



Whitnall Youth Basketball Club: Family Guide

We hope this guide will be useful to your family to help you understand what to expect while being a member of our club. Also, don't forget to check our website updates for further information: www.whitnallyouthbasketball.com

Who we are:

The **Whitnall Youth Basketball Club (WYBC)** is a competitive basketball organization with an emphasis on teaching grade school and middle school boys and girls on how to develop basketball fundamentals and play winning team basketball. We sponsor teams who play in the **Boys - Wisconsin Youth Basketball League (WYBL)** and **Girls – 1on1 Milwaukee Pius League** which have some of the finest teams in southeastern Wisconsin and the State of Wisconsin. Our goal is to develop athletes physically, mentally, and emotionally while preparing them for high school and beyond. **The club is completely run by volunteers. No board members are paid for the time they devote to running the club.**

Our teams play in leagues from November to March. Also, over the course of the season each team will play in at least **4** tournaments but possibly up to as many as 8 tournaments depending on your player's age. Teams can play in additional tournaments at an additional cost. Most tournaments are local, but a few may require traveling and overnight stays. Our goal is to have each boys "Gold" and girls team receive an invitation and play in the Wisconsin State Invitational Championship Tournament.

The main goals are as follows:

1. Provide opportunities for our youth to play basketball and to foster a greater appreciation for the sport
2. Instill through basketball the interactions between players, coaches, and the involvement in competitive play
3. To enhance positive and lasting life skills.

Player Eligibility:

Boys and Girls who attend a Whitnall School District school or live in the Whitnall School District are eligible to play in our club.

Online Pre-Registration

If your player is selected for a team, the notification email will include a link to our online pre-registration. This will allow you the opportunity to complete/sign the following forms in advance of the in-person registration night:

- o Player Registration Form
- o Family Guide Acknowledgement Form

Registration Fees:

Payment is due at the time of signup. WYBC works hard to keep the registration fees well below those of other club teams by hosting home tournaments. Parents should understand that volunteer hours are mandatory for all families.

The payment schedule for the **2023 – 2024** season is as follows:

Player #1	\$300
Player #2, 3, etc	\$250 per additional player
Uniform Fee (New players or if replacement is necessary)	\$100 est. (Link to vendor)
Volunteer Fee –	\$150/family

It is important to note that all fees are due at Registration. Player fees can be paid by cash, check or credit/debit card. Credit/debit card is preferred. Uniforms will be paid by credit card directly to the vendor. WYBC is changing the volunteer payment process for the 2023-2024 season. Your volunteer fee will be charged during registration. WYBC will then provide a refund shortly after you fulfill your volunteer commitment.

The playing fees assist in covering all practice gym time, league, and tournament fees for all teams in the club, insurance costs and the purchase of equipment for teams. The fees also cover a shooting shirt for all players, practice jersey for each new player as well as coaching shirts for the coaches.

Fundraising

To help keep registration fees low, WYBC conducts fundraising events to support additional expenses not covered through registration fees. Some of these expenses include participation in summer leagues, clinics, camps, tournaments, referees, and other fees necessary for operating the teams.

1. WYBC Girls & Boys Tournaments - hosting home tournaments for the players as a source of revenue for the club which has been done in the past. – TBD
2. Grill outs- We attempt to have grill out fundraisers at local grocery stores to raise funds and donations to the club.

In addition to these volunteer opportunities for our families, WYBC board members attempt to fundraise and obtain sponsorships with local businesses.

Volunteering:

In an effort to ensure successful fundraising events for the club, **every family** is expected to volunteer primarily for our Whitnall tournaments for one 3-hour slot. Volunteer time is mandatory and if you do not fulfill this requirement, you will not be refunded your \$150 volunteer fee. Families with multiple players only need to volunteer for one slot.

Please note: Keeping the score book, film, or running the game clock during your player's game **DOES NOT** count as time towards the volunteer requirement.

Uniforms:

All players will require uniforms. Existing players may use their old uniform. New players or those who need to replace their uniform will need to order their uniform at registration. If sizing is a concern, we recommend the player attends registration. New or replacement uniforms will be ordered online via the vendor on registration night. Uniform fees will not be collected by WYBC but paid directly to the vendor via the website ordering process. Uniforms must be ordered during registration to ensure they are issued by the start of the season.

We anticipate a uniform refresh in the 2024-2025 season. It may be advantageous for your family to see if your player could get another year out of their uniform if they played for WYBC previously.

No duplicate numbers will be permitted, even between the Boys' Gold and Blue Teams.

Tryouts/Team Selections:

Your player will be evaluated during the tryout times by independent evaluators, coaching staff members, or Board members. The ideal amount of players on a team is 10. We are limited by practice gym space and league registration to having 1 "A" (Gold) and 1 "B" (Blue) boys' teams for 4th-8th grade, one boys' team at the 3rd grade level, and one girls' team per grade. (Girls teams are evaluated on a year by year basis dependent on tryouts and interest level.) Team selections are a difficult process and after the top 5-6 players, evaluators/coaches may select players based on need. The 8th and 9th best players may be guards but a team may need more post players with size. We also have boys who move up from the "B" level or down from the "A" level every year as they develop at different skill rates. Being on the "B" team does not mean their playing potential is limited. Whitnall High School regularly has players who were "B" level players at the youth level. Your player will be exposed to high levels of competition at both the "A" and "B" levels.

Playing Time:

We go to tournaments to compete. There are no guarantees of playing time. WYBC is ultimately a competitive traveling tournament team, and our goal is to give everyone a positive basketball experience. Teams are not based on an equal playing time format. The ideal objective is for all team members to play in tournaments, with the intent for all to share in playing time, but predicated on the game, it is determined at the coach's discretion. Playing time will be evaluated not only on skill/talent but on practice attendance, work effort, attitude at both practice and tournaments, and over all spirit. **In summary, fair playing time does not mean equal playing time.** If you have concerns or questions about your player's playing time, please talk to your coach about it; they are there to help but please remember our coaches are not required to guarantee any playing time.

Practices:

Practices will begin in early October. If you are selected to be on a team, your coach will contact you to give you information about your practices. It is important for your player to attend practices. It is important you have your player to practice early to scheduled start time to make sure your player is ready to practice. If your player cannot attend practice, you need to contact your coach ahead of time to let them know. Your coach works very hard to put together practice plans and drills. Many times, drills, stations, and scrimmages are based on how many players are at practice. Players who repeatedly miss practices may not have the same success as those who attend regularly. Please make every effort to have your player there and on time. It is your responsibility to regularly check your emails to make certain there are no changes or alterations to your practice or game schedules.

WYBC Board Members

Whitnall Youth Basketball Club is run completely by volunteers, who enjoy the game of basketball and most important, working with and developing a phenomenal group of kids. Please see below summary of 2023-2024 WYBC Board Members:

Brian Torres, President
Michael Hug, Vice-President
Merrideth Gann, Treasurer
Amy Koeppel, Director of Communications
Amy Oost, Director of Registration
Dan Soltis, Director of Tournaments
Elissa Torres, Director of Volunteering and Concessions
Dave Marek, Director of Fundraising
Lyn Lopez, Director of Uniforms and Apparel
Amanda Marek, At Large
Shalynn Halstead, At Large
Anthoni Parr, At Large- Whitnall Girls Varsity Coach
Travis Riesop, At Large- Whitnall Boys Varsity Coach

PARENT/GUARDIAN REQUIREMENTS/RESPONSIBILITIES

Ultimately, a large part of your player's success in the program lies in the hands of the parent/guardian. The following are items important for parent/guardian to help their player and the organization succeed. Failure to adhere to these requirements can result in immediate removal of your player from their team at the complete discretion of the WYBC Board.

- Instill "ABC" Player Priorities - We want players who get good grades and are respectful.
 - **A**cademics first
 - **B**ehavior second
 - And **C**ompetition third
- Have your player at practices and tournaments on time and regularly. Pick up your player on time from practice.
- Communicate with your coach with health issues regarding your player. Keep your player home from scheduled events if they are sick.

2023-2024 Season

- Treat the coaches, refs, players, and players’ families with respect.
 - “Bad Calls” happen in every basketball game. Please do not question calls during a game. It shows the youth a lack of respect for the authority of the referees. Refereeing basketball is very subjective and no matter how much it may seem like it, referees are not out to give an advantage to one team vs the other. They do their best to be fair and teach your player the game.
- Please cheer for your player and their teammates, but please refrain from yelling instructions to them during games. Encouragement is welcome but please leave coaching to the coaches.
- We encourage your feedback and your player’s coach is there to help. Please do not hesitate to talk to your player’s coach about ideas, concerns, where your player is at or how he/she can improve and grow.
- With that said we ask that you do not question the coach with your concerns directly following games. Please wait 24-48 hours to allow for a cooling off of the coach and yourself. Basketball is an emotional sport and its best to wait. We do not expect any of our coaches to address any concerns or complaints you have immediately following a game. It is not acceptable to send e-mails with complaints to the entire team. We will also not tolerate parents talking disparately about coaches or the club. This includes social media.
 - Again, your first step is to talk to the coach directly face to face and secondly to a WYBC board member.

Coaches:

Coaches are the heart and soul of the organization. Our coaches are volunteers and they put in many, many hours over the year, not only attending practices and tournaments, but in planning gym times, facilitating information to families and working outside of practices developing drills and planning the practices. Our coaches are, without a doubt, one of the biggest reasons for the success of our program. **Your primary contact is your coach.** Please take the time to introduce yourself to your coach and see if you can help them. Coaches appreciate feedback and it is important to communicate with your coaches about your questions or concerns. It is preferable that you communicate to your coach face-to-face or even telephone rather than through email so that information and ideas can be exchanged freely.

Player Development:

Basketball is a very rewarding and competitive sport. Your player will be given high quality coaching during the regular season but to be competitive it requires additional playing and practice on your own. We try to have summer league teams for each grade. Players should also try to work on developing their basic skills on their own and attend a few camps every year. Players who really want to excel should also consider playing on AAU/Grassroots teams. Please talk to your coach about how to best develop your player.

I have read the WYBC Family Guide in its entirety and agree to abide by all aspects of the information provided in the guide. I agree to represent the WYBC to the best of my abilities by showing good sportsmanship and respect for all players, fans, coaches, and officials refereeing the games.

Player's Signature followed by Printed Name

Date	Grade
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Parent/Legal Guardian Signature followed by Printed Name

Date

www.whitnallyouthbasketball.com