



Parent & Player Handbook

2025/2026 Season



Part I – Parent Handbook

1. Welcome Letter

Welcome to Haverhill Travel Basketball (HTB)! We are thrilled to have you and your child join our program. Our mission is to develop skilled, confident, and respectful young athletes while fostering a positive community environment.

This handbook outlines the expectations, policies, and procedures that guide our program. Please read carefully and refer to it throughout the season.

2. Mission Statement & Program Overview

Haverhill Travel Basketball provides competitive basketball opportunities for youth athletes while promoting teamwork, sportsmanship, discipline, and community pride.

Our program serves players in grades 4 through 8, focusing on developing basketball fundamentals, leadership, and character.

3. Organization Structure & Leadership

Haverhill Travel Basketball is governed by a volunteer Board of Directors and supported by dedicated coaches.

- **Board of Directors:** Oversees operations, policies, and finances.
- **Coaches:** Lead teams, conduct practices, and promote skill development.
- **Parents & Volunteers:** Support team logistics and community engagement.

All decisions are made in the best interest of the players and program integrity.

4. Player Expectations

- Attend all practices and games on time and prepared.
- Demonstrate respect toward coaches, teammates, opponents, and officials.
- Maintain good sportsmanship and a positive attitude.
- Communicate schedule conflicts or absences promptly.
- Commit to personal growth and team goals.

5. Parent Expectations

- Support your child and the team in a positive and constructive manner.
- Refrain from coaching or criticizing players during practices and games.
- Encourage effort, discipline, and sportsmanship.
- Ensure your child arrives prepared and on time.
- Use official communication channels for all team-related questions.



- Respect all coaches, referees, and volunteers.

6. Code of Conduct

Haverhill Travel Basketball expects all participants—players, parents, and coaches—to uphold the highest standards of behavior.

Harassment, bullying, verbal abuse, or unsportsmanlike conduct will not be tolerated.

Violations may result in disciplinary action, including suspension or removal from the program.

7. Communication Policy

All official communication is conducted through the **Sports Connect Stack Team App**.

This platform is used for scheduling, updates, and messages.

Parents and players are expected to check the app regularly and respond to team communications promptly.

Private group chats or texts outside of Stack Team App should not be used for team business. Only quick updates to families.

8. Attendance, Practices & Playing Time

- Attendance at all practices and games is expected.
- Coaches determine playing time based on attendance, effort, attitude, and skill development—not solely on talent or seniority.
- Players who miss practices or games without notice may see reduced playing time.
- Notify the coach in advance through the GameChanger App if you must miss an event.

9. Travel & Game Day Procedures

- Parents are responsible for arranging transportation.
- Players should arrive at least 20 minutes before practices and 30 minutes before games.
- Proper uniform, shoes, and water are required at every event.
- Only coaches and players are permitted on the bench during games.

10. Tryouts & Team Selection

Teams are formed based on performance at official tryouts, skill level, coach evaluations, and team balance. Attendance at tryouts is **mandatory** to be considered for placement. All placement decisions are final and approved by the coaching staff and Board of Directors.



11. Conflict Resolution

If a concern arises:

1. Wait 24 hours after the incident before addressing it.
2. Contact your child's coach privately.
3. If unresolved, contact the Boys or Girls Program Director.
4. If still unresolved, the issue may be presented to the Board for review.

HTB promotes communication that is respectful, constructive, and focused on solutions.

12. Safety & Health Guidelines

- All injuries must be reported immediately to the coach.
- Parents must notify coaches of any medical conditions or restrictions.
- Players are expected to follow safety instructions at all times.
- HTB follows all local health, safety, and facility regulations.

13. Volunteer Opportunities

Our program thrives on community involvement. Parents may volunteer as team parents, scorekeepers, or event helpers.

If interested, please contact your coach or email the program at [**info@haverhilltravelbasketball.org**](mailto:info@haverhilltravelbasketball.org).

14. Frequently Asked Questions

Q: How do I access team schedules?

A: All schedules are available on the league websites. Boys League | Girls League

Q: Who do I contact for issues?

A: Start with your coach, then contact the Program Director if needed.

Q: What if my child can't attend a game, practice or event?

A: Notify the coach as soon as possible through the Stack Team App.

15. Contact Information

General Inquiries:

[**info@haverhilltravelbasketball.org**](mailto:info@haverhilltravelbasketball.org)

Boys Program Inquiries:

[**boys@haverhilltravelbasketball.org**](mailto:boys@haverhilltravelbasketball.org)

Girls Program Inquiries:

[**girls@haverhilltravelbasketball.org**](mailto:girls@haverhilltravelbasketball.org)



Part II – Player Handbook

1. Welcome Message

Welcome players! By joining Haverhill Travel Basketball, you are becoming part of a program built on pride, teamwork, and commitment. This section outlines the standards and responsibilities that every player is expected to uphold.

2. Player Mission Statement

To represent Haverhill with pride, respect, and effort—on and off the court—while striving to improve individual skills and contribute to team success.

3. Program Goals

- Develop basketball fundamentals and game understanding.
- Promote leadership, accountability, and sportsmanship.
- Build confidence through teamwork and positive competition.
- Represent Haverhill with integrity in every game and practice.

4. Player Expectations

- Arrive on time and ready to practice or play.
- Give full effort during every drill, practice, and game.
- Demonstrate respect toward teammates, coaches, opponents, and referees.
- Maintain a positive attitude and support your teammates.
- Take care of uniforms and equipment.
- Follow all team rules and instructions.
- Players must maintain good academic standing.

5. Code of Conduct

Players are expected to represent Haverhill Travel Basketball with honor.

Poor sportsmanship, arguing with referees, negative body language, or disrespectful behavior will not be tolerated.

Disciplinary action may include reduced playing time or suspension.



6. Practice & Game Commitment

Your attendance matters. Every practice helps your team improve.

- Notify your coach in advance if you cannot attend.
- Repeated unexcused absences may affect game participation.
- Come ready to learn, listen, and compete.

7. Playing Time Guidelines

Playing time is earned through effort, attitude, attendance, and teamwork.

HTB emphasizes development over equal minutes, and coaches will determine the best combinations to help the team grow and succeed.

8. Uniform & Equipment Policy

- Players must wear official HTB uniforms for all games.
- Warm-up shirts and game jerseys must be clean and properly worn.
- Jewelry, watches, and other accessories are not allowed during games.
- Players are responsible for maintaining and returning uniforms in good condition.

9. Team Communication

Players must stay informed through the GameChanger App and listen to coach instructions. Direct questions about schedules or expectations to your coach respectfully.

10. Sportsmanship & Behavior Standards

Always play hard, play fair, and play with class.

Represent Haverhill with pride—whether you win or lose.

Cheer for your teammates, respect officials, and never engage in trash talk or negative behavior.

11. Academic & Community Expectations

HTB values student-athletes. School responsibilities come first.

Players are expected to maintain good academic standing and demonstrate positive citizenship within the community. School responsibilities always take priority over athletic commitments.

Players who fall behind academically may be required to focus on schoolwork before returning to play.

12. Safety & Injury Reporting

Report any injury immediately to your coach, no matter how minor.

Players recovering from injuries must follow medical guidance before returning to play.



13. Policies and Protocol Forms

- To review all policies protocols and guidelines for Haverhill Travel Basketball please visit our website at www.haverhilltravelbasketball.org

14. Parent & Player Acknowledgment Agreement

By signing below, both the parent/guardian and player acknowledge that they have received, read, and understand the Haverhill Travel Basketball (HTB) Parent & Player Handbook.

We understand that this handbook contains the official policies, procedures, and expectations of the HTB program. We agree to support these standards to ensure a positive, respectful, and safe environment for all participants.

I recognize that participation in Haverhill Travel Basketball is a privilege, not a right, and that the program reserves the authority to make decisions in the best interest of the players, teams, and organization.

I understand that I represent my team, my community, and myself whenever I wear the Haverhill Travel Basketball uniform. My behavior, attitude, and effort reflect on everyone involved in the program.

Acknowledgment of Understanding

By signing this agreement, we acknowledge that we have read and understand all information contained in the Haverhill Travel Basketball Parent & Player Handbook. We agree to abide by the rules, policies, and expectations outlined, and understand that failure to do so may result in disciplinary action, suspension, or dismissal from the program.

Player Name: _____ Date: _____

Player Signature: _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Grade & Team Name: _____ Coach Name: _____