2012

ADULT BASKETBALL PROGRAM

RULES AND REGULATIONS

CITY OF HOUSTON

PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

houston PARKS & recreation department
www.houstonparks.org
A CAPRA Accredited Agency

January 30, 2012

Dear Team Manager,

On behalf of the Houston Parks and Recreation Department, I would like to welcome you as a participant in our **2012 Adult Basketball Program.**

Our goal is to offer quality sports programming at affordable prices and see that each participant has an enjoyable leisure experience.

Please read the rulebook at your first opportunity to familiarize yourself with our league's rules and regulations. Also, you will find a listing of online registration dates for each season in 2012 on page 3.

We now have an online registration system. You can establish your online account at http://activenet11.active.com/houstonparks, but you will not be able to register for a league until the specified registration dates for a specific season. The online registration system was approved by the Mayor and City Council in 2009.

Separate flyers with upcoming registration information, fee changes and rule updates will be sent to you as they become available. You can also visit our department's web site at www.houstonparks.org for additional information as well. Please be sure to advise the Adult Sports Office with ample time if your contact information changes, including email address.

Again, welcome to our program. Wishing your team a successful and enjoyable season.

Sincerely,

Cedric Brooks
Recreation Specialist
Recreation and Wellness Division

A. **2012 LEAGUE DATES**

2012 Spring I Season (8-Week Single Season + Playoffs)

League Dates:	February 28 – May 3
Online Registration Dates:	January 30 – February 17
Fee:	$320 per team + $10 TAAF Fee

2011 Fall Season (8-Week Single Season + Playoffs)

League Dates:	September 11 – November 8
Online Registration Dates:	August 6 - 24
Fee:	$320 per team + $10 TAAF Fee

B. **LENGTH OF SCHEDULE**

Leagues will consist of an eight (8) week single season schedule plus two (2) week playoff.

C. **REFUND POLICY**

Refund of team registration fees will be granted to team managers less 5% of the team registration fee, provided such request is made on or before the business day 14 days preceding the season's start date. No refunds shall be given for a request submitted less than 14 preceding the season's start date. It should be noted that it could take up to ninety (90) days from the date your refund request is received to be processed. All refunds must be requested in writing to the Adult Sports Office and have the following information:

1. Team manager's name, address, telephone number and signature.
2. Team name, night, league and field.
3. Reason for withdrawal.

D. **ENTRY FEES & REGISTRATION**

8-Game Single Season plus playoffs: $320 per team. Entry fees are subject to change without notice. Sorry, no personal checks will be accepted. Only cash, credit card, company check or money order payable to the City of Houston will be accepted for league entry fees.

All teams participating in the 2012 Houston Parks and Recreation Department Adult Basketball Program will be required to register with the Texas Amateur Athletic Federation (TAAF) at a cost of $10.00 per team. Registration with TAAF is required once every calendar year, and is separate from the Houston Parks and Recreation Department League Registration.

Team managers register online during the registration dates listed above at http://activenet11.active.com/houstonparks. Team managers can establish their

online account in advance at http://activenet11.active.com/houstonparks (this only has to be done once).

If you do not have Internet access, team managers may register for leagues during the above registration dates between the hours of 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. at the Adult Sports Office, 6200 Wheeler Street, Bldg #3, Houston, TX 77023. Personal checks are not accepted. Entry fees are accepted by cash, credit card, company check, and money orders only. Company checks and money orders need to be made payable to "City of Houston."

Registrations are accepted on a "first come, first serve" basis.

Team managers cannot register more than 1 team per league nor create duplicate accounts.

E. **PLAYOFFS** All teams qualify to enter the City of Houston Parks and Recreation Department Playoffs.

2012 - 2013 Texas Amateur Athletic Federation (TAAF) State Tournament Information:

For information on TAAF State Tournaments, please visit www.taaf.com.

All teams interested in participating in the TAAF State Tournament must complete a TAAF Basketball Team Registration Form and submit to the Adult Sports Office by December 15, 2012. Checks should be made payable to "City of Houston." You can find a TAAF Basketball Team Registration Form on page 9 or stop by the Adult Sports Office.

F. **PLAYER ELIGIBILITY**

1. No player may play in more than (1) game per night in the same league.
2. Teams playing in more than one (1) league must have separate rosters on file for each team.
3. All players must meet residency requirements as set by the Texas Amateur Athletic Federation (TAAF).
4. Tournaments: A player may play for one team only in each tournament. Violation of this rule will result in removal of both teams he/she played for from the tournament.

G. **ROSTER LIMIT**

Team rosters must be turned in to the Adult Sports Office before players are eligible to participate. Maximum roster limits will be twelve (12) players for men's teams and thirteen (13) players for women's teams. All rosters are forwarded to the state TAAF office. Teams qualifying for state tournaments may use only those players whose names appear on their roster. **All rosters are to be turned in prior to the first league game.**

H. ROSTER CHANGES

If a person desires to transfer from one (1) team to another in the same league, a written release must be obtained from the team captain the player is leaving and the player must sit out one (1) league game. If a player desires to transfer from one (1) team to another in different leagues the player becomes eligible immediately provided he/she has not played in more than two (2) games that week in other city leagues. All roster changes must be made in person at the Adult Sports Office, 6200 Wheeler Street, Bldg. #3, Houston, TX 77023 or by sending an email to: adult.sports@houstontx.gov. There will be NO TELEPHONE ROSTER CHANGES.

I. SCHEDULES

Schedules are posted one week prior to the season's start date at the online registration section of the Houston Parks and Recreation Department website. Go to: http://activenet11.active.com/houstonparks. If you do not have Internet access, please contact the Adult Sports Office at (832) 395-7130 to request a schedule faxed or mailed to you.

J. LENGTH OF PLAYING TIME

All games will be played in twenty (20) minute running halves. Clock will stop for all timeouts throughout the game; clock will stop for all violations and time outs that occur during the last two (2) minutes of each half.

K. OVERTIME PERIODS

If the score is tied at the end of the second half, play will continue without change of baskets for one or more extra periods with a one-minute intermission before each extra period. Length of each extra period will be three (3) minutes.

L. FORFEIT GAMES

There will be a 10-minute grace period ONLY for the first game scheduled (6:30 pm game) for the evening. At 6:40 pm, any team not ready to play shall forfeit.

All other games scheduled for the evening (7:30 pm Game, 8:30 pm Game, etc.) will not have a grace period. Any team not ready to play at game time shall forfeit. Teams will notify all concerned by reporting to the Adult Sports Office as much as possible in advance, if they foresee they will be unable to field a team for scheduled play. Adult Sports staff will then contact the other team and possibly save unnecessary travel time. Officials do not have to work forfeited games. Teams that show may practice until ten (10) minutes before the start of the next game. Your cooperation will be greatly appreciated. Referees will not decide on player eligibility. If a team manager desires to protest the eligibility of a particular player, he must follow the procedures set forth in Section N.

In order to reduce the number of unjustified forfeits by teams, the following rules will be implemented during the 2012 Seasons:

- If a team forfeits 2 or more scheduled dates of games during an 8-Week Single Game Season, the team would be disqualified from the City of Houston Parks and Recreation Playoffs Tournament.
- If a team forfeits 3 or more scheduled dates of games during a 8-Week Single Game Season, the team would not be eligible to register and participate in any upcoming seasons within a period of 90 days.
- If a new team is formed (within 90 days of becoming ineligible to register for another season), there cannot be 5 or more players on the roster from a team that was previously disqualified by forfeiting 3 or more scheduled dates of games in a season.

Of course, if a team experiences an uncontrollable circumstance that caused the team to have a forfeit (death in the family, car accident, etc.), the Adult Sports Office will review any written appeals with documentation submitted within 5 business days after the scheduled game(s) to the Adult Sports Office.

M. PLAYING RULES

All games will be played under NCAA and TAAF rules and regulations, unless otherwise stated. All players must wear same colored jersey's numbered front and back or the team will be subject to a forfeit.

N. PROTESTS

To protest a ballgame, the game officials must be notified on the protest and told that the remainder of the ballgame is being played under protest. The protest must be in writing and turned in to the Adult Sports Office (6200 Wheeler Street) by 10:00 am the following business day. A fee of twenty dollars will be deposited into the City account. If you win your protest the fee will be refunded to you. Ommission of any of the above-mentioned guidelines constitutes no protest.

Protests against ineligible players that are not listed on rosters in the Adult Sports Office will be automatically upheld. However, the protesting team must also have a roster on file with all of their players' names in order to file a protest. In the event both teams are declared ineligible, both teams will be credited with a loss. NO PROTEST WILL BE ACCEPTED ON THE QUESTION OF AN OFFICIALS JUDGEMENT. The decision of the protest committee will be considered final. Players must show identification if requested by the officials or the game is subject to being forfeited.

O. PARTICIPANT BEHAVIOR

Coaches are reminded that they are responsible for the behavior of their players and fans before, during and after all games. Conduct of participants deemed detrimental to the program will result in such person or persons being suspended from participation in the basketball program for a period of time as necessary due to the severity of the infraction. Officials are authorized to control the behavior of participants in the program from the time of arrival at the court until leaving community center premises. If you or anyone on your team has a problem with an official, do not approach the official; simply call the Adult Sports Office at (832) 395-7130 the next day, and we will monitor the situation to make changes, if necessary.

FIGHTING WILL NOT BE TOLERATED. All persons involved in fighting will automatically be suspended for a period of time to be determined by the severity of the fight.

If a team is suspended for fighting or exhibits unruly conduct at any time during the league, NO REFUND WILL BE GIVEN, regardless of how many games remain. Proper behavior is required of players, coaches and managers at all times while on park/community center property. This applies to before and after games as well as during games.

Any player banished from the game by the officials will also be ineligible to participate in the next game. The player may remain on his team's bench, but may not direct any remarks towards the official or opposition during the remainder of the game. If a player is asked to leave the park/community center, he shall be suspended for the remainder of the season. If a player does not comply, the team may be forced to forfeit the game and possibly be removed from the league without refund. If a player who was banished from a future game is found playing in that game, the team shall automatically forfeit the game. Officials shall report any actions of players banished from their game to an Adult Sports staff by the next business day.

P. GYMNASIUM RULES

1. No smoking in building/community center.
2. No eating or drinking in gymnasium.
3. No profanity allowed.
4. Fighting will not be tolerated.
5. Coaches are responsible to the actions of their team players and fans before, during and after the games while on park/community center property.

Q. INJURIES

The City of Houston Parks and Recreation Department and its employees and sports officials are not responsible for any injuries incurred before, during or after any game. Teams are urged to obtain their own insurance. Please contact TAAF for more information at www.taaf.com.

R. AWARDS

Teams who win the regular season or win the playoff tournament will be issued a plaque as an award. Adult Sports staff will deliver to gymnasium on the last date of the playoff tournament. Team managers may also pick up award at the Adult Sports Office during normal business hours.

S. ALCOHOL PROHIBITED

Alcohol in any form is prohibited at all City of Houston Parks and Recreation community centers. Any player seen consuming alcohol before or during a game, will be immediately ejected from the game and suspended from future game(s).

T. **GYMNASIUM LOCATION:**

Fonde Community Center
110 Sabine
Houston, TX 77007

Judson Robinson Jr. Community Center
2020 Herman Dr.
Houston, TX 77004

Alief Community Center
11903 Bellaire
Houston, TX 77072

Denver Harbor Multi-Purpose Center
6402 Market Street
Houston, TX 77020

Emancipation Recreation Center
3018 Dowling
Houston, TX 77004

Townwood Recreation Center
3403 Simsbrook
Houston, TX 77051

U. **CONTACT INFORMATION**

1. General Information: (832) 395-7130
2. Fax Number: (832) 395-9445
3. E-mail Address: adult.sports@houstontx.gov
4. Web Site Information: www.houstonparks.org
5. Online Registration Site: http://activenet11.active.com/houstonparks/

TEXAS AMATEUR ATHLETIC FEDERATION

BASKETBALL TEAM REGISTRATION FORM

CITY_____ REGION_____

City Representative:_____E-mail Address:_____

City Representative Signature:_____Date:_____

For each category below, place "number of teams" in the blank space.
Deadline: December 15, 2012 unless otherwise stated under division.

ADULT BASKETBALL:

_____ Men's Major City **_____ Men's Industrial C**

_____ Men's Open B **_____ Other: _____**

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

CHECK #_____ AMOUNT RECEIVED_____ DATE RECEIVED_____

STAFF RECEIVING PAYMENT_____

STAFF SIGNATURE_____

TEAM CAPTAIN NAME:_____

TEAM NAME:_____

ADDRESS:_____CITY_____ZIP_____

PHONE NUMBER_____E-MAIL ADDRESS_____

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: TAAF