



2023–2024 Parent/Player Permission/Participation Agreement

The Memphis-area Home Education Association (MHEA), founded in 1984, is a membership-based, Christian organization dedicated to serving home educators by providing support, encouragement, and assistance; advancing homeschooling; safeguarding and promoting parental authority in education. We are a chapter of the Tennessee Home Education Association (THEA), which connects us with an even larger realm of help, opportunity, and support.

MHEA's goal is to provide high-quality school-level athletic programs that are Christ-honoring for our homeschool students. The participants finance MHEA sports, although many fundraising projects are available to offset the cost. All MHEA sports participants must be MHEA members.

We join together in praying for you that you will hear and do all God has called you to do regarding home educating your children, and that you will seek the support you need to be strengthened and encouraged.

PARENTAL PERMISSION/PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT:

I/We, the parent(s) or guardian(s) of the applicant, give permission to participate in MHEA-sponsored tryouts, practices, clinics, etc. and hereby give my/our approval to participate in any and all activities. I/We represent that the applicant is in good health and able to participate in the physical activities and vigorous workout of a sports league/game/practice/clinic. I/We assume all risks and hazards incidental to such participation, including transportation to and from activities. I/We hereby authorize the MHEA staff, coaches, and/or team parent/rep to act for me/us according to their best judgment in any emergency requiring medical attention. I/We do hereby waive, release, absolve, indemnify, and agree to hold harmless MHEA and any participating church or school, participants, and persons transporting my/our child to and from activities for any claim arising out of an injury to my/our child, whether the result of negligence or for any other cause, except to the extent and in the amount covered by accident and liability insurance.

PLAYER PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT:

- I will personally behave in a Christ-like manner at all times, and encourage my teammates to exhibit a Christ-like attitude and good sportsmanship in all team activities. I agree that I represent Christ, my family, and MHEA.
- I will keep my commitment to the team and attend all practices/games. (If I have to miss I will contact the coach with a valid reason.)
- I will demonstrate respect to coaches, teammates, fans, and referees. I will obey and comply with the coach's instructions or directions.
- If I have a concern or conflict that needs resolution, I will ask for a good time to talk to the coach (not before/during/immediately after a game). If the matter is not resolved, I will request a meeting with the Coach and the Athletic Director. I will not spread my concern or conflict among other team members. I will practice honesty with my coaches, fellow players, and my parents/guardians.
- I will not use profanity or improper gestures in practices, games, locker rooms, gyms, or anywhere I represent MHEA. I will not use any banned substances (such as alcohol or drugs). Any suspected use will result in random drug testing.
- I will keep ALL of my social media sites clean from profanity or inappropriate material.

PARENT PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT:

- I understand it is my responsibility to know and help uphold and enforce the above Player Participation Agreement as well as this Parent Participation Agreement.
- I will personally behave in a Christ-like manner at all times, and encourage my child and his/her teammates to exhibit a Christ-like attitude and good sportsmanship in all team activities. I agree that I represent Christ, my family, and MHEA.
- I agree that I will comply with the following eligibility requirements set by MHEA and NCHC. NCHC eligibility guidelines are further explained on the NCHC website at <https://www.nchclive.com/guidelines/>.
 - Only students who are registered with MHEA may practice or play once the team roster is set.
 - Students must be on the team roster on or before October 1. Any exceptions must be approved by both MHEA and NCHC. MHEA will not accept players from or release players to other local homeschool programs after October 1.
 - There is a sitting period for all rising upperclassmen (junior or senior) players transferring from a school to MHEA Basketball. Players may practice but must sit out of games until **November 23** for juniors and **January 1** for seniors.

- Any student who transfers from a public school, Christian/private school, or another homeschool team and is under disciplinary action(s) must wait one (1) year before he/she is eligible to participate in any/all games.
 - Students must be homeschooled continuously per NCHC's definition of a homeschooled student athlete.
 - Students must provide evidence of enrollment with an umbrella school (if applicable), and if in high school, will provide a list of any dual-enrollment or non-parent directed classes to satisfy at least 51% of his/her education from classes that meet the homeschooling definition (parent- or legal guardian-directed)
 - Students must complete schoolwork and maintain a GPA of 2.0 per NCHC eligibility guidelines. First semester grades (or report card) will be submitted to the coach by **January 31**.
 - A student is eligible to play only in the gender division indicated on his/her original birth certificate per NCHC eligibility guidelines.
- I recognize this is my child's journey, not mine, and I will focus on being a supportive and encouraging parent. Likewise, I will encourage the other players on the team. I recognize that all players are expected to give their best, to work hard, and to embrace their roles, but that not all players will have equal playing time. I will support the team and help my child mature and succeed.
 - I will not coach my child or the team from the sideline so as not to distract from the voice of the coaching staff. I will cheer and offer encouragement from the sidelines.
 - I will not berate or badger the officials.
 - I will be supportive of the coaches, remembering that they are volunteering and sacrificing their time and efforts for our children. I will encourage my child to communicate any issues, questions, or concerns he/she may have with the coach.
 - I will not engage myself in negative discussions about the team, coach, or MHEA. I will not approach the coach before/during/immediately after a game to discuss issues; rather, I will contact the coach to arrange a time to discuss concerns or questions. If the matter is not resolved, I will request a meeting with the coach and the Athletic Director. I will not spread my concern or conflict inside or outside the organization.
 - I will not use basketball as punishment. Not allowing my child to attend practices or games punishes the entire team.
 - I will support the team and program by volunteering my services when needed. I recognize the entire program is dependent on committed volunteers. I understand

that parents and/or players for 10U, 12U, 14U, 16U, and 18U teams will be expected to volunteer at MHEA Basketball events.

- I will pay my child's fees within the timeline provided. If unforeseen circumstances arise and I cannot pay in full by the due date, I will proactively communicate with the coach and/or team treasurer to reach an approved alternative timeline, or recognize that my child's eligibility on the team will be in jeopardy. I understand that refunds will not be issued after October 1 (exceptions must be approved by the Athletic Director).
- I will have my child undergo a sports physical exam and submit the form to the team parent or secretary/ treasurer.
- I will provide a copy of my child's birth certificate to the team parent or team secretary/treasurer.
- I will complete all required paperwork and online forms in the timeframe requested, including but not limited to those required by MHEA and NCHC.

Eligibility and Disciplinary Guidelines for Players:

Violations may result in loss/reduction of playing time, extra running and/or drills, or suspensions (temporary or permanent), and continued issues will result in removal from the team. The head coach and/or the Athletic Director is given the responsibility and authority to enforce the eligibility and/or disciplinary guidelines for any player infractions. If suspension or removal occurs due to a Player Participation Agreement infraction or any other reason, I understand that I will be responsible for any remaining or additional costs and NO refunds will be given.

Disciplinary Guidelines for Parents:

The Parent's Participation Agreement is in force during all team functions, including, but not limited to: games, practices, travel, team activities, team meetings, etc. Parent disciplinary action for infractions or inappropriate conduct may result in meeting with the Athletic Director (or designated basketball representative), and continued issues may result in not being allowed to attend games or the suspension of my child/player.

I/We have read, understand, and agree to abide by the above guidelines. I/We agree to accept actions taken for failure to abide by these guidelines.

***PLEASE NOTE:** Complete registration takes place online. Your agreement to the above participation guidelines is considered binding once you complete your online registration. Please take the time to read the above guidelines before agreeing to them online, and keep a copy of these guidelines for your records. Thank you!*