



DC SENTINELS  
MEMBERSHIP BOOKLET  
2010

Welcome to the DC Sentinels!

Thanks for becoming a member of the Washington, DC metro area's foremost club for gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender (GLBT) basketball players and our friends. You are joining a rich tradition of GLBT athletes coming together for recreation and competition in the positive, accepting, and fun spirit of our community. We are glad to have you with us!

Inside this membership booklet is your membership card and all the important information you'll need to know about the DC Sentinels. Take a few minutes to read it and familiarize yourself with the way the club works.

See you on the court,

Tim Francis,  
Chair, DC Sentinels

Brian Hamlett,  
Membership Chair, DC Sentinels

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# Mission Statement

DC Sentinels provides gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender (GLBT) basketball players and our friends opportunities to participate in sporting, recreational, social, and charitable activities that promote acceptance and visibility of the GLBT athletics community and create lasting relationships between people from all walks of life.

**Many** **People** **One Attitude**

## Membership Benefits

Once you have paid your membership fee in full, you are entitled to the following benefits during your membership year:

- (1) **Reduced open play fee and special fee.** The member open play fee is \$5 per session. (Fees may change at any time in the discretion of the Board of Directors.) Sometimes we offer a special onetime charge to participate in open gym over a fixed length a time. This fee is usually around 60 – 70% of an overall fee if a member attending all open gyms.
- (2) **Free open play sessions.** Each membership year members will not be charged the open play fee for four open gym sessions of their choice.
- (3) **Priority participation on tournament teams.** Only members, in good standing, are allowed to play for the DC Sentinels teams participating in tournaments. To maintain good standing within the organization, members are expected to participate in at least one outreach event and serve on one social/fundraising committee prior to every tournament.
- (4) **Eligibility for tournament stipend.** If funds on hand allow (in the discretion of the Board), members who participate in tournaments that require travel will be eligible for reimbursement for expenses occurred for the tournament in an amount to be determined by the Board. The Board will allot a certain amount of funds per tournament, to be equally divided among members who actually participate in the tournament. (If funds permit)
- (5) **Reduced uniform rental fee.** Members who participate in tournaments rent their uniforms from the organization for \$10 per tournament, plus a refundable deposit. (Rental prices may change at any time in the discretion of the Board.)
- (6) **Social** - Once in a while we pay for members who participate in our social events. (i.e. we may pay for the members bowling fee) The Board will allot a certain amount of funds per social, if any, to be equally divided among members who actually participate in the social.
- (7) **Members Dinner** – Once a year we treat our members to a special dinner. This dinner is fully paid for using the organization general funds.
- (8) **Discounts at participating merchants.** Members may present their membership card at participating merchants for a discount on the price of certain goods and services. Check the DC Sentinels website for the current list of participating merchants.

## DC Sentinels Open Play Rules

### Purpose:

- to provide a sport environment which promotes mutual respect, understanding and the principles of fair play
- to give mutual respect for each other

### **RULE 1:**

Pay your gym rental fee before the open play session or immediately after. Members who do not pay must will be required to pay a \$10.00 fee (two open gym fees -past and current) before returning to open gym. Non-members who do not pay will not be able to return until they pay a penalty fee of \$25.00 (\$10.00 fee x 2 plus \$5 penalty).

### **RULE 2:**

If there are enough players to require it, a sign-up sheet is maintained. If you come off the court, sign up again for the next game.

### **RULE 3:**

Someone shoots (top of key) for the first ball to begin games.

### **RULE 4:**

The games are played for 9 minutes or first team to 11 (first game) or 9 points (all subsequent games). If the game is a tie after 9 minutes the next team that scores wins. **If there are more than 1 team waiting then all games are played to 7 points for 7 minutes.**

### **RULE 5:**

Baskets count for 1 point, except that a basket made from behind the "three-point" line counts as 2 points.

### **RULE 6:**

No team can play more than 2 consecutive games on center court, win or lose.

### ***Calling Fouls***

- I. Fouls should only be called if they clearly affect a team's advantage, safety, or sportsmanship. No free throws are awarded at any time. Play resumes with the fouled team in possession.
- II. The offended player must make the call. One's teammates may not call a foul occurring against a teammate.
- III. The defense, in most cases, needs to "honor" the call. In judgment cases, the defense should respect the call.
- IV. If a dispute over a call occurs, the accused team may shoot for possession at the top of the key (the defensive player directly involved in the play at the time of the questionable call must take the shot). This should rarely occur throughout the course of a game!
- V. Call Consistency: Do not wait until the last couple of points to call a foul or violation. Please keep all calls consistent throughout the game. Do not stop the game because you assume a foul was made. If the offensive player didn't call it

you play on.

***Other Violations***

- I. Do not make other violation calls unless your team is clearly disadvantaged by the violation. Only players in the game can make violation calls. Such players may call traveling, 3-second violations, out-of-bounds, etc. There is no “backcourt” violation.
- II. If the two teams cannot agree whether a violation occurred, alternating possession shall be used.

**General:**

No check ball in the last minute of the game. Do not touch the ball if it is not yours! Time can be added if you do not leave the ball alone.

If a ball goes out on the side line the ball is check and play resumes from the top of the key, or the ball may be checked from the spot it went out.

Alternate possession when the ball is tied up and in other “jump ball” situations.

## Tournaments

DC Sentinels teams play in various tournaments throughout the year. If a tournament has different divisions for players of various skill levels, there may be DC Sentinels teams competing in each division. Depending on the interest, we may even enter more than one team in a division.

The opportunity to play on a tournament team is guaranteed only to members.

You may request to play on a particular team, but the coaches of the teams (or captains along with the core team, if there is no coach) have the discretion to determine who will play on which team. The coaches (or captains) also have discretion with regard to who starts and the distribution of playing time.

Players are responsible for arranging their own travel and lodging. The Board has discretion to reimburse members for some tournament costs if funds allow (See membership benefits).

See guidelines below. These are subject to change at the discretion of the Executive Board.

# Tournament Guidelines

## **General Requirements**

### **NGBA**

You must be registered with NGBA in order to play in NGBA Sponsored Tournaments. In order to register and create an account, go to: [www.ngbaus.com](http://www.ngbaus.com).

### **Members Benefit**

Only members are allowed to play in tournaments. If your membership expires before a tournament, you will need to renew your membership prior to registering to play in the tournament. Roster spots open up to members on all teams starting on the date provided by the board.

### **Non Members**

Non members are not allowed to play in tournaments.

### **Fee**

Members will need to pay fees for registration and uniform use. Registration for members varies depending on the tournament location. All fees are non-refundable and non-transferable (from one player to another). It is important that everyone understands that all administrative fees (past and present) must be made current in order to be considered for tournament play. All registration fees need to be submitted by the date submitted by the executive board in order to be considered for any teams. (No exceptions). The treasurer will be collecting all monies.

### **Penalties**

Uniforms need to be returned within 1 week after the tournament. Should uniforms not be returned by the date determined by the Board both your deposit (if any) and next tournament play will be forfeited (Special circumstances will be taken into consideration by executive board).

## **Team Selection Process**

### **Team A**

All players playing on the “A” Team have to be members and will be selected by the coach. This team will meet with the coach as a team to schedule practices and discuss team expectations. There will be a maximum amount of nine players attending the tournament. Should someone not be able to attend the tournament then the coach will choose another individual to replace this player. All fees are non-refundable and the new players will be required to pay registration/member fees to the DC Sentinels. Team selection date for the “A” team will be determined by the Board. After this date, there will be no transfer of players between the A and B teams. All registration fees need to be submitted by date determined by the Board in order to be considered in the Team A pool (No exceptions).

### **Team B (I + II)**

All players playing on the “B” Team have to be members. After all 18 players have paid or the deadline has passed, Bill Swann, the B team captains, and team members will meet to discuss open slots to be filled on each roster (i.e. the goal is to work to find a medium where both teams will have sufficient guards, forwards, and big men). This way both teams will be competitive. After the teams have been divided...those teams will meet and decide their point person(s) as previously stated. If two point men are selected, one player should be a starter and the other should be a 6th, 7th, 8th, or 9th man. This team is a non-structured team with limited practices (i.e. scrimmaging and playing together weekly leading up to the tournament beginning on a date TBD). This team will meet to select a captain as a point person for the tournament. Should members of this team want to join the A team for practice they are welcome to do so for conditioning purposes. Members on this team must also understand that during practice time they may or may not be asked to participate.

All registration fees need to be submitted by date determined by the Board in order to be considered in the Team B(I + II) pool (No exceptions). Roster spots are open with a maximum of nine players. In order to sign up, please email [tournament@teamdcbasketball.org](mailto:tournament@teamdcbasketball.org).

### **Other Teams (Only applies after all 18 players have paid)(B Team)**

Any overflow of players will be assigned to this team. There should be a minimum of 6 players. This team is a non-structured team with limited practices (i.e. scrimmaging and playing together weekly leading up to the tournament beginning on a date TBD). This team will meet to select a captain as a point person for the tournament. Should members of this team want to join the A team for practice they are welcome to do so for conditioning purposes. Members on this team must also understand that during practice time they may or may not be asked to participate. Roster spots are open with a maximum of nine players.

In order to sign up, please email [tournament@teamdcbasketball.org](mailto:tournament@teamdcbasketball.org).

## **Practice**

### A Team Structure

Only the A team will be practicing once a week to prepare for tournament play . For the A team, the coach will be responsible for practice plans and making sure that each practice is purposeful with specific goals and objectives. Scrimmages between teams and with other teams are to be scheduled by the coach. All scrimmages outside of the DC Sentinels need to be shared with the executive board and team members need to be notified at least one week in advance to adjust personal and work schedules accordingly. Players and Coaches who exhibit unsportsmanlike conduct during practice sessions can be reported to the board by anyone. That individual will be asked to meet with the board to discuss their actions. It will be to the discretion of the board to allow the player/coach to continue. Should a player or coach be asked not to return for unsportsmanlike conduct, their tournament fees will be non-refundable and they will not be asked to return until the first open gym after the tournament. A team members are expected to attend practice sessions and it is up to the discretion of the coaches and the executive board to determine if a player is being negligent in attending practice sessions (Special circumstances are noted: work schedules etc.). Should personal schedules conflict with practices, players should notify coaches and determine an alternate plan of action to assure they are preparing for the tournament play.

### B Team Structure

The B teams will be allotted one hour each week before the open gym that is typically held on Thursdays. Here they will have the time to scrimmage and get used to playing with one another (this will also serve as an opportunity for the point person to get used to their roster and subbing method). Scrimmages between teams and with other teams are to be scheduled by the point men for either B team. All scrimmages outside of the DC Sentinels need to be shared with the executive board and team members need to be notified at least one week in advance to adjust personal and work schedules accordingly. Players who exhibit unsportsmanlike conduct during “practice” sessions can be reported to the board by anyone. That individual will be asked to meet with the board to discuss their actions. It will be to the discretion of the board to allow the player to continue. Should a player be asked not to return for unsportsmanlike conduct, their tournament fees will be non-refundable and they will not be asked to return until the first open gym after the tournament. B team members are not expected to attend all practice sessions although it is strongly recommended.

## **Team Ethics**

Part of our mission as a group is to provide a sport environment which promotes mutual respect for one another, integrity and a commitment to excellence. As we prepare for this tournament we are asking that team members be proactive and hold themselves accountable in helping us carry out this mission. We are asking that individuals who plan to play with the sentinels be dedicated to doing so. Personal conflicts can be discussed with either the coach or the Board if needed. Both the board and the coaches understand that it is an individual's choice to play with another team should they desire to do so. Should this be the case, the individual should discuss this with the coach or the board. Those who choose to leave or, are asked to do so do to unsportsmanlike conduct, must also understand that the DC Sentinels Executive Board reserves the right to decline that individual for consideration of team participation for any future NGBA sponsored tournaments (This does not affect open gym).

## Organization and Management of DC Sentinels

DC Sentinels is governed by a Board of Directors, who is responsible for the operations of the club and decision-making. In 2010, these directors are:

Tim Francis, Chair

Daryl Fields, Treasurer

Desmond Mackall, Secretary

[VACANT], Sponsorship Chair

Clarence Brown, Interim Social and Community Director

Brian Hamlett, Membership Director

[VACANT], Fundraising Director

Michael Berryhill, Communications Director

The directors oversee various committees that accomplish specific projects. (See the organizational chart that follows.) We encourage you to help the club by joining the Board or serving on one of the committees.

In addition to the officers and committee members, designated persons fulfill several important roles:

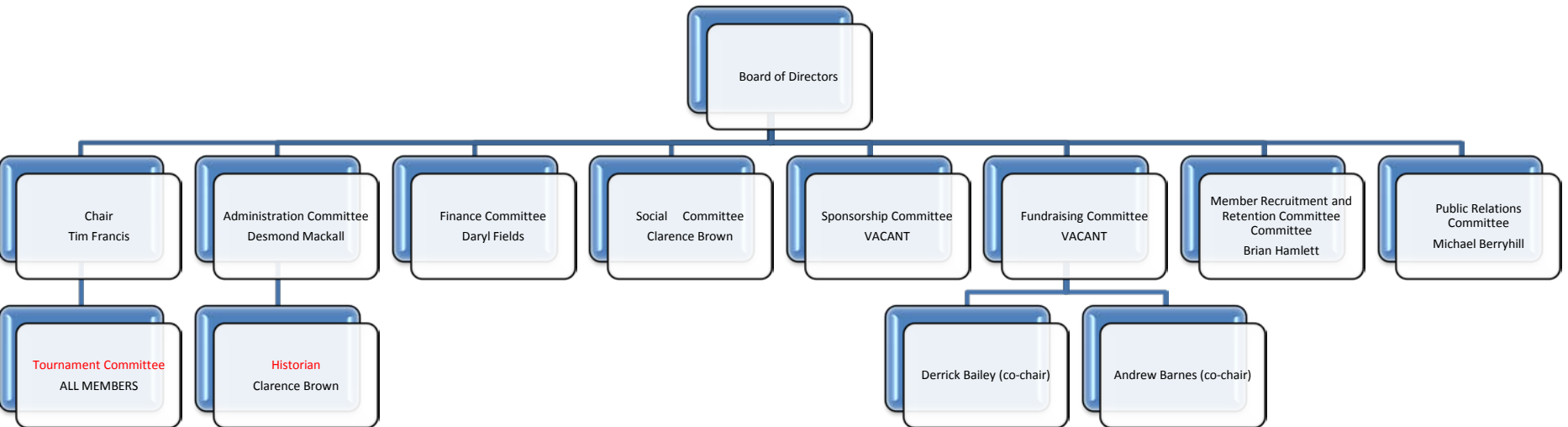
1. **Coach for tournament "A" team.** Bill Swann currently serves as our coach.
2. **Open gym administrator.** This person is responsible for bringing equipment and seeing that open gym is run according to the rules.
3. **Facilities administrators (Montgomery County).** Montgomery County requires that at least one person from the groups using their gym facilities undergo a short training and certification in running the facilities.

DC Sentinels is one of the many sports clubs for gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender (GLBT) athletes encompassed by **Team DC**, an umbrella organization that supports GLBT sports organizations in the DC metro area.

DC Sentinels is also affiliated with the **National Gay Basketball Association (NGBA)**, an umbrella organization supporting GLBT basketball organizations specifically. NGBA sponsors several tournaments throughout the year, and requires participants to register (for free) as members of NGBA before playing in its tournaments.

# DC Sentinels

## Organizational Chart and Structure



## Contact Information and Waiver

DC Sentinels collects and maintains your contact information, so we can keep you informed of when we play and the events we participate in. If any of your contact information changes after you fill out your membership application, please notify the Membership chairperson or any member of the Board of Directors.

DC Sentinels also requires everyone who plays at our open gyms to sign a waiver releasing the club from personal injury liability. The waiver form, available for download from our website, should be signed and returned to the Membership chairperson or any member of the Board before you begin play with us.

# BYLAWS OF TEAMDC Basketball

## Article 1 – Name and Location

1.01 The name of this organization is TeamDC Basketball. The organization operates in the Washington, DC metropolitan area. Its postal address is P.O. Box 11103, Washington, DC 20008.

## Article 2 – Purpose

2.01 The purpose of TeamDC Basketball is to encourage and support involvement in basketball within the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) and broader community in the Washington, DC metropolitan area. TeamDC Basketball will foster an environment in which basketball is a fun and exciting means of fellowship. TeamDC Basketball will strive to promote excellence, integrity, and good sportsmanship.

2.02 To further these purposes, TeamDC Basketball will provide opportunities for participation in basketball by the LGBT community through “open gyms” (i.e., play sessions open to the public, subject to conditions and fees set by TeamDC Basketball), leagues, and tournaments, whether local, regional, national, or international.

2.03 The primary purpose of TeamDC Basketball shall be to run open gyms, so as to provide a space to bring together a community with the common interest of playing basketball in an LGBT-friendly environment.

## Article 3 – Participants and Participation

3.01 **Membership** – Individuals may become members of TeamDC Basketball upon complying with the terms and conditions for membership set forth in this article. Membership is not required for participation in open gyms sponsored by TeamDC Basketball. Membership is not required, although members may be given preference, for participation in any league or tournament teams sponsored by TeamDC Basketball, or in other events sponsored by TeamDC Basketball.

3.02 **Becoming a member** – To become a member of TeamDC Basketball, an individual must (a) complete the required application form; (b) sign the required waiver; (c) pay the required annual membership fee in full; and (d) have his or her application approved by the Membership Chair.

(a) **Application form** – The Membership Chair shall maintain a membership application form that collects information about the applicant.

(b) **Waiver** – The Membership Chair shall maintain a waiver form, to be signed by the applicant, waiving claims against TeamDC Basketball for all claims resulting from his or her participation in activities and events sponsored by TeamDC Basketball.

(c) **Fee and term** – The Executive Board may impose an annual membership fee, which will entitle the individual to membership for one year. A member’s annual term is measured from the date payment in full is received, and is subject to suspension or expulsion as set forth in these bylaws. The Board may change the fee at any time for incoming members, with no retroactive effect on paid members.

(d) **Approval** – The Membership Chair shall approve or reject all applications for membership. The Executive Board retains the authority to direct the Membership Chair to reject an applicant for membership.

3.03 **Powers** – Members do not have the decisional authority vested in the Executive Board, but any member may request the Board to vote on a specific proposal at any time, or request that the Board open a decision to a vote of the full membership or a group of members. If the Board opens a decision to a vote of the full membership or any group of members, a majority or plurality among the voting members will decide any such vote.

### 3.04 **Discipline**

(a) **Of members** – Membership in TeamDC Basketball is a privilege, and the privilege is conditioned upon compliance with these bylaws and other conditions established by the Executive Board. Members are subject to probationary periods, suspension, or expulsion for noncompliance. The Executive Board has authority to discipline members for conduct detrimental to the organization, and the Board has absolute discretion to determine what constitutes conduct detrimental to the organization. The following conduct always will be considered detrimental if occurring at open gym or other events sponsored by TeamDC Basketball:

- (1) Fights or physical assaults
- (2) Threats and verbal assaults, even if they do not result in a fight or other physical altercation
- (3) Verbally abusive behavior directed at others
- (4) Illegal use of controlled substances

(b) **Of nonmembers** – Nonmembers participating in open gyms and other events sponsored by TeamDC Basketball are guests only, and shall have no right to continued participation in those events if their presence is disruptive. The Executive Board may ban an individual from TeamDC Basketball events, either temporarily or permanently, for conduct detrimental to the organization.

#### (c) **Procedure**

(1) **Charges** – Any Executive Board member may propose that a member or nonmember be disciplined by raising the charges at a Board meeting. A special Board meeting may be called for this purpose. In addition, any member may request that the Board take disciplinary action against a member or nonmember by filing a written statement describing the detrimental conduct.

(2) **Investigation and decision** – The Executive Board will discuss the charges, and investigate to ascertain the facts. The charged member and others may be interviewed.

The Board will reach a decision and notify the charged member of its decision. Any discipline imposed will take effect unless the member appeals.

- (3) **Appeal and hearing** – The charged member may appeal the Executive Board’s decision by asking the Board to stay its decision and reconsider the charges and evidence. The Board within one week must convene a hearing, at which the charged member must appear. New evidence may be considered at the hearing. After the hearing, the Board will decide whether to modify or rescind the discipline originally imposed, and notify the member of its decision.

#### **Article 4 – Executive Board**

4.01 **Authority** – TeamDC Basketball shall be governed by an Executive Board. Subject to the limitations imposed by law or contained in these bylaws, the activities and affairs of TeamDC Basketball shall be conducted and all powers of the organization shall be exercised by or under the direction of the Board.

4.02 **Number and qualifications** – The Executive Board shall consist of a minimum of five and a maximum of nine members of TeamDC Basketball.

4.03 **Election and term** – The members of the Executive Board shall be elected by the current members of the Board at the Annual Board Meeting to serve for a term of two years, commencing upon election.

4.04 **Resignation, vacation, or removal of Board member** – Any member of the Executive Board may resign by giving notice to the Secretary of the Board. The Board may declare vacant the office of any Board member who has been declared to be of unsound mind or who has abandoned the office by failing to attend Board meetings for three consecutive months. Any Board member may be removed for good cause if the removal is approved by a majority of the other members of the Board. Departing Board members shall be provided with a written exit interview questionnaire maintained by the Secretary, and shall be invited to participate in an oral exit interview with the Board. Any vacancy of a Board seat may be filled for the remainder of the vacant Board member’s term by special election by the Board.

4.05 **No compensation** – The members of the Executive Board shall not receive compensation from TeamDC Basketball for activities related to their service on the Board. Board members shall not accept any money or any other thing of value from anyone for their personal account for doing anything related to their service on the Board.

4.06 **Meetings** – The Executive Board shall call their own meetings, but must meet a minimum of six times per year. The Board must hold an Annual Board Meeting in November for the purposes of electing Board members to vacant Board seats, if any. Meetings are governed by the most recently revised edition of *Robert’s Rules of Order*.

4.07 **Decisionmaking and voting** – The Executive Board makes decisions by majority vote of the Board members eligible to vote. In the event of a tie, the decision of the Chair or Co-chairs prevails. All votes require a quorum, which is a majority of the Board members currently serving. There is no voting

by proxy. Votes may be taken at any time or place. The Board may open decisions to the vote of the full membership or a group of members, on its own initiative or on request of a member. If requested by a member to open a decision to vote of the full membership or a group of members, the Board shall vote on whether to honor such request and report its decision to the requesting member.

#### 4.08 **Offices and Officers of the Board**

(a) **Offices** – The Executive Board consists of nine offices:

- (1) Co-chair (known as Chair when there is no Co-chair)
- (2) Co-chair
- (3) Secretary
- (4) Treasurer
- (5) Social and Community Director
- (6) Sponsorship Director
- (7) Fundraising Director
- (8) Membership Director
- (9) Communications Director

(b) **Officers** – Each member of the Executive Board shall be the officer in charge of one of the nine Board offices. Nomination of officers shall be made from among the Board members. Following the nomination of candidates, the Board (excluding the nominated member) shall vote from among the nominees for each office. The person receiving the largest number of votes shall be elected to the office. In the case of a tie, the decision of the Chair or Co-chairs prevails. In the case of a tie vote for Chair or Co-chairs, the tie shall be broken by the outgoing Chair or Co-chairs. Board members, if fewer than nine at any time, may assume the duties of more than one office until such time as a new Board member is elected to fill the vacant role.

(c) **Duties**

- (1) Chair – Functions as president of TeamDC Basketball. Presides over all meetings of the Executive Board; has signing authority for all contractual matters involving TeamDC Basketball; has power to purchase and spend on behalf of TeamDC Basketball as directed by the Executive Board; is responsible for maintaining organization's website, bank accounts, and post office box; obtains facilities for open gym; coordinates involvement of members in leagues and tournaments; organizes tournaments sponsored by TeamDC Basketball.
- (2) Co-chair – Duties are coextensive with those of Chair.
- (3) Secretary – Records all votes and minutes of Executive Board meetings; keeps all TeamDC Basketball records and documents; issues all required Board reports.
- (4) Treasurer – Oversees TeamDC Basketball funds; shares responsibility for maintaining organization's bank accounts; shares power to purchase and spend on behalf of TeamDC Basketball as directed by the Executive Board; keeps adequate and correct records of the organization's properties and business transactions; develops budget and business plan for each fiscal year; prepares financial reports.
- (5) Social and Community Director – Develops and conducts social activities of such frequency and variety as to enhance communication and friendship among all TeamDC Basketball members and our associates; coordinates outreach and community service activities.

- (6) Sponsorship Director – Initiates and develops relationships with businesses and individuals for the purpose of enhancing the reputation of TeamDC Basketball and soliciting financial and other assistance for TeamDC Basketball operations.
- (7) Fundraising Director – Develops and conducts an active fundraising program for TeamDC Basketball; schedules and supervises all fundraising events and activities for the benefit of TeamDC Basketball; recruits and schedules volunteers to assist with fundraising activities; coordinates with the Treasurer to ensure fundraising goals are aligned with business plan.
- (8) Membership Director – Maintains all member information and records, including records of member fee payments and expiration dates; develops and executes strategies for attracting and retaining members; responds to inquiries by potential members and other persons expressing interest in activities of TeamDC Basketball; notifies members of expiration dates and renewal fees; generates ideas for and obtains benefits to be offered to members; assists members in understanding terms, conditions, and benefits of membership by producing and distributing a membership booklet; oversees collection of fees from members and nonmembers at open gyms.
- (9) Communications Director – Produces and submits information, articles, and advertisements for distribution and publication in media, both proactively and in response to requests; acts as spokesperson for TeamDC Basketball.

The duties described above are illustrative only. In addition to the duties described above, officers shall have all the powers and duties necessary to the effective functioning of their office.

- (d) **Delegation to committees** – Officers may delegate their responsibilities to committees, which the officer shall participate in and oversee. Committee members are not members of the Executive Board. The following is a nonexclusive list of committees that may be formed:

- (1) Tournament committee [Chair or Co-chairs]
- (2) Administration committee; Historian [Secretary]
- (3) Finance committee [Treasurer]
- (4) Social committee; Community service committee [Social and Community Service Director]
- (5) Sponsorship committee [Sponsorship Director]
- (6) Fundraising committee [Fundraising Director]
- (7) Member recruitment and retention committee; Open gym administrator [Membership Director]
- (8) Public relations committee [Communications Director]

The composition and structure of each committee shall be reported to the Board.

## **Article 5 – Assets**

5.01 **No private benefit** – No part of the assets of TeamDC Basketball shall inure to the benefit of any individual except to the extent that he or she is receiving a proportional share of benefits authorized by the Executive Board in furtherance of the organization’s purposes.

5.02 **Loans** – Funds of TeamDC Basketball shall not be used for personal loans to members, and shall not be used for loans to other organizations or enterprises without specific approval of the Executive Board. Nothing in the aforesaid prohibition of loans shall prevent advances or prepayments to members toward expenditures included in approved budgets or otherwise approved by the Board.

#### **Article 6 – Contracts**

6.01 All contracts, agreements, or orders pertaining to the conduct of administrative or social activities sponsored or funded by TeamDC Basketball shall be entered into in the name of “TeamDC Basketball.”

6.02 All contracts or instruments of financial obligation entered into in the name of TeamDC Basketball must have the approval of the Executive Board. The Chair or Co-chairs act on behalf of TeamDC Basketball and enter into contracts or execute instruments in the name of TeamDC Basketball, but they may delegate to any Board member the authority to act on behalf of TeamDC Basketball and enter into a contract or execute an instrument in the name of TeamDC Basketball in specific instances. No other person shall have any power or authority to bind TeamDC Basketball by any contract or agreement, or to pledge its credit, or to render it liable for any purpose or any amount.

#### **Article 7 – Waivers**

7.01 No person shall participate in any TeamDC Basketball-sponsored sport or other activity with a substantial risk of injury without first signing a written waiver of any claims against TeamDC Basketball resulting from such injury. The Executive Board, however, may waive the requirement for specific activities when enforcement would be impracticable, or where its necessity is reduced by the interposed liability of another organization, business, or facility.

#### **Article 8 – Fundraising and Sponsorship**

8.01 **No unauthorized solicitation** – All solicitation of funds, donations, discounts, rebates, services, or sponsorship for TeamDC Basketball functions or activities and all participation of members in fundraising activities to benefit such functions or activities shall have prior approval of the Fundraising Director or Sponsorship Director, as relevant, or of the Executive Board if the relevant office is vacant.

8.02 No solicitations of funds or other fundraising to benefit organizations, individuals, campaigns, or causes outside TeamDC Basketball shall be conducted in conjunction or association with TeamDC Basketball funds or activities, or with the use of TeamDC Basketball’s name, without prior approval of the Executive Board.

#### **Article 9 – Annual Report**

9.01 The Executive Board shall produce an annual report for distribution to the public in January every year.

#### **Article 10 – Dissolution**

10.01 The organization may be dissolved by vote of the Executive Board. On dissolution of the organization, if all properties, assets, and obligations of TeamDC Basketball have a net value of more than \$5,000, they shall be distributed and paid over to the members, in equal shares. If the net value is \$5,000 or less, or if a member cannot be located or does not accept his or her share, it shall be paid over to an organization dedicated to the same or similar purposes, provided that such organization is recognized as an organization exempt from federal income taxation under the provisions of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended.

#### **Article 11 – Amendment of Bylaws**

11.01 These Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds majority vote of the Executive Board.

## TeamDC Basketball Code of Conduct

### I. At Open Gym

1. **Understand the purpose.** Open gym sessions sponsored by TeamDC Basketball are for players of all skill levels, and are organized first and foremost as a means of bringing the community together for fun and recreation. The games played at a single-court open gym are meant to be played to the best of everyone's ability, but they are **not** primarily about winning and holding the court. Accordingly,
  - a. Play a team game and involve **each one** of your running mates, regardless of his or her skill level.
  - b. Support and encourage all players on the court to play their best. Do not express any harsh condemnation or negative criticism to or about any other player.
2. **Come prepared to pay and play.**
  - a. We must pay to rent courts for indoor open gym sessions, which is why we charge players an "open gym fee" for each session. **Do not come to open gym without your money.**
  - b. Be ready to play your best. Don't show up under the influence of alcohol or other drugs.
3. **Display good sportsmanship at all times.**
  - a. No fighting. No flagrant fouls. No taunting.
  - b. Respect all calls made by the other team, even if you think the call is not legitimate. Do not delay play by arguing calls. At the same time, no one should be calling minor or questionable fouls or violations.
  - c. Maintain a positive attitude. Have a sense of humor. Make it fun for everyone.
  - d. No sulking or quitting during a game if things aren't going your way.

### II. At League or Tournament Games

1. **Understand the purpose.** Unlike open gym sessions, league and "A"-level tournament games in which TeamDC Basketball teams are entered are competitive in nature, and the purpose is to win every game. "B"-level tournament games may be competitive as well. Roster spots on league and tournament teams may be selective, according to skill level or other factors.
2. **Come to play every time.** For each practice and game, condition and prepare yourself to play your best. No player or coach may be under the influence of alcohol or other drugs during any practice or game.
3. **Respect for the coach.** Teams may have a coach, whose authority over all matters affecting the games must be respected.
  - a. To the extent possible, attend all practices organized by the coach.
  - b. Comply with all coaching instructions at practice and during games.
  - c. Respect all coaching decisions, including those regarding your playing time in games.
4. **Sportsmanship.** Coaches and players must abide by all rules set by the league or tournament in which they are participating. In the absence of or in addition to such

rules, players must display the sportsmanship required of them at TeamDC Basketball open gym sessions, in accordance with the rules set forth above in this code of conduct, as applicable.

5. **Respect the referees.** Don't berate them—befriend them. They're not out there trying to make bad calls. Play through.

### III. When representing TeamDC Basketball in an Official Capacity

Members of the executive board, the coach of any league or tournament team, and any other person representing TeamDC Basketball in an official capacity must conduct themselves responsibly and professionally, and must not do anything that would harm the reputation of TeamDC Basketball or impair its function and mission.

### IV. Enforcement

The executive board of TeamDC Basketball may enforce the provisions of this code of conduct. Violation of this code may result in a suspension from all TeamDC Basketball activities and events until such time as the Board determines the person can conform his or her conduct to this code.

## **DC Sentinels Members Competition Policy – Members competing with other Teams**

*The mission statement includes the requisite for the organization to **Compete** in the sport of basketball at the highest level possible. In competition, while keeping with the spirit of sportsmanship, the DC Sentinels reserve the right to temporarily suspend certain membership benefits/privileges which might give a member an unfair competitive advantage while playing for another team.*

*1. A member who decides to play with another team competing within NGBA sanctioned tournaments or tournaments where the DC Sentinels are competing will forfeit the following:*

- a. Any additional practices days and facilities that are provided to the DC Sentinels team competing in the same sanctioned tournament.*
- b. Any refund of monies paid past or future in reference to their membership.*
- c. The use of any DC Sentinels equipment/property used for the purpose of preparing for tournament play.*

*2. A member who decides to play with another team competing within NGBA sanctioned tournaments or tournaments where the DC Sentinels are competing will not be allowed to play in the next scheduled tournament and will immediately adhere to the guidelines in #1 of this section once making that declaration.*

*3. Any member who decides to play with another team competing within NGBA sanctioned tournaments or tournaments where the DC Sentinels are competing must make that declaration known to the Executive Board at least 1 month prior to the tournament for which they are registered to compete.*

### **Exemption Status**

*1. A member can receive an exemption status from the above policy if they were not selected for any of the DC Sentinel teams that are scheduled to compete in the tournament for which the member is registered. No forfeiture of benefits would be imposed upon said member.*

*2. Member must file a letter of intent to compete with another team other than the DC Sentinels with the Executive Board before exemption status will be approved.*

### **Violation of Policy**

*If a member is found to be in violation of the Competition Policy, the Executive Board reserves the right to suspend the members membership indefinitely.*