwise specified, all amendments shall become effective on the first day of September following adoption by the Annual Meeting.

Article VII - Autonomy

The Women's Division has the responsibility and authority to govern its affairs, draft legislation, and conduct business specific to the Women's Division. No legislation shall be passed that is incongruent with the NWBA Constitution and Bylaws.

RESOLUTIONS