



Tournament Rules and Format

Team Eligibility:

- Teams must be established squads sponsored by the sponsoring church or school during the current season.
- Teams must consist entirely of players enrolled full time in a church sponsored school.
- A team must have played a minimum of ten (10) regular season and/ or tournament games during the current season.

Individual Eligibility

- Players must be attending members of the sponsoring church or school and must comply with the eligibility rules of their league and post-season tournament.
- All players must have participated in at least 50% of the team's total games. Exceptions will be made in the case of injury.
- Each team is limited to a maximum of fifteen (15) players.
- Each team is allowed a maximum of three (3) staff persons on the bench. At least one of those persons must be age twenty-one (21) or older.
- Teams are allowed uniformed cheerleaders and must have at least one adult coach/ sponsor present during the basketball competition.
- No player should have reached the age of fifteen (15) prior to the first day of September that precedes the state tournament.
- A player must be able to prove his/her birth date with a copy of his/her birth certificate.
- All players must prove his/her identity by a written signature that matches the signature appearing on the official roster.
- Any persons unable to comply with the above rules will not be permitted to participate in the tournament.

Playing Rules

- IHSAA basketball rules shall govern play except where the following rules supersede the IHSAA rules
- Six (6) minute quarters will be played in the grade school division with three (3) minute over-time periods.
- All games will have at least two (2) certified officials who are members of an official's association.
- The official score sheet must be approved for each team no later than thirty (30) minutes prior to that team's first scheduled tournament game. Failure to do so will result in a technical foul.
- A team must be ready to play at the scheduled game time or a forfeit will be declared.
- Any participant ejected from a game will be ineligible to participate in the team's next scheduled event.
- Any protest must be submitted to the tournament directors immediately following the incident in protest. Play shall be suspended while the directors consider the protest and render a decision. No further appeal will be considered once play resumes.

Tournament Format/ Location

- The ILSAA State Basketball tournament will be conducted on the last weekend of February which includes a February date and could be as late as February 29th through March 2nd.
- The tournament location shall be held at the same location unless that location is unable to continue to host the event. The Board of Directors shall review the tournament hosting requirements and determine the location of future tournaments. If the current host cannot continue their commitment, they must inform the ILSAA board of directors in writing of their decision no later than two weeks after the current year's tournament is concluded.
- There will be a grade school boys and a grade school girls division in the state tournament.
- Each team participating in the ILSAA State Basketball Tournament will be guaranteed at least 2 games.
- The tournament directors reserve the right to collectively amend, add to, or allow exceptions to the rules of the tournament when deemed appropriate.
- Christian Sportsmanship is expected of all team members/spectators throughout the tournament. Inappropriate behavior throughout the tournament by team members/spectators may be punishable at levels deemed necessary by the ILSAA Board of Directors.

Equipment

- Each team is required to supply its own practice basketballs, scorebook, and locker room equipment.
- Each team must supply one (1) experienced scorekeeper. The home team scorekeeper will keep the official book.
- Each team is to have two (2) sets of jerseys; light jerseys for home team assignment and dark jerseys for visiting team assignments.

Application for Invitation

- Applications for invitation to the ILSAA State Basketball Tournament must be received by the date set by the host location (usually the middle of January).
- The application must be accompanied by the tournament entry fee of \$125 and must be paid online with a credit or debit card.
- Fees paid by teams accepted to the tournament are non-refundable. Fees will be fully refunded to teams that apply and that are not accepted to the tournament.
- Applications for invitation to the ILSAA State tournament must be accompanied by copies of the team's roster, complete season schedule, final or current league standings and league rules if that team is affiliated with a league. Teams not in an organized league must provide comparable documents.

Awards

- Trophies will be awarded to each of the first and second place teams in both the boy's and girl's divisions.
- Individual medals will be awarded to each player and staff member of the championship teams and the runner up teams.
- Individual awards will be given to each player selected to the all-tournament team.
- A Sportsmanship award will be given out in each division