



## ***Eligibility***

**Multiple Team Rules:** Players competing in any Evolution Basketball Inc events are **allowed to play for only one team, one organization/program**. (Ex: “My son is 12 and he plays for his 12U team, but he also plays up on the 14U team that I coach.”) **NOT ACCEPTABLE, NO EXCEPTIONS**

### **PROOF OF PLAYER ELIGIBILITY**

1. **Team Responsibility:** Proof of player eligibility is the responsibility of the team manager or coach. Evolution Basketball Inc will not check eligibility prior to events. However, a coach must be able to **provide documents of grade and age eligibility** in the event of a challenge by another team or if requested by Evolution Basketball Inc prior to or any time during an event.
2. **Documentation Required for Eligibility:** As a condition of participation, **each team is required to have grade and age documentation available for each player** for review at any time during an event. **Proof of grade and age must be available** for review by Evolution Basketball Inc representatives at all events. Failure to have such information available at the event may result in player ineligibility, game forfeiture, and/or team removal from the event.
3. **Acceptable Forms of Documentation:** Acceptable proofs of age include clean **photocopies of birth certificate, adoption papers, immigration papers, school documentation which reflects DOB, current driver’s license, and current passport**. Acceptable proofs of grade include a clean **copy of any report card of the current or immediately preceding school year, progress report for current school year, or current school ID**. Digital documentation may be an acceptable subject to review by Evolution Basketball Inc representatives.

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## PLAYER ELIGIBILITY PROTEST PROCEDURE

**Scope:** The following Player Eligibility Protest procedure applies to all Evolution Basketball Inc events.

**Who Can Protest:** Player Eligibility Protests can be **submitted only by a head coach or a club director/manager of a team participating in the same division as the team with the player(s) whose eligibility is being challenged.** For a team to submit a Protest, the team must demonstrate to the Site Director that the protesting team has eligibility documentation for its players available for review by the Site Director. A team is NOT allowed to protest the eligibility of a player from another team without having the eligibility documentation for its players.

### What Can Be Protested:

- ✓ Player is not grade eligible or within the Age Exception
- ✓ Player is beyond age maximum
- ✓ Player is not in compliance with Multiple Team rules

### When Can a Protest Be Made:

- ✓ **Pre-Game Protest:** A protest of player eligibility **may be made at any time prior to a game.** Any Pre-Game Protest should be submitted as soon as possible so that it may be considered in a timely manner.
- ✓ **Post-Game Protest:** Any post-game protest of player eligibility **must be made within 30 minutes of the conclusion of a game** between the protesting team and the team with the player(s) whose eligibility is being challenged.
- ✓ **Protest Limited:** No other player eligibility protests will be considered. A team is deemed to waive any opportunity to protest any player's eligibility not within these protest periods.
- ✓ **How to File Protest:** All protests must be **in writing on an official Protest Form and accompanied by the Protest Fee of \$50 cash** for the player(s) challenged. The Protest Fee is refundable only if the matter is ruled in the favor of the protesting party. If the Protest is not upheld, the Protest Fee is forfeited. All forfeited protest fees will be applied to charitable activities of Evolution Basketball Inc which include support of youth sports teams and activities.

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**Protest Upheld:** If a player is ruled ineligible, the player will be prohibited from participating in the remaining games of the event. If a Post-Game Protest is upheld, that game will be forfeited by the team with the ineligible player. No prior games will be forfeited as teams participating in prior games will have waived their protest opportunity by failing to timely submit an Eligibility Protest. The team will be allowed to continue to participate in the event without the ineligible player(s). The Protest Fee will be refunded to the protesting team for each protest upheld.

**Protest Denied:** If the Player Eligibility Protest is denied, the Protest Fee is forfeited.

**Player Reinstatement.** If a player is ruled ineligible for the sole reason that the team did not have any eligibility documentation for the player, the player can subsequently be ruled eligible if such documentation is later provided. The reinstatement is for competition after the documentation being provided and no prior action will be modified or set aside.

**Ruling Binding.** Any Player Eligibility Protest ruling made by Evolution Basketball Inc is binding upon all coaches, players, and attendees of the event. There is NO appeal of any upholding or denial of a Player Eligibility Protest.

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