

STATE 2009 GRADE SCHOOL BASKETBALL FAQ'S
Rev 01 1-20-09

Q: When and where is STATE 2009?

A: March 6th-8th in Arlington Heights, Roselle, and Mt. Prospect.

Q: What is the deadline for applications?

A: February 1st at 11:59 pm. All application must be filled out on-line. The entry fee must be post marked by this date as well. Please see the application page for mailing information. **Late applications will not be accepted.**

Q: How has the application process changed this year?

A: The application is similar to the process used last year, and is the same process used in volleyball. You will need a username and password to apply. In addition from last year, there is a "Submit Application" button that must be clicked in order to apply to STATE 2009.

Q: How do I know if my application went through?

A: An automated e-mail will be sent to the head and assistant coaches and the school's e-mail address. Please make sure this information is up to date.

Q: How do I find out what schools have applied for STATE?

A: The LSA will publish a list of schools that have completed the application process on the website.

Q: Do I have to mail my season summary with my entry fee?

A: No, with the new process, you only need to send the check to the address in the mailing.

Q: What do I do if I lose my password?

A: Each school gets one password which will work for all events. First, make sure someone did not change the password. If the password is lost, e-mail acrouse@luthsports.org for a new password. Please include your city and school in the e-mail. The LSA may require further proof from the school (i.e. follow up phone call) that a new password is needed.

Q: How do I ensure our roster and record are correct in the program book?

A: After the deadline, the school will receive their roster for review. Carefully, read the information and make changes if necessary. For the record, update your results on the application site. The deadline for roster review and results is TBD. After this date, the program book must go to the publisher and any information from the application, correct or not, will go to the publisher.

Q: How do I update my scores after February 1st?

A: With our new application process, you can enter your schedule at any time and update your results as they occur. Committee members will still call the coaches before Selection night and update any scores from the time you applied until Selection Night.

Q: What is Selection night?

A: It is the night the committee decides who is in, who is out, and who plays in. This year it is February 16th. Games played after February 16th will not be considered in qualifying for the STATE Tournament.

Q: When and where are play-in games?

A: February 23rd is the day for play-in games. **Play-in games will not be on President's Day this year.** The locations will be throughout the state. Teams will be notified by February 18th of their status. Due to changes in the play-in format, see the next Q&A, some teams may have to travel further (2 ½ hours) to their play-in. The LSA will try to keep teams as local as possible.

Q: How do teams qualify for STATE?

A: Teams are assured of at least a play-in if they win their conference regular season, win their conference tournament, or win a varsity tournament with a minimum of eight teams. Teams who have not met these criteria may still have the opportunity of a play-in game or being in the field of sixteen.

** This year, each division will have eight play-in games assuming twenty four or more teams apply in each division. Eight teams will be automatically entered in the field of sixteen.

Q: Should my team apply to STATE 2009?

A: When in doubt, apply. You can always remove your application before the deadline. **You cannot apply after the deadline, however.**

Q: What happens to our entry fee if we are not selected for STATE or lose our play-in game?

A: If your team does not get a play-in game and is not selected for STATE, your entry fee will be refunded in full. If your team loses the play-in game, all but \$30 will be refunded. The \$30 will go to paying for officials. Any advertisements will also be refunded.

Q: Is my team required to attend the Opening Ceremonies?

A: No, unless your team is playing in the first game of the day at either site on Friday, however, all teams are invited to attend.

Q: Where does my team register at the beginning of the tournament and how does that work?

A: The coaches will register their team and get their passes at the site of their Friday game. Each site will have a "Tournament Central". If you are scheduled to take team pictures, or wish to watch games at the other site first, passes will be given out to coaches and teams. If you have cheerleaders not participating in the competition, they may also pick up participant passes and two passes for cheerleading coaches. If your cheerleaders

are in the competition, please follow this link which has more information on the Cheerleading competition. There will be more information posted at www.luthsports.org on the registration process and what coaches should know before the tournament.

Q: Who gets free passes for the weekend?

A: Five free passes will be given to each team for coaches, assistant coaches, statistician, and/or managers. These individuals are the only non-participants allowed to sit on the bench during the game. All participants, including cheerleaders, on the roster will get a free pass for the weekend. Two cheerleading coaches will be given passes for cheerleading squads not participating in the Cheerleading Competition.

Q: Will there be coach's books or coaches meetings?

A: There are no coach's books. All of the information will be on the website before the tournament. All of the information should be printed out and taken with you to the tournament. There are no coaches meetings.

Q: How do I book the hotel rooms?

A: Go to the application page and click on the "Housing Information" link. Please use the supplied form. It will ensure you get the LSA rate.

Q: Do we have to stay in the hotels, or can we find our own?

A: Teams have two choices. They can commute from their homes to their games during the weekend, or they can stay at the LSA hotels. These two hotels (it is possible an extra overflow hotel may be added) are giving us a quantity discount on rooms and are guaranteeing rooms years in advance. If schools go out on their own, the LSA will not be able to get the rates or make sure there will be enough hotel rooms. Local teams may stay in a hotel, but they must stay in one of the LSA hotels.

Q: What exactly constitutes an "immediate family" for the family passes?

A: Kids, parents (guardians) and grandparents.

Q: Where are the pictures being taken? Is it required to take team photos?

A: Pictures will be taken in the Band Room at Arlington Heights. It is not required, but it is highly suggested to do so. There will only be a scheduled opportunity to do so on Friday.

Q: Do I have to bring warm-up basketballs and first aid kits?

A: The LSA will supply warm-up basketballs for each gym. Each gym will have a basic first-aid kit (ice packs, bandages). We highly suggest you bring your own first-aid kit to the event.

Q: Will games have two or three referees?

A: All Friday ~~and Saturday~~ games will have two referees. Championship Semi-Final games on Saturday and all ~~AI~~ games on Sunday in the championship bracket except the seventh place games will have three referees. Seventh place and consolation games will only have two referees.

Q: How many non-participants can be on the bench?

A: No more than five, this includes team managers and statistician.

Q: Our team is participating in the Cheerleading Competition, but they have a game during the competition. What do I do?

A: There is a FAQ on the Cheerleading Competition.

Q: Are chaperones required at the dance?

A: One chaperone must be present per school before the participants and young fans from that school will be allowed inside the dance. A chaperone will be a staff member or parent chosen by the school's principal.

Q: I wanted to buy some photos and T-shirts, but they ran out or it was too late. Where can I get photos or T-Shirts after the event?

A: Photos can be purchased from www.bbmphoto.com after the event. You will have to contact rcrouse@luthsports.org to get T-shirts after the event. We strongly suggest pre-ordering T-shirts before the event.

Q: Are coaches required to fill out official evaluation forms?

A: No, but they will help evaluate officials for the next STATE Tournament.

Q: Will scores be updated on the website?

A: Yes, as often as possible as games are finished. Championship games will be updated every few minutes during the game.

Q: Is my team automatically entered for Nationals?

A: No. The National Tournament is run by a different organization. Their website is www.lbaa.org. You must apply to their tournament separately. The LSA has no say whether a team is accepted into Nationals or the seeding in the tournament. The LSA will pay for the entry fee of the Champion, and the Champion only, of each division if they chose to participate at Nationals.

Q: Where do I go for more information on STATE 2009?

A: www.luthsports.org.