



STAR SEARCH JAMAICA



20/20

A NEW VISION FORWARD

The Star Search Futures Basketball Camp at GC Foster College has been a bright and important, showcase event in Jamaica for over 15 summers. Over the years, the camp has taken on various forms, and continues to evolve as Jamaican Basketball grows both in the country and on the international stage. JABA is committed to building a robust program that will compete at the highest levels with consistency and sustainability for years to come – and a reformat and reinvention of the Star Search Futures Camp is one of the exciting steps in this process.

Structure:

Star Search 2020 will invite the top 30 players from five groups – U15, U17, U19, U21 & Girls (a future vision would be for the girls to have their own separate Star Search camp as the women's program grows). The players will be selected by a coaches committee representing four regions of the country, West (Trelawny, St James, Hanover, Westmoreland) North (St Ann, St Mary, Portland), Central (Manchester, St Elizabeth, Clarendon), South (Kingston, St. Catherine, St Thomas).

The players will receive instruction at the direction of Rick Turner, Head Coach and National Coordinator for Jamaica Basketball and his staff of both foreign and local coaches. Instruction would continue to be comprised of individual skill work, life skills, basketball fundamentals teaching, strength and conditioning and nutrition BUT will also include instruction in the philosophies and team systems of the National Programme.

The culmination of the week will take place at the closing ceremonies when – in front of the entire camp, coaches, sponsors and news media – a national team of 10-12 players will be announced from each age group. Those teams would represent Jamaica for the next two years at various tournaments and events until the process starts all over again in 2022.

This format will not only promote outstanding competition within the camp for coveted rosters spots on the national team, but with a new tryout every two years, it allows for growth and optimism of players who weren't able to make it the first time around and should help to curb complacency from some who think they have a locked in roster spot year in and year out.

Development:

An exciting aspect of the new camp format will be the addition of the Senior National Team. Simultaneous to the Star Search Camp, the Senior Men's team will have their own training camp. This will give all campers a chance to not only meet and rub shoulders with the best Jamaican players in the world, but it will give them another learning opportunity as they will be exposed to workouts and practices of the Senior Team. They will see the Seniors running the same systems, hearing the same terminology and doing the same drills as the entire camp, which will raise the level of comprehension and understanding for the whole programme.

Exposing the Senior Team to the youngsters at camp will reinforce the importance of giving back while providing insight into the impact that they can have on a younger generation of players as we all work together to change the future of Jamaican Basketball for the better.

Community Outreach:

One of the unique aspects to the new Star Search 2020 is something that will strengthen the bond between the National Basketball Programme and basketball fans around the country.

At the conclusion of the week, the Senior Team will embark on a Barnstorming Tour of the island that will serve to intimately introduce the team to local neighborhoods in a fun and social environment that is a celebration of basketball and community.

The team will do a light workout, a mini-kids clinic and short exhibition in four to five communities around the island. The stops will include, music, food, drink, prize giveaways and basketball.

Needs:

Cash funding is certainly something that would help turn this vision for Star Search 2020 into a reality, but a combination of cash and donations in kind can help us achieve it as well.

Lodging at GC Foster dorms for five nights
Meals: 3 x 120 campers (+ 16 coaches) x 5.5 days
Camp uniforms (reversible jersey, shorts, socks, tee-shirt, shoes, bag)
Two hoops for GC Foster open gym space
Foreign Coach accommodations
Local travel
Senior team accommodations
Senior team travel
Equipment – balls, pads, small rims, towels, shot clocks

Summary:

Star Search 2020 will be the start of the new future for Jamaica Basketball. It will be the building blocks for a foundation of the programme that can withstand the ebbs and flows of infrastructure dynamics that are inevitable within any organization. It will provide a consistent model that will not only grow youth basketball in the country, but it is certain to increase the competitive balance of the sport while creating a buzz and excitement around the entire National Programme as a whole.

This is an exciting time for Jamaica Basketball.

With the help from a great team of resilient, experienced and knowledgeable staff within JABA, the will of a passionate basketball community that is hungry for success and the contributions from a generous and caring corporate community – together – we can. we will.

It's time to put Jamaica Basketball on the map... #paris2024

