



Hong Kong Basketball Academy

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June 10th, 2019.

We hope this message finds everyone well.

In our efforts to create and maintain a league founded on integrity and fair play -- the bedrocks upon which youth basketball rests -- the upcoming Premier League season will feature several areas of improvement. We believe these changes allow us to improve continually upon what is already the most competitive youth basketball club experience in Hong Kong; more importantly, they will provide our players, parents, and coaches with a better overall involvement with the Premier League.

1) Formal Player Draft Structure

As always, coaches will draft players onto their respective teams.

This is not new to our league. However, we want to reiterate why this is so: the draft has proven to be the most effective method of ensuring a fair distribution of players.

Should a player be unable to attend their draft team's practice day, a trade may be requested. Please note, however, that only the following scheduling conflicts will be accepted:

School team practice
After-school academic tutoring

Non-sport club organization participation (Boy Scouts, Cotillion, etc.)

Participation in another club-basketball program will not be deemed an acceptable scheduling conflict.

To support our student-athletes with their school-team and academic endeavors, we will only grant a trade to another Premier League team provided we receive written confirmation from school-team coaches/teachers/club organizers confirming the scheduling conflict.

A letter from a parent will not serve as an acceptable/official form of confirmation due to the inherent conflict of interest.

Further, the distance between the practice location and the players home or school will not be considered as a valid reason for a trade request or inability to attend practice.

In the case that a valid trade request is approved by Premier League management, we will do our very best to be as accommodating and fair as possible.

The following process will initiate should a trade be requested:

The players' parent/guardian makes a formal trade request. Scheduling conflict must be supported by documentation from a school-team coach/teacher/club organizer.

Player's parent/guardian provides league management with a list of potential practice days in which player is available.

League management will do their best to accommodate the trade request while prioritizing the integrity and competitive balance of the league.

If a fair trade cannot be reached:

League management will sit down with the player's parent/guardian and revisit a potential reorganization of the player's schedule.

If no reorganization plan can be accommodated, the player and their parent/guardian will have the final decision as to whether they wish to continue their participation in the Premier League.

We recognize this situation is very time sensitive. We have allocated a maximum of five (5) business days from the date draft results are posted on the HKBA website within which trade request may be submitted. This is to allow team practices and roster finalization to be organized in a timely matter, ensuring a strong and cohesive start to the season.

Kindly note that a trade request can affect the uniform customization process. All parties must understand that a trade request may result in a delay in the manufacturing and delivery of their uniform compared to players who commit to their army team on the day of the draft.

2) Practice Requirement

We strongly feel that practicing once per week is a reasonable commitment for all players.

Practicing is key to the success of any team, regardless of sport. When players miss practice, it affects the entire team. An effective team strategy depends upon all players in attendance working in unison to practice and execute it.

As such, we will require players to attend a minimum of 13 out of the total 16 practices within the season. Missed practices will result in the following actions:

One missed practice: Player will not play in the first half of the following game, regardless of whether the following game falls in the regular season or the playoffs.

Two missed practices: Player will not play during the next game, regardless of whether the next game falls during the regular season or the playoffs. The player must still attend the game.

Three missed practices: Player will be suspended* from further game participation, but will still be allowed to practice with his team.

*The suspension will be lifted once league management/coaches/player/parents/guardians agree on a fair solution to the issue of missed practices. We recognize that all situations are not alike.

Should a resolution not be reached, the player will remain suspended until the end of the regular season and will not be able to practice with his team. The player and his parents/guardian understand that fees paid will be forfeited. Scholarship players will be required to return all apparel to league management.

Players who remain suspended will not be able to try out for any following seasons of the Premier League until the matter is resolved. League management must be satisfied by a detailed action plan initiated and executed by the player to support making his way back into the league.

All coaches will now track player attendance and monitored by league management that is viewable by all parties to provide for better accountability and transparency.

3) Formal Commitment

We will require all players, including non-scholarship and underprivileged players, to sign a contract of commitment to their army team. The "player commitment contract" will specify that the player acknowledges, understands, and supports to their fullest the league's structure, policies, and ideals to sustain a competitive and healthy youth club league environment.

The contract will also include a parent/guardian signature acknowledging our league's commitment requirements in support of a league based on integrity and accountability.

We will also require a signature from the player's school-team basketball coach as a gesture of goodwill and solidarity. At Premier League, we view player participation as a platform to improve both the player and person not only for the benefit of our league but for the benefit of the player's school team. By ensuring that players practice and regularly compete with high-level talent, and by working hand-in-hand

with school teams, we can elevate the overall level of youth basketball in Hong Kong. This works to the benefit of all involved, especially the players and their experience with youth basketball.

The contract will also be the starting point for players and their parent/guardian to voice their concerns regarding potential scheduling conflicts concerning their drafted team's practice days.
You spoke and we listened.

Thanks to your feedback, the Premier League is poised to provide an even better experience for all involved.

We are pleased to announce several exciting changes to the structure of the Premier League in time for the upcoming 2019-2020 season. Key highlights include:

- Post-Summer Tryouts
- “Pre-Tryout” Training
- Improved Scheduling
- Payment Installment Plans

4) Tryouts

Tryouts for both the fall and spring seasons will now be held after the summer and Christmas holidays, respectively. This change is to ensure all players the time and opportunity to improve their skills, develop their gameplay, and be properly prepared for tryouts.

Tryouts for the new fall season will be held on August 23 (1st round) and August 30 (2nd round) at the Stanley Sports Centre.

Tryout registration begins June 14th, 2019.

Register for tryouts at www.hkbaallday.com.

5) Pre-Tryout Training

We understand that not all players have the opportunity to train as much as they'd like during the summer and Christmas holidays. Our new “Pre-Tryout” training is now available to support all players that are planning on trying out for Premier League.

Pre-Tryout training will be hosted at various locations across Hong Kong, and will be available for the upcoming fall season between August 19th – 30th, 2019.

Registration is required. Check our Fall/Winter term pages for further details at www.hkbaallday.com.

6) Improved Scheduling

We recognize that all families have different scheduling concerns and priorities during the summer and Christmas holidays. To accommodate this fact, and to positively impact a cohesive start to the season, we are pleased to announce a later start to both the fall and spring seasons.

Practices for the upcoming fall season will now begin the week of September 2 onwards.

Game Day will begin on September 20.

The fall season will conclude with the Championship Finals on December 6.

7) Payment Installment Plans

In order to ease the financial commitment required to participate in Premier League, and to encourage that every great player has the opportunity to participate in our league, we are pleased to now offer families the option to make their payments by installments.

This option will be provided in the player registration form for all players selected after tryouts.

As we prepare to embark on our 5th annual season of the Premier League, we would like to take this time to thank everyone that has been involved with us, past and present. As we look to the future, our commitment to provide the best youth basketball league in Hong Kong is as strong as ever.

Thank you for the continued support, and we look forward to hosting the top youth basketball players in Hong Kong as they compete in the Premier League!

Should you have any questions, comments, or concerns regarding this communication (or any other matter), we welcome your feedback. We try our very best to work alongside the community and our stakeholders to provide a positive experience for all.

We can be reached by email at hkba@hkbaallday.com or by WhatsApp client support at 66817774.

Thank you for your time, understanding and, most importantly, your support for HKBA and Premier League.

Yours sincerely,

Jason Yam | League Commissioner (coachyam@hkbaallday.com)

Richard Bradstreet | League Manager (hkba@hkbaallday.com)