



UNIFIED BASKETBALL - MEANINGFUL INVOLVEMENT GUIDELINES

The concept of *Meaningful Involvement* is an effort to optimize participation by all players, athletes and partners, in Unified Sports® competition. The Unified Sports® Team Meaningful Involvement Guidelines address *Player Dominance*. Teams will be placed in divisions based upon the abilities of a team's best players and other factors as noted below.

TEAM EVALUATION & DIVISIONING CRITERIA

- A. *Meaningful Involvement* will be evaluated for all players (athletes AND partners) competing at their highest level of competency.
- B. Team assessments will be generally based upon the team's reasonably balanced skill level and their ability to work together and score.
- C. The management team will take every opportunity during pool play or divisioning to apprise coaches when they appear to be violating the *Meaningful Involvement Guidelines*.

MEANINGFUL INVOLVEMENT GUIDELINES

For all SOVA Region and State Championships, we are asking coaches to review these Guidelines with their team members and reinforce the Guidelines as needed. *Future tournaments* may adopt an enforcement system of these Guidelines.

PLAYER DOMINANCE: It is Player Dominance anytime throughout the course of a game when:

1. Scoring opportunities as a result of frequent give-and-goes or designed plays are employed by specific individuals (example: partners only).
2. Players consistently do not utilize teammates, ignore teammates, bypass teammates, etc. while attempting to penetrate offensively.
3. A player consistently dominates individually on either the offensive or defensive end of the field.
4. Players consistently have very limited opportunities to handle the ball while there is team control.
5. Players repeatedly fail to pass the ball to an open teammates for an obvious scoring opportunity or to make a defensive play.
6. High skilled players position themselves to receive the majority of rebounds and steals during the game.
7. In the last minutes of competition, the participation of identified players is noticeably increased to the exclusion of teammates.
8. Coaches do not engage in tactics and strategies to eliminate player dominance or develop methods for meaningful involvement.

IT IS NOT PLAYER DOMINANCE when:

Both Athletes and partners score points and defend their goal and all players have the opportunity to display their individual skills.

Important Notes:

- * Player dominance and meaningful involvement may include or exclude both athletes and partners.
- * The officials on the court do not monitor or determine meaningful involvement. However, they may be asked for input during dead-balls, halftime or at the conclusion of games.