

ACEL Basketball Plan 2023-24



Revised 9-12-23

The General Season Information

Read the ACEL Standing Rules

Make sure to read the ACEL Standing Rules available for download from theacel.com. It is vitally important that you read and understand all ACEL rules. Be aware that ACEL rules and procedures are tailored to the unique needs of our Member Organizations. Therefore, some ACEL rules are unlike those customarily found in other leagues. If you have any questions about ACEL rules or operating procedures, please ask your athletic director for clarification.

If any particular situation is not covered in the ACEL Standing Rules, the current NFHS (National Federation of State High School Associations) rules apply.

Points of Emphasis for 2023-24

The number of incidents and complaints about behavior decreased substantially last season. Thank you to all our Administrators on Duty for making that happen. However, if we do not remain vigilant, improvements will diminish. Therefore, monitoring and correcting errant behavior at our ACEL events shall remain a priority for 23-24. Please make sure your administrators on duty understand their responsibilities at ACEL events.

1. Administrator on Duty (Section 2 of ACEL Rules)

Each team is required to provide an Administrator on Duty at every ACEL event.

The Administrator on Duty:

- Must be capable and willing to fulfill the role of Administrator on Duty,
- Shall be responsible for the general organization, management and supervision of the Organization's student body, coaches and spectators before, during and after each event, (ACEL Rule 2.3)
- Shall work with the Administrator on Duty of the opposing team to handle any issue that arises beyond the scope of the officials' authority, (ACEL Rule 2.4)
- Is **NOT** responsible for the opposing team,
- May not be a coach or other individual participating in that event (scorekeeper, stat keeper, etc.),
- Must locate and introduce themselves to the Administrator on Duty of the opposing team prior to the beginning of the contest,
- Must report ACEL Rule infractions to the Executive Director via the incident report form located on the Forms and Downloads section of the ACEL website (theacel.com).

2. Behavior (Section 5 of ACEL Rules)

The standards listed in Section 5 of the ACEL Standing Rules are not optional and must be enforced by Administrators on Duty.

The goal is to have inappropriate behavior graciously corrected by the Administrators who have a relationship with the offender. Most of the issues we have had occurred because there was no one in authority with a relationship to the offender present to calm and diffuse the situation or were inflamed by adults from one team attempting the correct adults and students from the other team.

Example Scenario for handling ACEL rule violations

A spectator, player, or coach that witnesses a violation of ACEL rules should report the violation immediately to their Administrator on Duty. The Administrator on Duty should then attempt to confirm that the action is occurring.

For example, if it is reported by a spectator from Team B that a fan from Team A disrespectfully addressed an official, the spectator should immediately alert the Team B Administrator on Duty of the behavior. Team B Administrator will then notify Team A Administrator of the report. It is then the responsibility of the Team A Administrator to confirm if the action did occur or is occurring. The method of confirmation is left to the wisdom of the Team A Administrator. There will be instances when confronting the individual will be appropriate. There will also be instances when closely observing the individual is the better approach. In either case, if the Team A Administrator is able to confirm the action occurred, then that administrator is required to sanction the individual per ACEL Rule 5.6 and to report the incident and sanctions to the ACEL.

Team A Administrator should inform the Team B Administrator of the results of their investigation. Both Administrators should report the incident whether confirmed or not to the ACEL. Multiple incident reports from a variety of Organizations against a particular person, confirmed or not, become plausible proof of an individual's behavior and grounds for sanctions per ACEL rules.

If an Administrator on Duty witnesses a violation of ACEL rules, confirmation of the incident is NOT required. The Administrator on Duty must proceed with corrective sanctions and a report of the incident should be sent to the ACEL by both Administrators.

3. Sportsmanship (ACEL Rule 5.7)

The ACEL is blessed to welcome several new Organizations and new basketball teams this year!

Special care will need to be made in Varsity Girls and D2 Varsity Boys to NOT “run-up” the score in an unsportsmanlike manner. Point spreads of 30-40 are anticipated in some games and are not by themselves an indication of unsportsmanlike action. Please make a point to communicate with coaches prior to game day about the strengths and weakness of your team so that accommodations can be made that will benefit both teams.

4. League Records

Rosters

Rosters must be completely filled out to include player numbers. Teams may not leave player numbers blank. Any rostered player with a blank player number will be ineligible.

Rosters must be uploaded to eFilecabinet. (Your AD has information for accessing that system.). The fillable roster form available from the forms and downloads section of the website must be used for roster submissions. An instruction sheet explaining how to complete the updated roster form is available for download from the “forms and downloads” section of the website.

Student Birth Certificates and Grade Reports

Quarterly grade submissions are no longer required. Birth Certificates and transcripts/ grade reports are only required for newly rostered students.

ACEL Focus for 23-24: Reducing Travel

As was discussed at the Membership Meeting, the primary focus of the ACEL for 2023-24 is to reduce the amount of travel required by teams. We will not solve the problem this year --we simply do not have enough teams in the right locations, but we are making deliberate changes to mitigate impact.

The 2023-24 Basketball season has been blessed with several new teams and an EXPLOSION of girls' teams which will help reduce travel in some districts.

Many thanks to the everyone that participated in the Number of Games Survey. Results are as follows: Varsity D1 Boys: ideal-18-20, minimum-14; Varsity D2 Boys: ideal-16, Minimum-10; Varsity Girls: ideal-16-18, minimum-12.

Geographic districts and/or travel constraints may be ignored in scheduling IF the minimum number of games can not be achieved otherwise. Reaching an ideal number of games indicates further district division may soon be possible.

23-24 Varsity Boys Divisions

Boys' teams have been divided between Division 1 and Division 2 depending on last year's power point rankings for the purpose of making out-of-district games more competitive and limiting long travel for less competitive games.

For 2023-24, there are 19 varsity boys' teams committed. 2022-23 rankings for the committed teams are as follows:

1. CHEF of Baton Rouge 164.76
2. Southwest Louisiana Homeschool Athletics 141.11
3. Word of God Academy 135.38
4. Faith Training Christian Academy 127.28
5. Christian Academy of Louisiana 121.09
6. Bishop Noland Episcopal Day School 111.84
7. Acadiana Christian School 107.82
8. Shreveport Homeschool Sports 107.24
9. John Paul the Great Academy 106.58
10. The Brighton School 91.234
11. CHA Northeast 87.687
12. Christian Homeschool Sports Association of Acadiana 80.496
13. First Baptist Christian School 76.993
14. Mt. Olive Christian School 60.624
15. Immanuel Christian School (New)
16. Psalms Christian Academy (New)
17. Alexandria Homeschool Arts & Athletics (New)
18. Open Door Christian Academy (New)
19. Legacy Christian Academy (New)

The top half (or half + 1 if an odd number) by power points of committed teams are designated D1 with the remainder D2. Division appeals are then considered on a first come, first serve basis. Division appeals do not affect the division designation of other teams and will only be considered if at least 7 teams remain in the division. After Division Appeals were considered, 23-24 Boys Divisions are as follows:

Division 1

Shreveport Homeschool Sports
Word of God Academy
Southwest Louisiana Homeschool Athletics
CHEF of Baton Rouge
Faith Training Christian Academy
Acadiana Christian School
John Paul the Great Academy
Bishop Noland Episcopal Day School

Division 2

CHA Monroe
Psalms Christian Academy
Mt. Olive Christian School
Immanuel Christian School
The Brighton School
Christian Homeschool Sports Association of Acadiana
First Baptist Christian School
Christian Academy of Louisiana
Open Door Christian Academy
Alexandria Homeschool Athletics
Legacy Christian Academy

Boys' Districts

North District

CHA Northeast
Shreveport Homeschool Sports
Mt. Olive Christian School
Psalms Christian Academy
Word of God Academy

South-Central District

Immanuel Christian School
John Paul the Great Academy
Acadiana Christian School
Christian Homeschool Sports Assoc. of Acadiana
First Baptist Christian School

Southeast District

The Brighton School
CHEF of Baton Rouge
Christian Academy of Louisiana
Open Door Christian Academy

Southwest District

Alexandria Homeschool Arts & Athletics
Bishop Noland Episcopal Day School
Faith Training Christian Academy
Legacy Christian Academy
Southwest Louisiana Homeschool Athletics

Girls' Districts

North District

CHA Northeast
Mt. Olive Christian School
Psalms Christian Academy
Word of God Academy

Southwest District

Alexandria Homeschool Arts & Athletics
Faith Training Christian Academy
Southwest Louisiana Homeschool Athletics

South-Central District

The Brighton School
CHEF of Baton Rouge
John Paul the Great Academy

Schedules

Boys' and Girls' Schedules are independent of each other.

Organizations with both girls' and boys' teams play together when possible but many game days will be in different locations.

Girls' Schedules

Girls are scheduled to play every in-district team twice and out-of-district team once. Two districts are below the minimum number of games for varsity girls and consolidating South-Central and Southwest districts would have brought the number of games above the minimum. HOWEVER, in the interest of retaining our new girls' teams AND increasing the potential for more new teams in the near future, travel was the primary consideration used for districting.

Boys' Schedules

Division 1

For Division 1 scheduling, the South-Central and Southeast Districts were consolidated into a single district for Division 1 games. In other words, CHEF, ACS, and JPG are scheduled to play each other twice as if they are in the same district but are only scheduled to play D2 teams twice that are in their same geographic district. D1 teams play all out-of-district D1 teams once. D1 teams are scheduled for 13-15 games depending on district.

Division 2

Division 2 teams play all in-district opponents (regardless of division) twice. If your organization also has a girls' team, your D2 out-of-district opponents are other D2 teams that also have a girls team. If your organization does not have a girls' team, out-of-district opponents were added as needed to bring game totals up to 10 which is the minimum required number of games for D2. D2 teams are scheduled for 10-12 games depending on district.

Extra Games

There is opportunity in the ACEL schedule for additional games and teams are encouraged to fill their schedule with extra games against ACEL members and/or non-members. Any extra games scheduled shall be considered scrimmage games by the ACEL and will not count toward league standings.

The league does not limit the number of games or the amount of travel for teams. In our effort to reduce travel, we are no longer **requiring** excessive travel in order to complete a league schedule.

Playoffs

The following dates are official ACEL playoff dates. Flexibility in playoff scheduling is intended to assist the host Organization secure facilities and officials for the playoff game. Playoff schedule changes should not be made to accommodate personal conflicts or other extra-curricular activities.

To change an official playoff date, both teams must agree to the change and both teams must submit a schedule change form to the ACEL.

Varsity Girls: Top 6 teams by regular season power points advance to playoffs with #1 and #2 earning byes to the state semi-finals.

Round 1 of varsity girls' playoffs is scheduled for Thursday, February 1, 2024. Highest seeds will host playoff games for seeds 3-6.

Varsity Semi-Finals will take place Friday, February 9, 2024 at the ACEL Basketball State Championship Tournament in Pineville.

Varsity Boys'

Top 6 teams by Power Points with top 2 receiving byes to the semi-finals for both D1 & D2.

D1 & D2 first round playoff games will take place on Friday, February 2, 2024.

D1 Semi-finals @ State on Friday, February 9, 2024.

D2 Semi-Finals hosted by highest seed on Tuesday, February 6th.

D2 Championship game @ State on Saturday, February 10, 2024.

JV Playoffs

Because there are so few JV teams, and because the ACEL schedule does not prioritize equalizing the number for JV games, there is a discrepancy in the number of games JV teams receive depending on district. To help mitigate this discrepancy, all JV teams shall have the opportunity to participate in the playoff tournament. In addition, **JV teams shall be able to opt-out of the playoff tournament without penalty if they do so before midnight, January 26 (the final day of the season.)**

JV Girls' and JV Boys' first round playoff game will take place on Monday, January 29, 2024. Highest seed hosts.

JV Boys' second round playoff game will be Thursday, February 1, 2024. Highest seed hosts.

Girls' and Boys' JV Championship game played @ State on Saturday, February 10.

Reminders

Administrator Required at Each Game

An administrator or a designated representative for each team must be in attendance at all ACEL events. The administrator may NOT be the team's coach nor may they sit on the bench. The purpose of the administrator is to handle issues that may arise with the fans, players, or coaches of their organization. The administrator must locate and introduce themselves to the administrator of the opposing team prior to the beginning of the game. Administrators for each team will work together to handle any issue that arises beyond the scope of the officials' authority.

Update Your Coach Information

Please check the members' section of the ACEL website (theacel.com) to confirm that the contact information for your coach and the location of your facility are correct. (The members' section of the website is password protected. Your administrator and athletic director have the password.) To update your information, use the "Information Update Form" available from the forms and downloads section of the website.

MaxPreps

The use of MaxPreps to report player stats for all-state consideration in the ACEL is mandatory. No all-state nomination will be accepted without an accompanying MaxPreps stat report.

Please do not underestimate the time that it can take MaxPreps to approve new organizations or to fix problems within existing accounts. ***If you are new to MaxPreps or are having issues with your MaxPreps account, NOW is the time to get those fixed.***

In order for MaxPreps to work for us as it is intended, player stats must be uploaded for each ACEL game in which an all-state nominated player participates. Stats should be uploaded routinely throughout the season. Waiting until the end of the season makes it difficult for our other teams to link to your schedule and for stat reporting to be transparent.

Physicals and Coaches' Concussion Course

All athletes participating in league competition (boys/girls) are required to take and pass a physical examination. These physicals are good for one calendar year. Physicals must be kept on-hand by athletic directors and coaches at all ACEL events and must be presented immediately upon request.

All ACEL coaches are required to take a yearly concussion course and be able to provide evidence/certificate of completion upon request.

Schedule Changes

The ACEL allows organizations to easily change their schedules as necessary. All that is required is for both the home and away teams to submit a schedule change form through the website.

Score Reporting

Scores must be reported by both the home and away teams by noon the following day. Failure to report the score will result in a fine.

All-State Voting

All organizations participating in volleyball are required to attend All-State Voting even if no player is nominated for all-state from the organization. There is a \$500 fine for failure to attend. Basketball All-State Voting meeting will be via Zoom, Saturday, February 3, 2024.

AED

The ACEL strongly recommends that all organizations have an AED at all ACEL events.

ACEL Standing Rules 2023-24

The final draft of the 2023-24 ACEL Standing Rules is available for download from the ACEL website.

Communicate with your Executive Director

Most problems and misunderstandings can be avoided simply through communication. Coaches, if you have a league concern please discuss it with your athletic director ASAP. In many instances athletic directors will already have related information from the ACEL. Athletic directors, please do not hesitate to contact me with any league issue you may have. The more you all communicate with me, the better I understand what is actually happening within our league, making me better able to act in the best interest of all our organizations. I cannot address what I do not know.

Sandra Merrow
ACEL Executive Director
admin@theacel.com
337-366-1394
(Leave a message, and I will get back to you.)

2023-24 ACEL Boys' Basketball Schedule

North District

CHA Northeast Flame—Monroe
Mt. Olive Christian School Eagles—Athens
Psalms Christian Academy Ambassadors—Natchitoches
Shreveport Homeschool Sports Force—Shreveport
Word of God Academy Force—Shreveport

South-Central District

Acadiana Christian School Lions—New Iberia
Christian Homeschool Sports Association of Acadiana ArchAngels—Lafayette
First Baptist Christian School Eagles—Lafayette
Immanuel Christian School Lions—Morgan City
John Paul the Great Academy Guardians—Lafayette

Southeast District

The Brighton School Bengals—Baton Rouge
CHEF of Baton Rouge Patriots—Baton Rouge
Christian Academy of Louisiana Crusaders—Addis
Open Door Christian Academy Conquerors—Denham Springs

Southwest District

Alexandria Homeschool Arts & Athletics Storm—Alexandria
Bishop Noland Episcopal Day School Eagles—Lake Charles
Faith Training Christian Academy Patriots—Leesville
Southwest Louisiana Homeschool Athletics Knights—Lake Charles

Official JV teams are listed in bold, as well as all official JV contests below

October 31, Tuesday

Psalms @ CHA
MOCS @ WOGA
JPG @ ACS
CHSAA @ Immanuel
CAL @ CHEF
ODCA @ Brighton
FTCA @ AHAA
BNEDS @ SWLA

November 3, Friday

Shreveport @ FTCA
Immanuel @ ODCA
CHEF @ J PG
Brighton @ Psalms
SWLA @ WOGA
AHAA @ CHA

November 7, Tuesday

WOGA @ Psalms
Shreveport @ MOCS
ACS @ Immanuel
CHSAA @ FBCS
Brighton @ CHEF
ODCA @ CAL
AHAA @ SWLA
BNEDS @ LCA

November 10, Friday

MOCS @ AHAA
FBCS @ ODCA
CHEF @ ACS
CAL @ CHSAA
FTCA @ WOGA

November 14, Tuesday

CHA @ WOGA
Psalms @ Shreveport
Immanuel @ JPG
ACS @ FBCS
CAL @ Brighton
ODCA @ CHEF
SWLA @ FTCA
AHAA @ LCA

November 17, Friday

WOGA @ BNEDS
CHA @ Brighton
JPG @ FTCA
CHEF @ Shreveport

November 28, Tuesday

Psalms @ MOCS
Shreveport @ CHA
JPG @ FBCS
CHSAA @ ACS
CHEF @ CAL
Brighton @ ODCA
FTCA @ LCA
BNEDS @ AHAA

December 1, Friday

LCA @ Immanuel
WOGA @ CHEF
ACS @ Shreveport
Brighton @ FBCS
SWLA @ JPG

December 5, Tuesday

MOCS@CHA
Shreveport@WOGA
JPG@CHSAA
FBCS@Immanuel
CHEF@Brighton
CAL@ODCA
BNEDS@FTCA
LCA@SWLA

December 8, Friday

WOGA @ ACS
Brighton @ MOCS
SWLA @ Shreveport
FTCA @ CHEF
BNEDS @ JPG

December 12, Tuesday

WOGA @ MOCS
CHA @ Psalms
Immanuel @ CHSAA
ACS @ JPG
CHEF @ ODCA
Brighton @ CAL
SWLA @ BNEDS
AHAA @ FTCA

December 15, Friday

FBCS @ CAL
BNEDS @ ACS

January 2, Tuesday

Psalms @ WOGA
MOCS @ Shreveport
Immanuel @ ACS
JPG @ CHEF
FBCS @ CHSAA
SWLA @ AHAA
LCA @ BNEDS

January 5, Friday

Shreveport @ BNEDS
ACS @ FTCA
CHEF @ SWLA
CAL @ LCA
ODCA @ FBCS

January 9, Tuesday

WOGA@CHA
Shreveport@Psalms
JPG@Immanuel
FBCS@ACS
FTCA@SWLA
LCA@AHAA

January 12, Friday

JPG @ WOGA
ACS @ SWLA
CAL @ Immanuel
ODCA @ CHSAA
AHAA @ Brighton
BNEDS @ CHEF

January 16, Tuesday

CHA @ Shreveport
MOCS @ Psalms
ACS @ CHSAA
FBCS @ JPG
AHAA @ BNEDS
LCA @ FTCA

January 19, Friday

Psalms @ AHAA
Shreveport @ JPG
CHSAA @ CAL
LCA @ ODCA

January 23, Tuesday

WOGA @ Shreveport
CHA @ MOCS
Immanuel @ FBCS
ACS @ CHEF
CHSAA @ JPG
SWLA @ LCA
FTCA @ BNEDS

January 26, Friday

LCA @ CHSAA

All games must be completed by January 26.

Playoffs, January 29-February 6

See Basketball Plan for playoff schedule.

ACEL State Basketball Championship

February 9-10, 2024 in Pineville

2023-2024 ACEL Girls' Basketball Schedule

North District

CHA Northeast Flames—Monroe

Mt. Olive Christian School Eagles—Athens
Psalms Christian Academy Ambassadors—Natchitoches
Word of God Academy Force—Shreveport

South-Central District

The Brighton School Bengals—Baton Rouge
CHEF of Baton Rouge Patriots—Baton Rouge
John Paul the Great Academy Guardians—Lafayette

Southwest District

Alexandria Homeschool Arts & Athletics Storm—Alexandria
Faith Training Christian Academy Patriots—Leesville
Southwest Louisiana Homeschool Athletics Knights—Lake Charles

Official JV teams are listed in bold, as well as all official JV contests below

October 31, Tuesday

Psalms @ CHA
MOCS @ WOGA
FTCA @ AHAA

November 3, Friday

CHEF @ JPG
Brighton @ Psalms
SWLA @ WOGA
AHAA @ CHA

November 7, Tuesday

WOGA @ Psalms
Brighton @ CHEF
AHAA @ SWLA

November 10, Friday

CHA @ SWLA
JPG @ Brighton
CHEF @ Psalms
FTCA @ WOGA
MOCS @ AHAA

November 14, Tuesday

CHA @ WOGA
SWLA @ FTCA

November 17, Friday

CHA @ Brighton
JPG @ FTCA
CHEF @ AHAA
SWLA @ MOCS

November 28, Tuesday

Psalms @ MOCS

December 1, Friday

WOGA @ CHEF
CHA @ FTCA
SWLA @ JPG

December 5, Tuesday

MOCS @ CHA
CHEF @ Brighton

December 8, Friday

Brighton @ MOCS
FTCA @ CHEF
AHAA @ JPG

December 12, Tuesday

WOGA @ MOCS
CHA @ Psalms
AHAA @ FTCA

December 15, Friday

Psalms @ FTCA
MOCS @ CHEF
Brighton @ SWLA

January 2, Tuesday

Psalms @ WOGA
JPG @ CHEF
SWLA @ AHAA

January 5, Friday

Psalms @ JPG
CHEF @ SWLA

January 9, Tuesday

WOGA @ CHA
FTCA @ SWLA

January 12, Friday

FTCA @ MOCS
JPG @ WOGA
AHAA @ Brighton

January 16, Tuesday

Brighton @ JPG
MOCS @ Psalms

January 19, Friday

WOGA @ Brighton
Psalms @ AHAA
MOCS @ JPG
CHEF @ CHA

January 23, Tuesday

CHA @ MOCS

January 26, Friday

WOGA @ AHAA
JPG @ CHA
SWLA @ Psalms
FTCA @ Brighton

All games must be completed by January 26.

Playoffs, January 29-February 6

See Basketball Plan for playoff schedule.

ACEL State Basketball Championship

February 9-10, 2024 in Pineville