



2025-2026

PROVINCIAL BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS

TOURNAMENT GUIDE

B-1 Membership

Membership within Basketball New Brunswick shall be attained by payment of a membership fee. This fee is included in the registration fees paid by any team participating in Provincial Championships. Non-playing coaches or managers must also pay a fee. Payment of this amount, either separately or with the player's registration, entitles this person to inclusion in the Sport Accident and Liability Insurance plan.

B-2 Competitive Divisions

Competitions may be arranged in each of the following divisions (birth years available on BNB web site):

Great Grand Masters	55 years of age and over
Grand Masters	45 years of age and over
Masters	35 years of age and over
Intermediate	open age
Under 18	Under 18 years of age as of Dec 31 of the current playing season – note minimum ages on web site (under 19 years of age permitted - players in last year of eligibility attending a NB High School)
Under 16	under 16 years of age as of Dec 31 of current playing season – note minimum ages on web site
Middle School	All players from same middle school – exceptions available in certain circumstances
Under 14	under 14 years of age as of Dec 31 of current playing season – note minimum ages on web site
Under 13	under 13 years of age as of Dec 31 of current playing season – note minimum ages on web site
Under 11	under 11 years of age as of Dec 31 of current playing season – note minimum ages on web site

Ages referred to above shall be calculated as of December 31 of the current playing season (not the calendar year). Proof of age must be available at all Provincial Championships. For a breakdown of birth years please see: <https://basketball.nb.ca/content/age-classifications>

B-3 Registration

To register a team for BNB Provincial Championships, the following must be observed:

- Teams must register online through the [BNB Registration Portal](https://basketball.nb.ca/content/registration-portal). Successful registration, with all required information, must be received by the BNB office by the appropriate Registration Deadline.
- A maximum of 18 players may be registered, however only a limited number of awards will be provided (per Article B-13)
- Registration fees are refundable only by approval of the Board of Directors following the Provincial Championships – full details: <https://basketball.nb.ca/content/dates-amp-fees>

B-4 Registration Deadline

a) The registration deadlines for each division are:

Under 11 – Monday, Dec 15th, 2025

Under 12/Under 13/Under 14 – Monday, Dec 15th, 2025

Middle School - Thursday, January 15th, 2026

Under 16/Under 18 – Wednesday, February 25th, 2026

b) Late registrations MAY be accepted but there is no guarantee. Teams who wish to register after the deadline should contact the BNB office.

c) Registrations can only be accepted by BNB's office staff or designate.

d) In the masters, grand masters and great grand masters divisions, should a team roster be reduced to less than 12 players, players may be replaced (up to the original team roster number) before the provincial championship tournament. New players can only replace names that were originally on the registration form. A fee may be imposed for each replacement made.

e) In all other categories (not referenced in d above), should a team roster be reduced to less than 10 players, players may be replaced (up to the original team roster number) before the provincial championship tournament. New players can only **replace** names that were originally on the registration form. When replacing a player, please contact BNB.

There is a fee of \$15 for each replacement made.

B-5 Provincial Championship Tournament Fees

Division	Fee
Under 11	\$350
Under 12	\$525
Under 13	\$525
Under 14	\$525
Under 16	\$525
Under 18	\$525
Middle School	\$525
Intermediate	\$675
Masters	\$675
Grand Masters	\$675
Great Grand Masters	\$675

B-6 Eligibility

To be eligible to play in any competitive division of BNB, a player must meet the following requirements:

- a) be a New Brunswick resident as of January 1st of the current basketball season (See Note 1 below)
- b) meet age limitations as of December 31st of the current basketball season
- c) meet the requirements of the definition "Amateur"
- d) may not have played on a CIS University Team as of January 1st (see Note 2 below)

***NOTE 1* Grand Masters and Great-Grand Masters (effective for the 2019-2020 season):**

- Age eligible teams from Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island will be permitted to register for these divisions.

***NOTE 2* Intermediate division eligibility (effective January 2013):**

- Intermediate teams may have a MAXIMUM of two players (total) who meet the following criteria:
 - o may have played on a CIS team after January 1st of the current playing season and has lived in NB for at least two consecutive years
 - o may have played on an NBL or NCAA D1 team after January 1st and attended a New Brunswick high school and/or University/College
- Teams who have 1 and/or 2 players who fit the aforementioned criteria may be subject to play in a higher division at BNB's discretion.

B-7 Provincial Playoffs

- a) All age-eligible teams that register with Basketball New Brunswick may advance to a Provincial Championship Tournament.
- b) All age class BNB Championships will be round robin format, (where possible). Adult Championships will be single elimination (pending number of teams registered). Formats will be determined by BNB.
- c) Tournament schedules will be issued by BNB. These are not to be changed except by BNB, if required.
- d) Tournament site selections will be based on hosting application, number of tournaments allocated to one area, access to officials and cost of facilities. Every effort will be made to disperse sites throughout the province.
- e) BNB will provide awards to Provincial Championship tournaments (U12 and up), as per Article B13.
- f) The higher seed team is the home team. Should both teams have the same color uniforms, the home team will be required to change or wear pinnies.
- g) Should a host lose money during a tournament, they may apply to BNB to recover a portion of their loss. Such an application must be accompanied by a Tournament Financial Statement, and will have to be approved by the Board of Directors of BNB.
- i) Requests for financial assistance for Provincial Tournaments must be submitted within **seven** days of the Tournament.
- j) BNB will pay up to a maximum of \$400 for facility rentals/custodian fees (combined).

B-8 Rules of Play

- a) Officials - provincial championship games must have at least one "A" rated official (where possible.)
- b) FIBA rules will be used with the following modifications:

- [U11](#)
- [U12](#)
- [U13 / U14 / Middle School](#)

g) Bench Decorum

Prepared in collaboration with the NBAABO

Each team shall do its best to secure victory, but this must be done in the spirit of sportsmanship and fair play. Any deliberate or repeated non-cooperation or non-compliance with the spirit and intent of this rule shall be considered as a technical foul. Referees may prevent technical fouls by giving warnings.

- The head coach may communicate in a courteous manner with the referees during the game to obtain information only when the ball is dead and the game clock is stopped. Assistant coaches shall not communicate with the referees.
- Either the head coach or assistant coach, but only one of them at any given time, is permitted to remain standing during the game. They shall remain within their team bench area. All others on the bench shall remain seated.
- Coaches and substitutes shall communicate in a courteous manner with the scorer's table.

The following (but not limited to) are all considered inappropriate and subject to penalty:

- All questioning, arguing, or attempts to influence referee calls, either directly or indirectly.
- Verbal comments such as "That's a foul"; "She traveled"; "Call it both ways"; "You missed that call"; etc.
- Gestures demonstrating displeasure with the officiating such as raising arms as to question referee decisions; demonstrating signals for fouls and/or violations as to question referee decisions; or any other non-verbal communication intended to undermine the referees.
- Communicating with referees while the ball is live.
- Communicating with referees at excessive volume.
- the use of profanity

B-9 FairPlay Rules and Regulations

What the Rule is

- Each player on the roster, provided they are not fouled out, ejected, injured, or for disciplinary reasons:
 - **For U13/14/middle School**, must play at least 8 minutes of game time.
 - **For U11**, No player may participate in more than one (1) segments more than his/her teammates in the same game.

BNB believes strongly in the spirit behind this rule and the need for all members of any team to be given the opportunity to develop and therefore need the opportunity to test the skills they are learning during training within a game setting.

This year the rule will no longer be done on a honor system, BNB will be enforcing the adherence to the rule and there will be ramifications if/when an infraction occurs

It's important we understand the intention of this rule. We are not looking for people to sit in the stands with stop watches or to punish someone if a player only gets 7 minutes of playing time in a

game. We are looking to remove the situations where players do not play at all or they receive one short shift and that's all in a game, those instances have no place in Youth Basketball.

Fair Play Incident Report

As it is impossible for BNB representatives to be in the gym for every game that is played all year we will need the cooperation of coaches and association members in order to track this.

When there is a violation of the Fairplay Rules we are asking that it be reported as soon as possible using our FairPlay Incident Report Form. Reports will then be investigated and dealt with by the BNB Technical Staff

For the Link to the Fair Play Incident Report Form please [CLICK HERE](#)

Dealing with Complaints

All reports submitted through the Fairplay Incident Report form will be investigated by BNB Technical Staff

The below process will be followed when teams are found to be in violation of the Fairplay Rules and Regulations:

- 1st Offense - Written warning to coach and Minor Association / Club
- 2nd Offense - Suspension of coach for 1 game
- 3rd Offense - Team will be ineligible to compete in that seasons Provincial Championships/Spring Finale
- Further offenses - will be dealt with on a case by cases involving the Club/association
- Coaches/teams and Associations/Clubs who are found to be in violation of the Fairplay Policy may be required to show proof through the tracking of minutes that they are abiding by the rules and the spirit of the game that's intended

Fair Play Violations at Provincial Championships

- Should be reported immediately through the same Fairplay Incident Report Form
- The reports will be monitored by BNB representatives in real time throughout the Provincial Championship / Spring Finale Weekends
- Any association/club/school and coach with prior offenses heading into the Provincial Championships will be notified prior to as a reminder of how many offenses have occurred and steps that could occur if further violations take place
- Any Fairplay Violation at Provincial Championships will result in a 1 game suspension for the coach(regardless of whether it is the 1st offense of the year)
- A second offense or more (at the championships) or cumulative from the season will result in the disqualification of the team from the event
- If a violation occurs in a team's final game of the event, the coach and/or association/club may be subject to further disciplinary action

B-10 Tie Breaking Procedure

Should ties occur, division standings will be decided according to the following priorities:

- 1) In the event two teams have the same number of points in the placings (based on win/loss records), the classification will be established taking into account only the result of the game between the two teams involved.
- 2) If more than two teams have equal points in the placings (based on win/loss records), a second classification will be established taking into account only the results of the games between the teams involved.
- 3) If the situation is not resolved and teams have equal points in the placings after the second classification, then “goal average” - taking into account only the results of the games between the teams involved - will be used to determine the classification.
- 4). If it is not finally resolved, the classification will be determined by “goal average”, taking into account all the results of the games from the group in question.

NOTE: “Goal average” = points for, divided by points against. The highest quotient is the winner.

B-11 Length of Game & Ball Size

Wheelchair	10 minute quarters	Regulation Size 7 (29.5")
Grand Masters	10 minute quarters	Regulation Size 7 (29.5")
Masters Men	10 minute quarters	Regulation Size 7 (29.5")
Masters Women	10 minute quarters	Intermediate Size 6 (28.5")
Intermediate Men	10 minute quarters	Regulation Size 7 (29.5")
Intermediate Women	10 minute quarters	Intermediate Size 6 (28.5")
Under 18 Boys	10 minute quarters	Regulation Size 7 (29.5")
Under 18 Girls	10 minute quarters	Intermediate Size 6 (28.5")
Under 16 Boys	10 minute quarters	Regulation Size 7 (29.5")
Under 16 Girls	10 minute quarters	Intermediate Size 6 (28.5")
Middle School Boys	8 minute quarters	Intermediate Size 6 (28.5")
Middle School Girls	8 minute quarters	Intermediate Size 6 (28.5")
Under 14 Boys	8 minute quarters	Intermediate Size 6 (28.5")
Under 14 Girls	8 minute quarters	Intermediate Size 6 (28.5")
Under 13 Boys	8 minute quarters	Intermediate Size 6 (28.5")
Under 13 Girls	8 minute quarters	Intermediate Size 6 (28.5")
Under 11 Boys	10 - 3 minute segments	Mini Size 5 (27.5")
Under 11 Girls	10 - 3 minute segments	Mini Size 5 (27.5")

B-12 Tournament Format - BNB Championships

All Age Class (U12-U18) and Middle School Championship tournaments will be round robin (where possible). All U11 Age Class Spring Finales will be round-robin with no championship games.

Intermediate, Masters and Grand Masters will be single elimination (where possible).

Note: Seeding is done by the BNB (or designate) and the final schedule is issued by the BNB office.

B-13 Responsibility of a Tournament Host

Pre-Tournament

Information Package

Upon confirmation of hosting privileges, a list of all registered teams and the tournament schedule will be forwarded by BNB. Each host must forward the preliminary information to all teams as soon as possible. The package should include:

- Tournament site
- A list of area hotels/motels, including phone numbers and team rates
- A map to assist in locating the gym, hotel and restaurants
- A request for team lists, uniform numbers and colours
- A reminder that teams should bring birth certificates
- Any special information concerning the tournament (ie-Do teams need to bring their own warm-up balls, etc.)

Tournament

- Equipment – appropriate basketballs, rim heights, etc.
- Publicity – notify local media of the event taking place.
- Hospitality - mandatory for Adult Championship events.

Post-Tournament

- Publicity – send media report following final game.
- Report – Hosts **MUST** return a tournament report form to BNB within 7 days of their event.

B-14 Awards

Basketball New Brunswick provides medals for first, second and third place teams in all Age Class divisions (U12-U18). In each Age Class (U13-U18) and Middle School divisions, "Provincial Champion" banners will be awarded to all divisions. U11 Tournaments will not have championship games or banners.

First place awards are provided for Intermediate, Masters, Grand Masters and Great Grand Masters divisions.

Awards will be forwarded by BNB approximately one week before the tournament.

Number of medals provided:

Youth Events - 15

Adult Events – 12

Additional medals may be available upon request following each event.

Player of the Game Certificates may also be provided to be used at the Tournament Manager's discretion.

The tournament host may provide awards for MVP and All-Star team members, if desired.

B-15 Seeding and Schedule

Seeding and schedules are issued by BNB, and may not be modified by the host.

B-16 Publicity

It is recommended that the tournament manager ensures that an abundance of information about the tournament is provided to any local media.

B-17 Officials

All referees for all games in provincial tournaments are to be rated officials, with at least one "A" official in each game, where possible. These are available through the AABO area assigner, who should be contacted at least 2 weeks prior to the tournament. Zone Assigners:

- Zone 1 - Woodstock/Western Region - (Contact: Peter Demerchant - pademerc@mccain.ca)
- Zone 2 - Fredericton Region - (Contact: Adam Humphrey - jah@unb.ca)
- Zone 3 - St. Stephen Region - (Contact: Jeff McGinley - jmcginley@aeorne.com)
- Zone 4 - Saint John Region - (Contact: Jeff MacDonald - jeff_2col@yahoo.ca)
- Zone 5 - Moncton Region - (Contact: Jeff Smith - jeffsmithcma@gmail.com)
- Zone 6 - Miramichi - (Contact: James Watters -- james.watters@nbed.nb.ca)
- Zone 7 - Bathurst - (Contact: Patrick Cameron - patrick.cameron@nbed.nb.ca)
- Zone 8 - Campbellton/Dalhousie (Contact: Trevor McNally - McNally.Trevor@brunswicknews.com)

Minor officials (timer and score) are a very important part of any tournament and it is imperative that they be competent. It is advisable to use mature workers, who are well practiced at this operation. The host should review procedures with the minor officials. It is also helpful to permit only those people at the table, as this will cut down on distractions and resultant errors caused by a crowd. **Minor Officials are required to put any electronic devices away during the event (cell phones, iPods, etc.).**

B-18 Equipment and Facilities

A complete facility safety check must be carried out prior to the tournament. The host must provide a safe environment for all competitors, coaches and spectators.

Tournament hosts are responsible for supplying warm-up balls, leather **Spalding** game balls, a first aid kit and a set of pinnies to be used when the opposing teams wear the same color uniforms.

A shot clock should be used for all categories except mini. In mini, the table official will be responsible for the shot clock time count.

A large poster in a conspicuous place detailing the tournament format is also of help to spectators and coaches.

B-19 Admission Fees

The maximum admission fees that can be charged at any Provincial Championship Tournament are:

Adults:	\$5.00 per day/\$10 tournament pass
Students:	\$3.00 per day/tournament pass
Children under 12	Free

B-20 Hospitality

This is an important item. Effort on the part of a couple of volunteers can add a great deal to the quality of the tournament. Many things may be done to contribute to the hospitality of a successful tournament, such as:

- Oranges cut in slices for each team at half time of each game.
- Programs listing team members and uniform numbers.
- Canteen
- Door prizes
- Players' kits (many local business people are willing to contribute free products or samples)
- Intermediate, Masters, Grand Masters and Great Grand Masters Tournaments must have a hospitality evening for all players on Saturday night.

B-21 Weather Uncertainty

In the case of weather uncertainty, the following policies will come into effect:

BNB will suspend provincial championships if the facilities involved in these competitions are closed by their school district's superintendent. No games or tournaments are allowed to be played if the facilities involved are closed by the superintendent of their districts.

BNB will suspend provincial championships if weather uncertainty indicates potential for unsafe driving conditions on the required day of travel for teams. In the event of poor weather, BNB will contact the host manager immediately (either the night before or morning of planned travel) and will work with the host manager to contact all teams by both e-mail and phone.

In the event of the cancellation or postponement of any or all games of a provincial championship tournament, BNB will work in conjunction with all teams involved and the tournament host to prepare an alternate schedule. This schedule would come into effect if games and/or the event are postponed. This may consist of an abbreviated schedule, should the event be able to be played on the second day of the originally scheduled weekend. If this is not a reasonable or safe alternative, then the event and/or games within the event shall be postponed and rescheduled at a date(s) and location(s) to be determined by BNB.

B-22 Report

Within 7 days of the completion of the tournament, the host must complete and send the tournament report to the BNB office. Any requests for additional funding must be made at this time.

Tournament Report Form - [Click Here](#)

B-23 Tournament Expenses

- BNB will pay the cost of game officials and their travel.
- Minor officials are only paid at the Intermediate, Masters, Grand Masters and Great Grand Masters levels.
- BNB will pay up to a maximum of \$400 for facility rental/custodian fees combined. A detailed invoice/receipt must be present to receive this reimbursement.

- Any expenses that are requested beyond the ones mentioned above must be approved at the next Board of Directors meeting.

B-24 Divisions

- All Age Class divisional assignments are based on community/membership numbers/school population/reported scores, etc.
- BNB has the responsibility of placing teams into the appropriate divisions.
- Divisions for Age Class Championships will be done based on the number of teams registered and then broken into tournaments of four through eight teams.
- Individual teams that want to move to a higher Division should request this BEFORE divisions have been assigned.
- In divisions with sufficient teams, a multi-tier structure will be implemented.

B-25 Seeding

Age Class and Middle School -

Complete seeding of all teams in each division is a very difficult process because a number of teams do not compete against other teams in the same division. BNB makes every effort to separate the top two teams. Teams are also divided based on their location so teams that usually play each other are given an opportunity to compete against other teams, where possible.

Intermediate, Masters, Grand Masters and Great Grand Masters -

Seeding for these divisions is done with consideration to season game results, team rosters and performance at the previous Provincial Championships.

B-26 Tournament Format

Age Class and Middle School:

The optimal number of teams in each tournament is six, but this is dependent on the number of teams that register. Tournaments will be played in a round robin format, where possible.

Intermediate, Masters, Grand Masters and Great Grand Masters

The optimal number of teams in each division is eight, but this is dependant on the number of teams that register. Tournaments will be played in a single elimination/consolation format.

Eight teams	Two division round robin with the top two from each division playing off.	1 st place - A1 vs B1 3 rd place - A2 vs B2	14 games
Seven teams	Two division round robin with finals.	1 st place – A1 vs B1 3 rd place – A2 vs B2 5 th place – A3 vs B3	12 games
Six teams	Two division round robin with crossovers.	1 st place – crossover winners 3 rd place – crossover losers 5 th place – A3 vs B3	11 games
Five teams	Round robin – no final.	1 st place – best record	10 games

		2 nd place – second best record 3 rd place – third best record	
Four teams	Round robin – with final.	1 st place – Top 2 3 rd place – Bottom 2	8 games
Three teams	Double round robin	1 st place – best record 2 nd place – second best record 3 rd place – third best record	6 games
Two teams	Home and Home Total Point	1 st place – best record	2 games