

TEAM MAKE UP

- The number of teams and players will be determined based on the depth of talent for each grade level.
- Third grade will have one or two teams of 8-9 players.
- Fourth grade will have two or three teams of 8-9 players.
- Fifth grade will have two or three teams of 8-9 players.
- Sixth grade will have two or three teams of 8-9 players.
- The Fishers teams will be known as the Red, White, and Black teams.
- The Southeastern teams will be known as the Blue, White, and Silver teams.

LEAGUE PARTICIPATION

- The Travel Committee will meet after team & coach selections to determine the Sunday leagues which each team will participate.
- There will be a Saturday league that all teams will participate in. This will be determined by the travel committee.

NUMBER OF GAMES

- All the teams will play in a Sunday league. Teams will also play in a Saturday league.
- The goal is to play a minimum of 35 games during the November to March time period. There will also be additional tournaments which each team will be allowed to enter. Games played after the travel basketball season has ended are not under the direction of Travel Program.

TRAVEL COACH SELECTION

- Head coaching candidates may submit an application to the Mudsock Youth Athletics office or to a travel committee member by the end of camp.
- After players have been selected, Coaching Applications will be reviewed.
- The Travel Committee will name the Head Travel Coaches.
- Candidates with the best combination of past coaching experience, training, playing experience, organizational skills, fair judgment and commitment to the Travel Program will receive the highest consideration.
- If deemed necessary by the Travel Committee, interviews will be conducted.
- Selection of the Travel Coach for each grade will be announced soon after player selections.
- Assistant Travel Coach(s) to be selected by the Head Travel Coaches (with approval by the travel committee).
- Head Coach may select 1-2 assistant coaches.
- Parents may not assist in the coaching of players under any circumstance.

COACHING PHILOSOPHY

The Head Travel Coach and Assistant Travel Coach(s) must be willing to implement the overall philosophy of their respective High School Basketball Program as laid out by the Head High School Basketball Coach.

This philosophy includes:

- Basic offenses and defenses (with focus on man to man principles on defense).
- Drills that focus on the fundamentals of the game for all players
- Terminology
- Building toughness and aggressiveness

- Develop all kids to have the proper attitude, discipline, sportsmanship, respect, motivation, effort, and teamwork

COACH EXPECTATIONS & CONDUCT

- Complete a Coaching Application.
- Agree to a Background Check.
- Sign a Conduct Agreement.
- Annual re-application will be mandatory.
- Attend any coaching clinics offered by the high school coaching staff.
- Coaches must use good judgment when motivating their players. Coaches will not coach by intimidation, fear, or humiliation.
- Excessive misconduct (including technical fouls) will not be tolerated and could include possible suspension.

PLAYER EXPECTATIONS & CONDUCT

- Sign a Code of Conduct Agreement
- Support the philosophies and mission of their respective high school basketball program.
- Attend all practices, games and team meetings.
- Arrive at practices and games at the time designated by the coach.
- Prioritize the travel team ahead of all other extra-curricular activities.
- Participation on additional basketball teams during the travel season is highly discouraged in the 3rd, 4th and 5th grades.
- Beginning in the sixth grade, players often play for their respective Intermediate School Team in addition to the Travel Team (see section below).
- Players in the 6th grade often play on CYO teams. Travel Teams are a priority over CYO teams. Players participating on a CYO team are expected to attend all Travel Team practices and games.
- Failure to commit to this can result in dismissal from the program with no refund.
- REMEMBER: You are representing the whole Fishers/HSE school district.

SIXTH GRADE SCHOOL BALL vs. SIXTH GRADE TRAVEL

- Beginning in 6th grade, the intermediate schools offer organized school teams.
- The intermediate *School Teams* and the *Travel Teams* are separate programs.
- The Travel Program supports the intermediate School Teams and will schedule its practices and games around the intermediate school schedule.
- A player may play for either of the two teams or both of them. The decision is the player and his parents.
- Intermediate schools practices and games are typically Monday through Friday. Travel Team practice and games are typically Saturday and Sunday.
- A travel coach may choose to have one practice during Monday thru Friday as long as it does not interfere with the School Team practice or game.
- BE PREPARED! If you choose to play both, it is a lot of basketball!

PRACTICE

- Most practices will be 1 ½ hours in length.
- There will be 2-3 practices per week (as gym time allows).
- The Head Travel Coach and/or the Assistant Coach(s) will oversee all practices.

- Parents are not allowed to engage in practice at any time.
- Practice plans are at the discretion of the Head Travel Coach and Assistant Travel Coach

PLAYING TIME

- Unlike the Recreational League, **Travel Basketball does not guarantee equal playing** time among every player on the team
- Over the course of the season, every player will receive adequate playing time to further develop his basketball skills
- There are certain games/situations that players may not receive significant playing time
- Playing time is at the coach's discretion
- Concerns about playing time should be addressed with the travel coach
- Coaches are asked to be very conscious of playing time issues as this is a developmental program in addition to a competitive league
- Parents and players need to be sure they understand equal playing time is not the first priority as in the Recreational League

TEAM UNIFORMS

- Uniforms will be purchased every year by the players.
- Uniforms will be kept by the players.
- Uniforms will consist of a home/away reversible jersey, shorts and a shooting shirt.
- Style selection of the uniforms will be made by the Travel Committee.
- Fishers travel teams will wear red & white and will read Fishers across the front.
- Southeastern travel teams will wear blue & white and will read Royals across the front.
- There will be a uniform sizing night after teams have been selected.
- Please arrive at your scheduled time with your coach. **Do not arrive early.**
- Uniform numbers are the responsibility of the Travel Head Coach.
- Coordinate all changes and errors of uniforms through your coach.
- Payment needs to be made the night of the uniform sizing.

QUESTIONS & CONCERNS

- All questions and concerns should **first** be directed to your Head Travel Coach.
- The respective Travel Coordinators may be contacted if you have discussed question/concern with your Head Travel Coach and still have questions that remain unanswered or unresolved.
- The High Schools and High School Head Coaches are **NEVER** to be contacted.

GOOD LUCK!