



## 2023-2024 Travel Season Parent Letter

Orono Basketball Families,

We hope you have had a wonderful summer! Planning for the 2023-2024 season is coming along nicely and we're excited to share with you some important news below:

**Registration** is open today August 20th! This is a **NEW UNIFORM** year, so the registration will involve two transactions (1. Registration & tryout fee to OBBA + 2. uniform order to Signature Concepts which will be shipped to you)

You can access the link via our website at [www.oronobasketball.com](http://www.oronobasketball.com).

**A late fee of \$100 will be applied for registrations after Monday, September 18<sup>th</sup> \***

*\*Registrations after tryouts begin will not be accepted unless grade level numbers support adding a player and coaches agree to add such player. Any player who does not attend tryouts but is added to a team will be added to the lowest team at such grade level.*

### Tryouts & Start of Season

Players in grades 5-8 will attend two tryout sessions. 4th graders will attend one session.

Tryouts will be held on the following dates at the Orono Activity Center (OAC): (specific times and location for each grade TBD)

#### **GIRLS - Wednesday, September 20th AND Saturday, September 23rd**

- 4th Grade will be Saturday, September 23rd only
- Teams posted by the evening of Sunday, October 1st
- Team Practices begin the week of October 23rd

#### **BOYS - Wednesday, September 27th AND Sunday, October 1st**

- 4th Grade will be Sunday, October 1st only
- Teams posted by the evening of Sunday, October 8th
- Team Practices begin the week of October 23rd

Players are required to attend both sessions (one for 4th graders). If your player cannot attend one or both sessions you must provide notification via email to [info@oronobasketball.com](mailto:info@oronobasketball.com) at least one week in advance. There is no make up session offered.



**Tryout Fee:** A \$20 Tryout Fee will be assessed during the registration process. This fee covers the tryout jersey which will be also used for practices throughout the season. Please refer to the Orono Basketball Policy Handbook for additional details related to tryouts. OBBA will also provide additional information via email to all registered email addresses prior to tryouts.

## Scholarships

OBBA provides scholarships to families who qualify. Please complete the application [here](#) or see the link on the OBBA website. OBBA Families: please consider contributing to our OBBA Scholarship Fund, which enables our organization to provide opportunities to children in our district. When completing your registration online, please look for the option to donate to the fund or contact the OBBA directly to make your donation. 100% of your donation will be used to cover the costs of scholarships for children in our program. Donations of any amount are appreciated. Thankyou for supporting our community and our program. OBBA will recognize family donations on our website and other advertising opportunities.

## Team Formation -

**4th Grade:** 4th grade teams will continue to be formed on a parity basis if grade level numbers allow for multiple teams. **5th - 8th Grade:** These teams will continue to be made to create competitive teams with similar skill level throughout. OBBA will determine team size based upon feedback from our outside evaluators with the objective for creating the best possible environment for player development and team success. Since OBBA does not make “cuts”, we are sometimes left with registration numbers that are difficult for the purpose of creating competitive teams. As a result, please carefully review the information below as it relates to roster sizes and number of teams:

OBBA can support up to three (3) teams per grade level. If grade numbers are larger than what three teams can support, the 4th team will have a modified schedule for practices and games along with a reduced fee to accommodate the modified schedule. Depending upon grade level, the modified schedule will include participation in a local rec league playing against other communities. Specific details will be determined and communicated once registration closes. If a 4th team is formed at any grade level, a parent volunteer is required to coach.

If grade level numbers are such that forming teams would create either a team too large or two small, OBBA may consider other options in order to create an appropriately sized team, including combining players from different grades or potentially different communities, or proposing a modified tournament schedule and/or coaching structure at the paid coach level.

By registering for the 2023-2024 season, you are agreeing to participate on a team with a modified structure should your child be evaluated to participate on such team. Details on specifics will be provided once teams are established but refunds will not be offered after tryouts based upon team formation concerns.



## Program Fees

The fee structure will remain unchanged for the 2023-2024 season as will the tryout fee of \$20:

Level	2023-2024 Fee
4th Grade	\$475
5th Grade	\$550
6th Grade	\$550
7th Grade	\$650
8th Grade	\$650

## Refunds

Should COVID negatively impact our plans for the season, OBBA will provide refunds, either full or partial, depending upon what the season entails. Should tournament play be limited but OBBA is able to hire trainers to run skills for our players, we will use registration funds to support these costs. OBBA will not offer individualized refunds, but rather, will make a decision for the entire program with respect to a COVID-related refund.

Refunds for all other reasons, if requested after tryouts, will not be granted.

**Volunteer Coaches.** Due to practices starting earlier than prior years, we will need all coaches applications submitted by Tuesday, October 3rd for Girls and Tuesday October 10th for Boys. Coaching application link [here](#). Background check and safety training are required upon selection as an OBBA coach. If you have any leads for Paid Coaches for our program, please email us at [Info@oronobasketball.com](mailto:Info@oronobasketball.com) Parent referrals tend to lead to some of the best coaches!

## Family Volunteer Fee

Families of each OBBA player are required to submit a volunteer deposit check of \$250 per player payable to OBBA (separate checks required for each OBBA player). Checks will be collected at tryouts. Upon completion of a shift at the Orono Spartan Classic Home Tournament, the deposit will be waived and checks will be destroyed. In the event the volunteer requirement is not met, the check will be cashed. This is no change from last season. Players will NOT be placed on a team until a check is received.

### **OBBA Home Tournament (Spartan Classic) Dates:**

Boys – Saturday, January 20th, 2024

Girls – Sunday, January 21st, 2024



## Tournament Schedule

The tournament schedule this year will be similar to last year.

Grades 5-8 Travel Teams will attend 8 tournaments during the course of the season as well as the MYAS Grade State Championship Tournament at the end of the season (9 in total).

4th Grade will attend 6 tournaments plus the MYAS Grade State Championship Tournament (7 in total).

The Tournament Schedule will be posted to our website once finalized and once teams are posted, it will be added to each team's SportsEngine calendar.

## Out-of-Town Travel Tournament

OBBA is planning to attend one out-of-town tournament this season with an overnight hotel stay. Our end of season survey has consistently returned overwhelming feedback that our community would like to attend at least one out-of-town tournament. More details will follow as the 2023-2024 Tournament Schedule is finalized.

## In Conclusion

Please share this email with others who may not know about OBBA. Our emails are only sent to those currently associated with our program and we would love to see some new faces this season.

If you wish to NOT receive our emails, please reply to this note and we will remove you. Visit our website and our Instagram page frequently for updates throughout the remainder of the summer and into the season.

Thankyou for your support of and commitment to Orono Basketball.

Orono Basketball Association Board (OBBA)