



Milford Knights Announce Travel Basketball Try Out Dates

Parents,

My name is Trevor Doyle and I am the travel team coordinator for the Milford Knights Travel Basketball Program. We hope everyone has been safe and healthy during these trying times. Although the pandemic is still with us, it seems that we are in a better situation this year compared to last year. Unfortunately, we all know this could change very rapidly so as of this time we do not have any concrete information to give out regarding the upcoming season but what we do know is that we will be having a 2021-2022 basketball season and how every season starts, is with a try outs because no one is guaranteed a spot on a team from year to year.

We are happy to announce our 2021-2022 try out dates which go from Tuesday, September 21st through Monday, September 28th. We would be announcing the teams on Friday, October 1st. This year's try outs will take place indoors at The Parsons Complex. The 4th and 5th grades will have 3 try out sessions while the 6th, 7th and 8th grades will have 2 try out sessions. A player must attend at least 1 try out to be eligible to make one of our teams. All players need to be Milford residents or attend school in Milford. At the bottom of this email, are the dates and times of the try outs. In addition, I have also attached a flyer with the dates and times. We will also be posting the try out date and times on our facebook page, on the Milford Patch, in the Milford Mirror and getting it into the Milford Board of Education newsletter.

Please find our try out waiver on our website that we ask everyone to print out at home, fill out and bring with you when you come to your child's first try out. This form is the main way we will contact you so please put down all desired email addresses and contact information and please write neatly as possible because we do not want your email address inputted incorrectly. We will have forms at the gym but it would be a great help if you brought the filled-out forms with you.

We are not sure how the season will play out but we know there will be a season. The good news is that the Milford Recreation Department has given us the thumbs up that we will have access to The Parsons Complex. Last year, we were very limited on practices with having no access to any of the school gyms for practice. Unfortunately, it is looking like we are on the same path as last year with the Milford Board of Education not giving access to anyone to use their gymnasiums. Looks like we will have atleast one practice per week inside, we are hoping for more but no guarantees.

From a health crisis standpoint, the Milford Health Department will dictate our course of action. Currently, the Milford Health Department is allowing basketball play in Parsons with masks being optional and that is the course of action we will follow. We will also follow any guidance that the Connecticut Health Department gives out regarding youth sports played indoors this fall and winter. Also let it be known, per the Milford Health

Department, if any child is quarantined due to potential exposure to Covid or a player contracts Covid that we will follow the Milford Health Department guidelines to quarantining and not the CDC federal guidelines. We understand that youth sports are an optional recreational activity and we understand that some families still may not feel comfortable participating in an indoor youth activity during a health crisis and we will welcome them back when they do feel comfortable so please do not feel any pressure in having your child play if you are not comfortable.

This years price will be \$350 and that price includes a new uniform kit. Last year, we did offer the option of using the previous year's uniform but the thought is that with us having access to Parsons this year, that things are a little closer to normal. Payments will be required after your son or daughter makes a Knights team, not during tryouts. There is no fee to try out. Although we are not back to our pre-pandemic game levels which were in the 40 game season level, we are getting closer but pricing for court time has increased so we feel that the \$350 price point is where we need to be.

The teams will be announced on Friday, October 1st. Indoor practices are set to begin 2nd or 3rd week of October. Teams will also have the option to practice outside, weather permitting to get in more practice time. Games will be played at Parsons, InSports in Trumbull, Newtown Youth Academy and yes, some games in New Milford. As of right now, spectators are allowed at all venues. With us getting Parsons back, it will be a big help eliminating us from having to go up to New Milford. We are not sure of the format of games yet, it looks like it could be another year of the FCBL not happening due to the fact that the majority of Fairfield County teams rely so heavily on the use of the schools to play their games and have practices. We are anticipating our older grade teams getting in 30 to 35 games this season and our younger teams getting 25 to 30 games with the first games happening the middle of November and games running until the end of March. We are not sure yet if the games will be set up similar to last year or a traditional schedule and standings. Please take into account that this is travel basketball and that playing time between players is not equal but player development is always a top priority. We are excited about getting the season going. I wish we had more concrete details to give out but it is only the end of August.

If anyone has questions or concerns, please reach out to me directly.

Below is the updated dates and times of our try outs:

Tuesday, September 21st

5:00pm - 6:15pm

Parsons Court 1 - 4th Grade Girls

Parsons Court 2 - 5th Grade Girls

6:15pm - 7:30pm

Parsons Full Court - 5th Grade Boys

7:30pm - 8:45pm

Parsons Full Court - 8th Grade Boys

Friday, September 24th

5:00pm - 6:15pm

Parsons Court 1 - 4th Grade Boys

Parsons Court 2 - 6th Grade Girls

6:15pm - 7:30pm

Parsons Full Court - 8th Grade Girls

Saturday, September 25th

9:00am - 10:30am

Parsons Court 1 - 4th Grade Girls

Parsons Court 2 - 5th Grade Girls

10:45am - 12:15pm

Parsons Court 1 - 4th Grade Boys

Parsons Court 2 - 5th Grade Boys

12:30pm - 2:00pm

Parsons Court 1 - 6th Grade Girls

Parsons Court 2 - 7th Grade Girls

2:00pm - 3:30pm

Parsons Court 1 - 6th Grade Boys

Parsons Court 2 - 7th Grade Boys

3:30pm - 4:45pm

Parsons Court 1 - 8th Grade Girls

Parsons Court 2 - 8th Grade Boys

Monday, September 27th

5:00pm - 6:00pm

Parsons Full Court - 5th Grade Girls

6:00pm - 7:15pm

Parsons Full Court - 5th Grade Boys

7:15pm - 8:30pm

Parsons Full Court - 7th Grade Girls

Tuesday, September 28th

5:00pm - 6:15pm

Parsons Court 1 - 4th Grade Girls

Parsons Court 2 - 4th Grade Boys

6:15pm - 7:30pm

Parsons Full Court - 6th Grade Boys

7:30pm - 8:45pm

Parsons Full Court - 7th Grade Girls

Thanks for taking the time to read this and we look forward to seeing you at Parsons in September. I will be sending out more reminders as we get closer to the try outs.

Trevor Doyle

Milford Knights

Email Address: trevordoyle71@hotmail.com