

**Columbus Youth Basketball  
Policies & Information  
2010-2011**

**Mission Statement**

The purpose of the City of Columbus Youth Basketball is to provide a youth basketball program for boys and girls in grades 3 through 8 with an emphasis on the development of basketball skills, building character, promoting positive self-esteem, participation, and sportsmanship. In the early years, more importance will be placed on individual skills and techniques. As the children progress through the program, emphasis will shift toward teamwork, team skills, and competition. This progression will develop as follows:

Recreation-style Basketball: features equitable playing time, with the focus on improving skills in and increasing understanding of the game. The Recreation Department will participate in the Eastern Youth Suburban Basketball League for grades 4-8. Teams will be allowed a maximum of 2 practices per week, with the option of participating in an open skills practice.

**Policies and Information**

**Grade 3**

The focus of 3<sup>rd</sup> grade basketball is to introduce children to the fundamentals of basketball and work on building and improving basic skills.

**For the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade girls, the recreation basketball season will run from October 11<sup>th</sup> to December 10<sup>th</sup>. For the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade boys, the recreation basketball season will run from January 3<sup>rd</sup> to February 25<sup>th</sup>.** These dates will vary depending on days of week program will be held. Extensions to program dates must be approved by the Recreation Director and Recreation Committee.

If there is sufficient interest and parental support, the children may have a fun night in one of the larger gym facilities. There is potential for a game with another community.

**Grade 4-8**

The 4<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grade boys and girls will participate in the Eastern Youth Suburban Basketball League through the Recreation Department. Participation in other leagues during the same time as ESYBL is not allowed. Teams have the option to opt out of the ESYBL. If this occurs, team will be completely separate from recreation; they will not be provided with equipment, insurance, and gym times through recreation. **To opt out, teams MUST decide by September 1 for both boys and girls.**

While participating in ESYBL, the players will have equal playing time. Columbus Recreation is not responsible for any team who is not participating in recreation basketball and their actions. Teams that choose to participate in tournaments after the league must do so separately from Columbus Recreation; no funds, insurance, equipment, and gym times will be provided.

Teams may be split to an A and B team if there is a minimum of 14 players on the team. Recreation Director, along with coach's input, will split the teams in equal ability. If a child is interested in participating in the ESYBL, but their grade has opted out, they will be placed on a recreation team; contact the Recreation Director.

**For the girls, the recreation basketball season will run from October 11<sup>th</sup> to December 4<sup>th</sup>. For the boys, the recreation basketball season will run from November 30<sup>th</sup> to February 5<sup>th</sup>.** These dates will vary depending upon actual practice day. Games are held on Saturdays.

**Developmental Goals for Grades 4-8**

4th Grade Goals: Introduction to the Game

- Emphasis on having fun.
- Continue development of basic basketball skills.
- Equal participation for whoever attends.
- Attendance at practice is very important to skill development.

### 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Goals: Further Introduction

- Continue basketball skill development.
- Equal participation in all league games.
- Begin to learn plays.

### 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Goals: Advancement of Competition

- Continue Basketball skill development and continue to build structured plays.
- Equal participation in all league games.

### 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Goals: Cooperation and advancement with Middle School Program

- Continue basketball skill development and continue using structured plays.
- Equal playing time is still a priority.

### Practices

For 3<sup>rd</sup> grade, there will be 1 to 2 practices each week, with option for an occasional game and fun night.

For 4<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>, there will be 2 scheduled practices each week. At no time will any team be allowed more than 2 practices per week (not including open time). 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> will have the option of combining gyms times, which will be approved by the Recreation Director.

Open gym time will take place during basketball season. Youth do not need to be participants in the ESYBL, but everyone using the open times must be registered through the department. Only those in the scheduled grades will be allowed to participate. This scheduled time will be strictly used for skill building; there will be no organized play practice.

Due to scheduling, there will be times the boys and girls will be sharing the gym.

Please note some practices may be cancelled due to school events and weather. The Recreation Director will determine if a practice will be made-up (not to exceed 2 practices a week). Only coaches can schedule times through the Recreation Department for the ESYBL. The Columbus schools and Columbus Recreation have priority for scheduling over separate teams not participating in ESYBL.

### Meetings and Trainings

**Mandatory parent meetings will be held on the following dates at 6pm at the Senior Center:**

**Girls (all grades): September 29**

**Boys (all grades): November 17**

All coaches coaching through Columbus Recreation must complete a training and be approved by the Recreation Committee. Each team will have a max of one head coach and one assistant. **The coach training will be held on Sunday, August 29<sup>th</sup> from 1-4pm at the High School.**

### Concessions

All parents are required to assist at the games hosted in Columbus. Sales from concessions will be used to help support Columbus Recreation.

### T-Shirts and Jerseys

Grade 3 registration fee includes a t-shirt and basketball. Grades 4<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> registration fee include participation in the ESYBL. Jerseys are not included in the registration fee and are an additional cost to the participant.

**THESE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES ARE APPROVED BY THE RECREATION DIRECTOR AND RECREATION COMMITTEE.**