

A Joint Statement regarding ABA Youth Provincials Eligibility for 2025 and beyond

The Alberta Basketball Association Youth Provincials is a huge undertaking for member organizations, staff, officials, and volunteers that shares a long and storied history. Events such as this tournament provide a platform for young individuals to compete, collaborate, and demonstrate their skills, fostering a sense of achievement and camaraderie. Last year the tournament saw 1700+ players over 142 teams play 238 games coached by over 280 coaches and officiated by 245 referees. When different organizations work together like this they can create a network of support that ensures the continued growth and success of youth provincials. As we look forward to the 50th anniversary tournament in 2025, we are thrilled to renew this spirit of teamwork and optimism for the future.

The Alberta Basketball Association (ABA), the Calgary Minor Basketball Association (CMBA), and the Edmonton Youth Basketball Association (EYBA) are pleased to announce a consensus decision clarifying the requirements for eligibility for Youth Provincials participation; fully effective for the 2024-2025 membership year. ABA Executive Director Dave Drabiuk would like to thank CMBA President Carey Blaskin and EYBA President Jay Ouellette for their collaborative work to help usher in this agreement that provides clarity to all organizations wishing to participate in ABA Youth Provincials.

Participation in Youth Provincials is an exciting time for all of those involved: families, coaches, players, and officials. As the event has grown and expanded and the ABA, CMBA, and EYBA has sought to be as inclusive and accommodating as possible to ensure the best possible event – there has been a mixed membership model in place for participant organizations. Moving forward, this consensus agreement helps to provide clear and concise instructions for those organizations wishing to participate in this great basketball experience.

Our shared vision is to create a safe inclusive, well-governed sport that insures the highest principles of respectful competition. To that end, moving forward and effective for the 2024-2025 membership year (2025 Youth Provincials) ALL ORGANIZATIONS THAT WISH TO HAVE TEAMS PARTICIPATE MUST ENSURE THAT THEY ARE MEMBERS IN GOOD STANDING WITH ABA including all teams within their organizations regardless of their participation status for Youth Provincials. Ideally, all organizations and by extension their representative teams would qualify to be considered under the Canada Basketball Verified program by virtue of their *Member in Good Standing* status with ABA.

CMBA and EYBA are committed to being leaders in our sport in the areas of governance, safe sport initiatives and coach education and training. The Alberta Basketball Association as the provincial sport organizing body is committed to supporting all its member clubs and organizations in the stewardship of the game and developing good models to achieve all these goals in a parallel path alongside player, coach and officials' development locally and in the high-performance stream.

This collaborative agreement is one more way that basketball in Alberta is unified in its efforts to provide the best, safest opportunities for our youth to enjoy the game we love.

Carey Blaskin

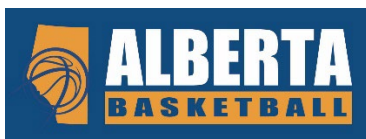
Carey Blaskin (Dec 27, 2023 14:39 MST)

Carey Blaskin – President
Calgary Minor Basketball Association



Dave Drabiuk

Dave Drabiuk – Executive Director
Alberta Basketball Association



Jay Ouellette

Jay Ouellette (Dec 21, 2023 16:55 MST)

Jay Ouellette – President
Edmonton Youth Basketball Association

