



Travel Team Guidelines & Philosophy

www.fdlyouthbasketball.com

Fond du Lac Youth Basketball Club, Inc.

Mission Statement

The mission of the Fond du Lac Youth Basketball Club is to provide support, instruction, and organization of youth basketball programs for boys and girls in grades 3 thru 12. Player skills and fundamentals will be developed while encouraging sportsmanship, competition and fun in a team environment.

About the Club

The Fond du Lac Youth Basketball Club is a nonprofit organization. Money raised in the program helps support the Fond du Lac Basketball Program. The Club believes that all players should have an opportunity to develop into great student/athletes by putting them in an environment where they can learn and succeed. The Club has high expectations for our players and coaches and is committed to developing our teams and program.

Basic Guidelines & Philosophy

1. We strive to enhance our youth basketball player's athleticism and skills.
2. Basic fundamental skills are taught and built upon as we move up the levels.
3. Team concepts and competition become more important towards the higher grade levels.
4. Drills and techniques will be incorporated at all levels to enhance athleticism.
5. Tryouts will be held to select players.
6. Open to any student living in the Fond du Lac Public School District.
7. Practice on average is two nights per week. However teams should not practice more than three nights per week. Weekend tournaments will require some travel.
8. All players must play at grade level unless there is no team established at that grade level. Tryout participation will determine if a team is established at grade level. But, at any time a grade level

team becomes established during the season, the player must move back to grade level the following year.

Grade-Specific

PRIMARY GOALS: Fun for all

- Skill development for each player.
- Sportsmanship and introduction to competition.
- Development of team play.

3rd & 4th GRADE GOALS: Introduction to the game

- Emphasis on having fun.
- Begin development of basic basketball skills.
- Teams will practice together twice/week & split into A/B level teams if numbers permit.
- All players will get close to equal minutes in games unless behavior or missed practices prohibits.
- Players may participate in 6-8 tournaments (This may mean the team schedules 10 tournaments if there is a rotation of players so that all players get their 6-8 tournaments.)
- Teams should attempt to schedule no more than 3 tournaments in one month.

5th & 6th GRADE GOALS: Introduction to competition

- Continue basketball skill development.
- Teams will practice together twice/week & split into A/B level teams if numbers permit.
- Quality participation in tournaments, however, this does not necessarily mean equal playing time.
- Those who regularly attend practice will have the opportunity to dress for tournaments.
- Players may participate in 8-10 tournaments. (This may mean the team schedules 12 tournaments if there is a rotation of players so that all players get their 8-10 tournaments.)
- Teams should attempt to schedule no more than 3 tournaments in a month.

7th & 8th GRADE GOALS: Advancement of competition with cooperation in the middle school program

- Continue basketball skill development.
- Teams will practice together twice/week & split into A/B level teams if numbers permit.
- During the Middle School season these teams will be able to practice once per week, and will be allowed to participate in 1 tournament.
- Practice participation and ability level will determine amount of tournament playing time.
- Quality participation in tournaments, however, **this does not mean equal playing time.**
- Those who regularly attend practice will have the opportunity to dress for tournaments.
- Players may participate in 8-10 tournaments. (This may mean the team schedules 12 tournaments if there is a rotation of players so that all players get their 8-10 tournaments.)
- Teams should attempt to schedule no more than 3 tournaments in a month.

Team Selection Process

The team selection process will be based on number of players signed up per grade, and per gender. The number of teams per grade level will be dictated by the number of players and coaching availability, and is at the sole discretion of the Club.

Tournament Season Play

Grades 3-6

--Both boys and girls will be split into A/B Level teams. "A" team will be selected by the coaches and may be changed over the course of the season at the discretion of the coaches. If there are enough players for 2 or more "B" teams, those teams will be split evenly based on coaches evaluations.

--Season runs from the end of October through March with the possibility of play in the State Tournament for grade level. (State Tournament may be in April)

Grades 7 & 8

--Teams will practice be able to practice once per week during the Middle School season, and may enter 1 tournament during that season or play league games. Boys MS Season (October-December 16) Girls MS Season (January 3-February)

--Both boys and girls will be split into A/B Level teams. "A" team will be selected by the coaches and may be changed over the course of the season at the discretion of the coaches. If there are enough players for 2 or more "B" teams, those teams will be split evenly based on coaches evaluations.

--Season runs from the end of October through March with the possibility of play in the State Tournament for grade level. (State Tournament may be in April)

All Teams are required to participate in all Fond du Lac scheduled tournaments, unless they are participating in the WSICT State Tournament

Coaching Philosophy & Guidelines

Philosophy

It will be the responsibility of the coaches to develop the team members' individual character, physical skills and knowledge of the game of basketball. The club feels strongly that teamwork plays the most important role in the success of the program. Success is built on disciplined practicing. The club demands that all members of the program dedicate themselves to team excellence. The youth coaching

staff will strive to develop strong player-coach relationships with all members of our association. All coaches will share common beliefs about teaching of fundamental concepts, therefore providing a continuous and proper learning environment.

Guidelines

- The physical well-being of the athletes must be uppermost in the minds of coaches.
- Coaches must promote an atmosphere of humility in victory and grace in defeat.
- A coach shall require compliance with the rules of the game.
- Coaches will welcome advice, suggestions and help from the High School coaches.
- Coaches are expected to use scripted practice plans for reference and self-evaluation.
- Coaches are responsible for players before, during and after practice.
- Coaches will represent Fond du Lac in the basketball community.
- It is the coach's responsibility to maintain open and timely communication with players, parents and the Board.

Fond du Lac Youth Basketball approves coaches using the following as a guideline:

1. Background check
2. Previous evaluations
3. Basketball knowledge for the grade
4. Coaching experience

There will be one Head Coach per team. One assistant coach is allowed on the bench. A second assistant or parent may be on the bench provided they are keeping book or stats. Head Coach and Assistant Coach are appointed volunteers at all grade levels. Additional non-appointed volunteers are allowed and encouraged for practices. Coaches will be evaluated by parents at the end of the season.

Coaches Checklist

Coaches must hold a parent meeting prior to the start of their teams' first practice. Coaches will go over team expectations as well as practice and tournament schedule. Coaches will also go over any team/player/parent rules at this meeting. You will also verify that the emergency card is accurate. If changes are made you need to inform Jeff Dickmann, so he can make the necessary changes to the master file.

Coaches shall become current with techniques and strategies recommended by Fond du Lac High School coaching staffs. Therefore, it is **required** that all coaches attend one Coaches Clinics. Valuable information will be communicated in these clinics and each clinic will vary. It is also **required** that all coaches attend at least one FDLHS practice during the first two weeks of the season.

Coaches will need to contact the Fond du Lac Rec. Dept. to schedule available gym times. They will not be allowed to schedule prior to October 1st, and they will only be allowed to schedule one month in advance. Coaches will also be required to post all practice and tournament schedules on the Fondy Youth Basketball website. Jeff Dickmann will assist in this process.

Tournaments

Most tournaments are played on Saturday and/or Sunday

Coaches should enter appropriate tournaments for their teams' skill level.

Parents are responsible for transportation to and from tournaments and practices.

Practices

There are typically two practices per week organized by the coaches at each grade level. The entire grade level will practice together. The advantages in doing this are:

1. Optimize available resources
2. Drill for skill/Common instruction sessions
3. Provide a competitive environment sometimes missing for skilled players within a grade
4. Keep all players engaged in practice to make the transition of rotating players easier.
5. Develop coherence among players and parents within a grade level instead of animosity. Remember, these players will be playing together their entire High School career. Team bonding starts now.

Grievance Procedure

The purpose of this procedure is to resolve disputes between players and coaches and/or parents and coaches. It is a systematic procedure to try to come to an equitable resolution of problems.

The following steps, in order, shall be followed:

1. A player and/or parent or coach shall contact their coach or parent/player verbally with the complaint. Be as specific and objective as possible about the issue(s).
2. If the coach or player/parent is not satisfied with the response, they will have three days to submit a written grievance to their Board Liaison for Youth Basketball. For girls, please contact Liz Schreiter at elizd@charter.net For boys, please contact Jeff Dickmann at sec@fdlyouthbasketball.com
3. The Board will then select (3) non-conflicting board members who will make up the Grievance Committee.
4. The Grievance Committee shall review the grievance and:
 - Have the coach and parent/player come before the 3 person Grievance Committee for a hearing. The Committee will listen to each party's case and make a decision. The decision will be communicated to both parties verbally and in writing.
 - Make a final and binding written decision on the grievance.

Everyone should try and resolve the problem at step 1. Good verbal communication between all parties should resolve most issues at step 1.

The Coach must always be the first contact in any problem except if there is physical abuse of a player. When physical abuse is involved, the Board should be notified immediately.

The Board

The Fond du Lac Youth Basketball Club, Inc. Board is responsible for establishing the direction, policy, structure and management of the Youth Basketball program. Board members are expected to attend all meetings. We all understand that there are exceptions to this requirement. Failure of an individual Board member to attend three consecutive Board meetings will be considered a resignation from the Board. The Board may establish special committees as needed. The board consists of the following individuals:

President – Kevin Braatz
Vice President – Joe Greuel
Secretary – Jeff Dickmann
Treasurer – Lynn Schnell
Board Member– Bob Braun
Board Member– Jim Arnold
Board Member – Jenna Johnson
Board Member– Liz Schreiter
Board Member – Ben Spittel
Board Member –

This is a club sport and is not affiliated with the school district. All questions should be directed to a Board Member.

The Fond du Lac Area School District is not affiliated with this program nor does it make any decisions for the program. Please do not contact them regarding the program, as they will be unable to help you.