

TASO Basketball Members:

Dear Member,

Your TASO Basketball Division Board is looking forward to working with you to make the 2016-17 season the best year yet for our student athletes and you, our members. We have received a lot of positive feedback from our on-line training efforts this past season and plans are in place expanding those opportunities this coming year. Our goal is to be the best basketball organization for our members providing the best services to our members.

One of the biggest complaints we field at the state level is consistency in officiating from different parts of the state, especially during district play and playoffs. As part of our efforts to standardize training so that all officials across the state are on the same page so to speak, the Division Board has decided that all varsity officials need to be trained in the same manner. That said, the requirement to attend a TASO approved in-person clinic or take the TASO Basketball on-line clinic as been expanded to be an eligibility criteria for varsity contests. In order to do this, there will be 5 opportunities to attend an in-person clinic, one in each geographical region of our division (total of 4) as well as the TASO Basketball Annual Meeting (Dates/locations will be release in the near future).

Along with this new eligibility criterion, there is one more opportunity for this year only. As a prelude to the annual National Organization of Sports Official (NASO) Summit, being held in San Antonio in July, the OfficiateTexas Day is a one-day event presented by the UIL and co-hosted by TASO. Presenters for just basketball alone include NBA Officials Joe Crawford, Monty McCutchen, and Jason Phillips. The other sports are just as well represented for those that call multiple sports. Realizing that this is truly a once in a career opportunity to hear from such respected professionals, your Division Board has approved OfficiateTexas Day as an approved clinic to be eligible for varsity and playoff assignments. Early registration is just \$35 and includes an OfficiateTexas t-shirt. More information can be found here; <http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?oeidk=a07ecge4lfc82161b44&llr=rhmg7gjab> Since this event rotates from state to state, this is the only year that we will be able to offer this opportunity.

The Division Board continues to work on your behalf to provide you with the best training and service in the state of Texas.

Respectfully,

President Eddie Williams and the  
Basketball Division Board of Directors