

TEAM PLAYING DATE PREFERENCE FORM

2009-2010 Great Northwest Basketball League

Fill out one form for each girls or boys team in a Community/Association

Registration Deadlines

8th Grade Girls: **August 1, 2009**

7th Grade Girls: **August 8, 2009**

6th Grade Girls: **August 15, 2009**

5th Grade Girls: **September 12, 2009**

4th Grade Girls: **September 12, 2009**

8th Grade Boys: **August 29, 2009**

7th Grade Boys: **September 5, 2009**

6th Grade Boys: **August 22, 2009**

5th Grade Boys: **September 19, 2009**

4th Grade Boys: **September 19, 2009**

Note: Please carefully review the League Enrollment Explanatory Posting that introduces this form. If you haven't done so before, you should also review the League's Rules (draft Rules for the 2009-2010 season will be posted no later than June 18, 2009, on this website; 2008-2009 Rules can be accessed in the interim). The League Enrollment Explanatory Posting explains the split registration deadlines listed above, which are tied to the grade and gender of the teams being registered. While these are not exactly the same deadlines as used in 2008-2009, in each case they are within a week of the ones used last season.

Please note that if you are registering a team to play in the League on this Team Playing Date Preference Form with a deadline after August 1, if that team intends to host, the Unified Meet Hosting Preference Form is still due on August 1.

By registering a team in the 2009-2010 season of The Great Northwest Basketball League, coaches or contacts must abide by its rules as detailed on our website (gnbl.org) and as highlighted in the League Enrollment Explanatory Posting. That includes the submission of a roster for each team at least one day before that team's first meet, listing each player's name, address, jersey number, etc.

Please list the name, address and **all** available phone numbers of the head coach (and, where appropriate, assistant coach) who will be coaching this team (if an assistant coach's name is not available at this time, please submit at your earliest convenience). This is important information. Without it, coaches won't receive League mailings or schedules. We also need all your contact points for purposes of reaching you the day before a meet in case of inclement weather. Please include an e-mail address only if it is checked at least once per day, including weekends.

Name of Person Completing This Form: _____

Name of Community/School District (and Team Name if more than one team at this grade level):

Home Phone Number: _____ Work Phone Number: _____

(Print clearly)

HEAD COACH

ASSISTANT COACH

Name: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____

Home Phone: _____

Work Phone: _____

Work Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

E-mail: _____

1) What is the gender and grade level of the team being registered:

Check one: _____ Boys _____ Girls

Check one: _____ 8th Grade _____ 7th Grade _____ 6th Grade _____ 5th Grade _____ 4th Grade

2) Does the coach help with any other team whose schedule absolutely cannot overlap this schedule (i.e., there is no assistant to take either team)?

_____ No

_____ Yes, grade and gender of other team(s): _____

_____ Prefer not to overlap, but assistance is available if necessary. Grade and gender of other team(s): _____

3) In how many meets do you want to play? You can play as few as one, or as many meets as there are dates.

_____ **Is the number of meets** in which my team would like to play. (**Important:** the number you list on this blank **includes** any date(s) you host. For example, if you plan to host one meet, and travel to four others, list the number "5".) For top ranked 8th, 7th and 6th grade teams, the League Championship Tournament **is** considered a League play date; the State Tournament is **not**.

- 4) To whom should the schedules be mailed in late September (8th and 7th grade girls get mailed first) to late October (5th and 4th grade boys and girls get mailed last)? (Check one)

_____ The person listed as the head coach

_____ Someone else (if you checked this line, please give us his/her name and address):

- 5) To whom should we send the invoice for payment of whatever meets this team is scheduled to play? (Check one)

_____ The person listed as the head coach

_____ Someone else (if you checked this line, please give us his/her name and address):

The following issues are of particular importance as you fill in the remainder of this enrollment form (please note that draft 2009-2010 League Rules will be completed on or before June 18, 2009, and can be viewed by visiting our website at *gnbl.org*; we reserve the right to make modest changes to these rules prior to the commencement of League play in late October 2009):

- **Multi-Community Rosters Prohibited.** League Rule C-1 strictly prohibits a coach from constructing a team with players from more than one community or school district/territory. For the 2009-2010 season, there are only two major exceptions to this general rule:
 - Two Wisconsin Division 4 (Minnesota A) communities – or one Wisconsin Division 3 (Minnesota AA) and one Wisconsin Division 4 (Minnesota A) community – can combine their players only if both communities otherwise would not have enough players to field a team at that grade level. In these situations, there can be no “cuts” -- all players from the grade and gender in question in both school districts must be given the opportunity to play on any combined team. Non-public or parochial Division 3 or 4 teams are not allowed to combine with a public team for purposes of this exception.
 - If a player attends a private school, or a public school in a community in which he/she does not live, that player can play for either the team comprised of players from the school he/she attends or his/her community team, ***but not*** both.

See Rule C-1 for a more detailed explanation of this rule and to see the more limited exceptions relating to children of varsity coaching staffs and children in joint parental custody situations.

- **Playing “Down”.** If your community doesn’t have sufficient players at a given grade level, these players are not allowed to play “down” to the next lowest grade - these players must play “up” to the next grade level. If they are 8th graders, you’ll either need to have some of your 7th graders play “up” on an 8th grade team, at least for some meets, to accommodate your 8th graders, or if you are from a “small” (WIAA Division 3 or 4, Minnesota AA or A) community, have them play with a neighboring small community as outlined above.
- **Schedule Black-Out Period.** This period runs from the registration deadline for the grade and gender of the team being registered (e.g., August 1 for 8th grade girls; September 12 for 5th and 4th grade girls) until 45 days after that deadline (September 15 for 8th grade girls; October 27 for 5th and 4th grade girls). Every season we have a handful of coaches who register a team prior to the deadline, give us their play date preferences and then, when we send them their schedule of five meets, they say: “We now have conflicts on three of these five dates and can’t make it to three of the meets.” This creates a huge problem from a scheduling standpoint. As a result, as discussed in the League Enrollment Explanatory Posting, this year there will again be a significant financial penalty for teams that do so.

We need 45 days from the registration deadline for your team’s grade to construct a schedule for that grade. If something comes up after you’ve submitted this Team Playing Date Preference Form, send Terri Green written correspondence via an e-mail or the USPS detailing your request so you have a written record (do not handle solely via voice mail). If it’s before your grade’s registration deadline, there’s no problem - - as long as we hear from you right away. If it’s after your team’s registration deadline, but before the 45 day “black-out” period described above expires, contact us **before** you commit to any non-League tournament or other event and ask if it’s going to create a problem to drop a certain date. If your request is prompt and reasonable, we’ll almost always accommodate you, particularly if we haven’t as yet completed the schedule for your grade.

If you don’t bother calling us in advance, and don’t tell us about your conflict until after we’ve completed the schedule for the grade in question, the financial penalties outlined in the League Enrollment Explanatory Posting and League Rules will apply. For purposes of applying the financial penalties in our rules, a schedule is considered “completed” when it goes to the printer, not when it is mailed or posted on our website (there’s usually about a one week lag time from a particular grade’s schedule going to the printer and being mailed/published).

- 6) **Scheduling Flexibility.** In question #7 below, you will be asked to list the dates on which you’d prefer to play, when you prefer not to play and when you absolutely can’t play. When answering that question, please be very conservative in listing any “can’t play” dates. For example, just because one of a team’s two coaches can’t make a given date, isn’t a very good reason for not being able to play. With as many teams as we will have playing in as many locations, the League needs as much flexibility as possible to juggle schedule preferences and maximize the number of different teams you’ll be playing. The more “can’t plays” you list, the greater the likelihood that you’ll have longer traveling times to some of your meets. In this day of higher gas prices, why incur the added expense of longer trips to get the exact dates you prefer to play? It’s critical that you give us several extra dates to work with over and above the minimum number of dates you want to play.

If you want to play in four or less meets, you must give us at least one extra quality date with which to work (i.e., don't tell us you want to play three meets and give us only three date options). If you want to play five to eight meets, you need to give us at least two additional quality dates over and above the number of meets you want to play (e.g., if you want to play eight dates, you need to give us ten or more dates with which to work). If you want to play nine or more dates, we need three extra dates (e.g., if you want to play ten dates, we need 13 or more dates with which to work). When we talk about "quality" date options, be advised it is not acceptable to do the following:

- In the months of October and November, the vast majority of meets held are for 7th and 8th grade girls. That's because about half of the 7th and 8th grade girls teams attempt to complete their travel schedule before school basketball which, in most of Wisconsin, begins after Christmas. While there are some boys meets, as well as some 6th and 5th grade girls meets in November, the selection has been limited in past seasons for these other grades. See last season's meet results for an indication of how many meets at each grade level are likely to exist in each month.
- If you coach an 8th, 7th or 5th grade boys team, or 5th grade girls team, there will also be a relatively small number of meets in the month of December. That's not because the League wants to schedule the majority of the meets for these grade levels in January and February, but is rather a function of what coaches at these grade levels have actually requested in past seasons. If you coach one of these four grade levels, do not request all or most of your dates prior to January 1 without giving us sufficient options in January and February.
- Play dates for all grades are very limited in March, primarily because few teams want to host then. Do not register for a majority of your meets in March without also giving us a sufficient number of earlier options. If you really want to play in March, consider hosting then.

Earlier in this League's existence, we were forced to make over 200 phone calls each year during the scheduling process to coaches who did not give us sufficient play date options with which to work. While that represents only about 15% of all the teams that play in the League, it was extremely time-consuming at a time when we were working virtually around the clock to prepare schedules for nearly 1200 teams. The past three seasons we utilized a penalty provision for teams that failed to provide us with an adequate number of play date options. Since that system has worked well, we've decided to continue it for the 2009-2010 enrollment. While we realize that some clarifying calls from the League to coaches are necessary where there are quirks in the schedule that an enrolling team couldn't have anticipated, we are not willing to do so when the person registering a given team fails to give us sufficient dates with which to work as described above. As a result, as explained in the League Enrollment Explanatory posting, if you fail to give us sufficient alternative dates as described above, we need to know which course of action you want us to pursue (**check one of the three options below**):

_____ If there are no conveniently-located (within one and one-half hours) meets at your ability level on one or more of the date options you provide us in question #7 below, we won't call you and we will simply schedule you in fewer meets. Your only option will be to pick up openings on other dates if they develop after the scheduling process is completed.

_____ If there are no conveniently-located meets at your ability level on one or more dates, we have your permission to schedule you in the closest meet at your ability level even if it involves a two or three hour trip (one-way). If we do so, you will not get a free drop on such dates if you ultimately decide not to travel that far. Also, if there are dates that you requested on which the League has no meets scheduled, your total play dates will be reduced accordingly.

_____ If there are no conveniently-located meets at your ability level on certain dates, you would like us to call you and surcharge your meet invoice for \$25 (total, not per meet) to get clarification on your play date preferences.

If a team does not provide us with adequate play date alternatives (as described above) and fails to answer this question, we will presume that the answer is the first option listed above. We regret that we must be so demanding on this point, but there is no single issue that does more to complicate the scheduling process every season than coaches who want to play "x" dates and only give us "x" dates with which to work. **This entire question #6 is a moot issue, and of no practical concern, for all those teams that give us the specified number of quality additional alternative dates described above on which they can play when answering question #7.**

7) **PLEASE READ INSTRUCTIONS THOROUGHLY AND CAREFULLY BEFORE ANSWERING.** The following is a list of optional dates on which the League will hold meets.

Write "CP" or "can't play" in front of any dates where you can't play either at home or on the road.

Write "PN" or "prefer not" in front of dates where you'd prefer not to play, but you will if the League needs you to be flexible. **Enrolling teams should be prepared to be scheduled on at least one date (possibly two) that they list as "PN".** Therefore, if you are likely to drop out of a meet on a given date if scheduled there, write "CP" by that date, not "PN".

Finally, of the remaining dates, write "1" in front of your top choice to play in a meet, "2" in front of your second choice to play in a meet, etc., until all of the blanks are filled in.

If you want to sign up for five meets over a ten-week period do **NOT** write "CP" in front of the first date and a "1" in front of the second date, "CP" in front of the third date, "2" in front of the fourth date, etc. When you do that, you in effect give us only five dates to work with and you will get a less desirable schedule. The correct way to handle this is to answer "5" to question #3 and then put a 1 through 10 in front of the ten dates listed in this question #7 in your preferred order of choice, with a note in the "Comments" section that you'd prefer playing on as few consecutive weekends as possible.

If you have a very strong “A” team (typically, top five at your grade level), consider playing “up” in several meets at the next grade level (we will not allow teams to play up unless they struggle to find challenging opponents at their own grade level). If you’d like to do that, please tell us in how many such meets you’d like to play “up” in the “Comments” section below. Also, if you are a Wisconsin-based team and are strong enough to play in the Wisconsin State Invitational Championship Tournament (WSICT), consider playing some March dates to get ready for that tournament.

_____ October 24	_____ January 16
_____ October 31	_____ January 23
_____ November 7	_____ January 30
_____ November 14	_____ February 6
_____ November 21	_____ February 13
_____ November 28	_____ February 20
_____ December 5	_____ February 27
_____ December 12	_____ March 6
_____ December 19	_____ March 13
_____ January 2	_____ March 20
_____ January 9	_____ March 27

Remember:

CP – Absolutely cannot play

PN – Prefer not to play, but will if necessary

Number all other dates in order of preference

Fill every blank.

Comments: _____

- 8) If you are enrolling a team that played in the League last season, see the Power Rating Chart on this website (at *gnbl.org*, click on “Enrollment Information”) which rates all teams that played in at least one meet in the 2008-2009 season. Note that all teams are referred to by the grade the players will be in this coming season (2009-2010) - - not last season (2008-2009). If you are enrolling the same team for next season, your ultimate rating will be the one listed in the Power Rating Chart unless you provide a compelling explanation as to why it should be rated higher or lower in the “Comments” section below.

If you are enrolling a 6th, 7th or 8th grade team that didn't play in the League last season, use games against League opponents as a means to gauge the relative ability of your team, or gauge your team's likely ability based on relative school size and general program strength. For teams new to the League, the temptation is to rate your teams as low as possible so that you get an easier schedule. While an overly low rating won't be corrected until the next season when we can rate your team's actual performance in League play, remember that to qualify for the League Championship Tournament, or get an invitation to the Wisconsin State Invitational Championship Tournament, a team needs to be competitive against the upper ranks of our League ("A" teams and top-half "B+" teams), something you can't prove if you're playing a "B/B-" schedule.

If you are registering a 4th or 5th grade team, how you rate your team will need to be by pure guesswork, since most 5th grade teams, and virtually all 4th grade teams, did not play traveling basketball last season. Because of that, you can expect more lopsided scores in many Pioneer Division and 5th grade meets than for the other grades; but that will be a short-lived phenomenon. By the 2010-2011 season, we will be able to power rate 5th grade teams as they enter 6th grade. While we will tend to follow your guesstimate on the quality of your 5th or 4th grade team, since 5th and 4th grade meets are not seeded, we will not follow these guesstimates as rigidly as we will for 6th, 7th and 8th grade teams.

Whether for the boys or the girls, remember that, where possible, we will attempt to keep teams from playing in a meet where the ratings cover more than three consecutive rating slots. For instance, "A" and "B+" teams (and an occasional "B" team) will be allowed to play in "A" meets. "B+", "B" and "B-" teams will be allowed to play in "B" meets. "B-" and "C" teams (and an occasional "B" team) will be allowed to play in "C" meets. The only time we will put "A" teams with "B-" teams, or "B+" teams with "C" teams, is if enforcing the stricter guidelines religiously will result in teams having to travel too great a distance to play in a given meet. We will never knowingly schedule "A" teams with "C" teams.

I believe the team being registered with this form should be rated as follows (please circle one):

A B+ B B- C

Comments: _____

- 9) **To be completed by 5th and 4th grade registering teams only. If you coach an 8th, 7th or 6th grade team, proceed to Questions # 10.**

As explained in the League Enrollment Explanatory Posting that introduces this form, in 2009-2010, for the third consecutive season, The Great Northwest will be using a revised format for 4th grade teams and certain 5th grade teams, where they play only three games in one day. How these meets will be formatted is explained in significant detail in the League Enrollment Explanatory Posting. If you are interested in this option, do NOT indicate this interest below until you read the discussion of this alternative in the League Enrollment Explanatory Posting. The cost structure for these meets is different than for regular meets and how these meet results will affect the power rating process for the 2010-2011 season is also different. As explained in the League Enrollment Explanatory Posting, Pioneer Division meets are not designed for 5th grade teams that hope to be “A” or “B+” rated at the end of the coming season and hope to play in the League Championship Tournament in 2010-2011 or the State Tournament in 2010. Three game meets will be referred to as the “Pioneer” Division – designed for beginning teams with no or little experience and/or limited availability of players.

If you are a 5th or 4th grade coach, and you have read the paragraph above, and the League Enrollment Explanatory Posting, please select your preferred choice:

- _____ My team is NOT interested in playing in the Pioneer Division and would like to play all of our meets in the League’s regular 5th grade Division.
- _____ My team would like to play all of our meets in the Pioneer Division, if possible.
- _____ Of the total number of meets that I’ve indicated my team wants to play in Question #3 above, we’d like to play a portion in the regular 5th grade Division (playing 4 games per day) and a portion in the Pioneer Division (playing 3 games per day). If possible, we’d like to play the following number of our total meets in the Pioneer Division: _____.

We won’t know until after the registration process is completed how many communities are going to be hosting Pioneer Division meets. As a result, to avoid having to call each 4th and 5th grade coach, if you checked the second or third option above, please select one of the following choices in case there are limited Pioneer Division playing options in your area:

- _____ We’d prefer to play the number of Pioneer Division meets indicated above in this Question #9, but if we can’t get into that many, we’d still like to play the total number of meets listed in our answer to Question #3. In other words, we’d rather play more in the regular 5th grade Division rather than lose any play dates.
- _____ If we can’t get our preferred number of Pioneer Division meets, we’d like our total meets (answer to Question #3) reduced so that the maximum number of regular meets we play is: _____.

10) Skip this question if the first sentence below does not apply to your team.

If the team you are registering has a larger number of players (more than 10), at greatly varying ability levels, then you might want to consider mixing and matching your roster to play at different rated meets. For example, let's say you have 14 players on your team. One weekend, you may want to take your top 8 players and play as a "B+" team in an "A/B+" meet. The next week you may want to take your bottom 10 and play in a "B-/C" meet. The next week you may want to take a cross-section and play as a "B" team. This season, as in the past, teams will have the option to do that, provided they actually have that range in talent. If you'd like to enter a team and play at multiple ratings, please complete the section below. If not, go on to question #11.

Of the number of meets that you indicated you wanted to play in your answer to question #3, list the number of meets you would like to play at each of the following levels. Please indicate the name by which you would like your team known when playing at each level. For instance, in a recent season one specific team was known as the "Black" team when playing at the "A/B+" level, "Red" when playing at the "B" level and "White" when playing at the "B-/C" level.

If you plan to bring exactly the same roster to each meet, do not fill in the blanks below. It is not appropriate to attend a B-/C meet with "A" level players on your bench as a security blanket. Even if you intend not to play those "A" players extensively, inevitably coaches will if the game is close, and that's not fair to the B-/C teams in attendance. If you are a "B+" team and want to play in some "A" meets and some "B" meets, this will happen naturally, as part of the scheduling process. Complete the information below only if you are bringing a stronger roster to some meets than other meets.

<u># of meets to be played</u>	<u>Name by which team will be known when playing at each level</u>
_____ at the "A"/ "B+" level	_____
_____ at the "B+/"B"/ "B-" level	_____
_____ at the "B-"/"C" level	_____
_____ Total number of meets (this number should be the same as the indicated number in question #3)	_____

11) If your Community/Association is fielding two girls or two boys teams at the same grade level, would you prefer that they play at the same meet in opposite groups or always at different locations? If they are at the same meet, there is the possibility that they will play each other in game four.

_____ Both teams at the same meet (Note: This will only be possible if their power ratings are sufficiently close to each other to warrant their being at the same meet).

_____ Both teams at different locations.

_____ Don't care.

12) Some teams like to have at least one trip per season where they travel a greater distance and stay overnight. If you would like one such trip scheduled for your team, please answer all of these questions:

- I would like one meet that is a greater distance away to allow an overnight stay:

(Check one) Yes No

If yes, what's the greatest distance or travel time you're willing to drive? _____

Is there another specific community your team wants to travel to? _____

What month(s) would you prefer making your longer trip? _____

- With more and more communities in the Wisconsin Dells area joining our League, more coaches are looking to that type of trip, with a corresponding visit to a local indoor water park, as the ideal overnight excursion. If a meet on an appropriate date, at your team's ability level, were available, should we schedule you in the Dells area?

(Check one) Yes No

What month(s) would you prefer? _____

13) **This question should be answered by all 6th grade and non-Pioneer Division 5th grade coaches only - - 4th, 5th grade Pioneer Division, 7th and 8th grade coaches can go on to question #14.** This section of the enrollment form relates to the use of zones and presses in 6th and 5th grade games. Under League rules, 6th and 5th grade teams are not allowed to use half-court zone defenses at any time during the game and are allowed to press only for a portion of the game. Some coaches, particularly those coaching stronger teams, would like to be able to play zone defenses and generally press at any time during the game when there is a point margin of less than 16. This challenges their players and helps prepare them for tournaments like the Wisconsin State Invitational Championship Tournament where all zones and presses can be used at any time.

For the 2009-2010 season, we are asking 6th grade coaches, and those 5th grade coaches who are not playing in the Pioneer Division, who would like to have the **option** to press for four quarters, or play a half-court zone defense, to declare their interest in doing so when they register their team.

So declaring does not require you to do so in each game when you play a team that has registered in the same way. Teams interested in possibly playing a half-court zone will have a "Z" listed after their team name on the schedule page. Those interested in possibly pressing the full game will have a "P" listed (or "ZP" for both). When two teams with a Z and/or P listed in common play each other, the two head coaches should confer before the game. They should decide whether to allow pressing in the full game and/or allow playing a half-court zone. Regular League rules will be waived only where both coaches are in agreement. Neither coach can be forced to use the expanded, liberalized rule for that game unless he/she agrees during that pre-game discussion. The coaches will inform the referees before the game of their mutual decision.

If you are registering a 6th grade team, or a 5th grade team that is not playing in the Pioneer Division, please check one of the following choices:

_____ I would like the option of pressing in all four quarters and in playing/facing a half-court zone defense.

_____ I would like the option to press in all four quarters, but do not want a half-court zone played in our games.

_____ I would like the option to play a half-court zone, but want pressing limited to the second half for 6th grade teams and the fourth quarter for 5th grade teams.

_____ I'm not interested in having my team use the more liberal zone or pressing options.

14) **Hosting.** Please answer the following hosting questions:

- Does the specific team being registered with this form plan to host a League meet this season?

(Check one) ___ Yes ___ No

- If “yes”, is your Unified Meet Hosting Preference Form enclosed?

(Check one) ___ Yes ___ No

- If a Unified Meet Hosting Preference Form is not enclosed, please check one of the following:

_____ A Unified Meet Hosting Preference Form will be submitted by August 1 for all the teams from my community/school district (or, at least, all the boys or all the girls teams). That form is being completed by: _____

_____ My team will not be covered by a Unified Meet Hosting Preference Form submission from my community, but I do plan to host a meet on my own and will submit my Meet Hosting Preference Form prior to the August 1, 2009 deadline.

_____ My team will not be covered by a Unified Meet Hosting Preference Form submission from my community and I do not intend to host a meet on my own. I understand that, as a result, my team could have its total number of meets cut back if the League has a shortage of meet venues.

15) **Delinquent Rosters and Liability Waiver**

Coaches of teams that did not play in the League during the 2008-2009 season do not need to answer this question. The League has long had a rule that coaches submit a roster online, as well as an original, hardcopy, signed “Consent for Medical Treatment and Voluntary Release, Acknowledgement and Acceptance of Risks Indemnity Agreement” (hereafter “Liability Waiver”) for each player. While this has long been a requirement, in past seasons we’ve only done spot audits to verify compliance. After the 2008-2009 season, we performed a complete audit looking for the submission of both items for all teams. If a team with which you are associated failed to submit a complete roster, and/or Liability Waiver for all your team members, you receive(d) notice of that fact when you receive(d) a

memo via USPS in mid-June about the 2009-2010 enrollment process. If you have submitted your rosters and Liability Waivers for the 2008-2009 season and did not receive a notice from us about your failure to comply, you do not need to read the rest of this section. If you are not in compliance, please read on.

While we will not assess any penalties retroactively for any failure to comply, teams that fail to get into compliance by the time we start preparing the League schedule for their team's grade/gender as noted above, will not be scheduled into meets for the 2009-2010 season. We are very serious about this. Teams that are not currently in compliance are noted on our spreadsheets for the 2009-2010 enrollment process – Team Playing Date Preference Forms for those teams will not be processed until the complete roster has been submitted online, and all executed, original, hard copy Liability Waivers are received in our office.

Relative to getting into compliance for the 2008-2009 Liability Waivers, please do one of the following:

- If you had your Liability Waiver executed before last season and simply forgot to send them in, you needn't have them re-executed until the beginning of the 2009-2010 season – simply send the originals you've been holding to us at: The Great Northwest, P O Box 506, Hudson, WI 54016.
- If you think you've already submitted the 2008-2009 Liability Waivers and we've indicated that we didn't receive them, please contact Terri Green at 715-386-4317 or e-mail terri@gnbl.org.
- If you didn't submit Liability Waivers for all your team members before the 2008-2009 season because you never got them executed, you can print that form from our website by accessing Attachment #2 to either the 2008-2009 or 2009-2010 Rules. The form must be signed by one of the parents or legal guardians for each player. The original signed form should be sent to: The Great Northwest, P O Box 506, Hudson, WI 54016. If one or more players on your roster in 2008-2009 are unlikely to be back, we are not expecting you to get signed Liability Waivers for such player(s). On the other hand, we do expect coaches to submit Liability Waivers for players who played last season and who are expected to be back. Since Liability Waivers have no legal affect retroactively, whatever Liability Waivers you submit will cover the 2009-2010 season. Once your roster is set later on in the fall or winter, you'll then need to submit Liability Waivers only for new 2009-2010 roster members.

Coaches should keep a photocopy of this document in their coach's bag that they take to games in case one of their players is seriously injured and a parent or legal guardian is not present. In a non-life threatening situation, hospital and EMT staff may refuse treatment without a signed consent for medical treatment provision, which is part of the Liability Waiver form.

Rosters, on the other hand, **cannot** be submitted to us via USPS, fax or e-mail. They must be entered online. If you send us hard copy, you are not in compliance. To complete this online process, starting at gnbl.org, click on the link for "Roster Submission." From this point on there are instructions on each page throughout the process. Each coach will create

their own username and personal password. Coaching information is gathered only once and then kept on file with your team. Once the coaching entry is completed, you will be asked for name, jersey number, address, school and current grade of attendance for each player on your team – please use the 2008-2009 school year. What you submit can be edited by you throughout the season. Once you enter this information the first year (now for 2008-2009), it's a simple process to update it in subsequent seasons (i.e., later this year when your 2009-2010 roster is set). The process shouldn't take you more than 15-20 minutes the first time; much less to update at the start of each subsequent season or during each season. If you feel your roster has been properly submitted, it may be that we can't locate your roster online because we don't have your team's correct username. If you think that is the case, please forward that username to Terri Green at 715-386-4317 or e-mail terri@gnbl.org.

If you have questions about the requirements, or process of submitting either item, please contact Terri Green at 715-386-4317 or e-mail terri@gnbl.org.

- 16) **Quality Feedback. Note: first year coaches in The Great Northwest need not answer this question.** While League Rules provide for a complaint/suggestion system, whereby coaches can voice their opinions to the League, we receive relatively few such forms during the season. With up to 80 meets on some weekends, it's difficult to assess how good a job host communities are doing in organizing their meets. So that we can correct shortcomings, we need your help in telling us about problems you've seen. Where we get consistently negative feedback about a particular host community, we will call that host to discuss improvement scenarios and, where improvement doesn't occur, consider reducing that community's future hosting privileges.

Listed below in the left hand column is a set of criteria on which individual meets can be graded. Columns two and three provide you the opportunity to list communities that did a particularly good job on each individual criterion, as well as those that need improvement. Please limit your comments to the 2008-2009 season. We realize that you won't have a positive and negative entry for each rating category, but we ask you to identify those experiences that were particularly positive or negative:

Rating Criterion	Host(s) that did a great job	Host(s) that did a poor job
Received a pre-meet email or phone call		
Accuracy of directions to venues		
Referees		
Clock Operators		
Scorekeepers		
Visible Tournament Director		
Knowledgable about League Rules (e.g., tie-breaker, pressing, etc.)		
Scores posted correctly and promptly		

Quality concessions		
Building/court cleanliness		
Ability to reformat a meet		
Meet decorum (e.g., non-players prohibited from shooting baskets during breaks, etc.)		
Distribution of awards		

Please provide comments on above entries about which you feel the strongest:

From the standpoint of League Rules, administration and organization, if you could change one or two things about the Great Northwest, what would they be:

* * * * *

Please return this form at your earliest convenience, but no later than

August 1, 2009 for 8th Grade Girls

August 8, 2009 for 7th Grade Girls

August 15, 2009 for 6th Grade Girls

August 22, 2009 for 6th Grade Boys

August 29, 2009 for 8th Grade Boys

September 5, 2009 for 7th Grade Boys

September 12, 2009 for 5th and 4th Grade Girls

September 19, 2009 for 5th and 4th Grade Boys

Mail to:

**The Great Northwest
P O Box 506
Hudson WI 54016**