



CAPITAL HOMESCHOOL ATHLETIC PROGRAM

November 6, 2018

Message from the CHAP Board

We are excited to have your child playing for CHAP basketball this year! The CHAP program continues to grow and we are looking forward to another great season. In lieu of a parent meeting with the board we decided to provide the coaches with this letter to go over with you as a team. The purpose is to outline the season and answer the most common questions we get before, during, and after each season.

1. When and how do I officially register and pay for this upcoming season?
 - A registration link will be sent to your email address on Nov 7th or 8th. You will be required to fill out that registration and pay online through our SportsEngine registration.
 - Once the registration is live you will have 4-5 days to complete it, including payment. If your child is not registered after we hit the deadline for registration/payment they will not be able to participate in practices and games until it's completed.
 - ***For those teams playing in Red Cedar, we have 3 additional forms that must be completed and given to your coach prior to participating in any Red Cedar game. Your coach will provide you with those forms this week either by email or in person.***
2. Why does it cost so much?
 - Unfortunately it is quite expensive to rent gym space. We are fortunate to have two great facilities that give us priority scheduling. We have 10 teams this year, not counting the youth. Paying for the gym space needed for sufficient practice time for the 10 teams adds up quickly.
 - The cost of referees – we have a great ref coordinator who provides all the referees for our games. The cost per game is not cheap, especially at the varsity level.
 - Homeschool tournaments and Red Cedar league – to get the desired # of games for each team we either have them enter tournaments or play in the local red cedar league. We build the associated costs into the player registration fee.
3. Is there a way for me to lower the out of pocket cost for our family?
 - Yes! Through the CHAP basketball program fundraiser you can drastically reduce the amount owed for your child's registration costs.
 - 80% of the funds you raise go towards your child(ren)'s registration costs for this season while 20% goes towards the costs of creating the CHAP bball program. This season you will pay the registration costs up front and CHAP will issue a refund for the 80% of program advertisements you sell.

- We are currently working on a packet you can give to local vendors that should make it easier to get them to commit to advertising. Hope to have that to you by end of the week! Special thanks to Jen Grihorash and Derek Crombie for their help this season with this fundraising program!
 - The CHAP board is entertaining ideas for fundraising in the off-season. If you have any ideas/suggestions in that regard, please email Matt Rottman at MJRottman@yahoo.com
4. Do I have any volunteer requirements during the season?
- Yes! The CHAP program needs parent volunteers to man the admissions table for home games. We will create a spreadsheet and assign hours to each team. From there the coach or team manager will assign parents to fill that team's required hours. Divided by all CHAP families, the time commitment will be minimal per family (1-2 hours per family, at most).
 - In addition each coach and/or team manager will be organizing volunteers for scoreboard operator and scorebook. That is organized by each individual team. Please be considerate to your coach and/or team manager and do your part throughout the season to help with these important roles.
5. What is CHAP's policy on playing time?
- Our policy with playing time is it's earned in the off-season and practice. The coaches are given discretion to determine playing time for their teams based on each player's ability to contribute to the competitiveness of the team. That being said, we do have some "rules of thumb" for the coaches at each age level. They are:
 - 10U and 12U – playing time should be as balanced as possible during first 3 quarters. The 4th quarter playing time is completely up to the coach's discretion based on the game situation.
 - 14U – In all regular season games the coach should make every attempt possible to get each kid in the game for at least a few minutes per half, assuming each player has demonstrated sufficient commitment, class, and competitiveness in practices that week. In post season tournaments the coaches are given more flexibility depending on the game situation.
 - JV/V – at the high school level playing time is purely at coach's discretion. Each coach is encouraged by the CHAP board to talk to their players and parents prior to the season in regards to what will earn playing time in their respective 'system'. Each coach is also encouraged to communicate their pre-season expectations for playing time to each individual player so they can take that into account before agreeing to the financial and time commitment.
6. What is CHAP's policy on sportsmanship for players and fans?
- Before addressing this question, let's first look at the mission of CHAP: ***Capital Homeschool Athletic Program ('CHAP') exists to serve Jesus Christ, homeschool parents and their children. Our purpose is to provide homeschool children with opportunities, through competitive athletics, to develop physically, spiritually, and learn to display Christ-like character.***

- The coaches are asked to communicate with players throughout the year as to what is acceptable behavior on the court. We will always ask for 100% effort and encourage a Christlike competitive spirit. If a player is engaging in activity or talk on the court that is not Christlike either in effort or sportsmanship, the coach should be addressing that issue directly with the player at an appropriate time. If the behavior doesn't change, playing time will be reduced or eliminated and the coach will get the parents involved.
 - Sportsmanship expectations for fans are outlined in a separate document the CHAP board created a few years back. Each coach should be getting you a copy of that document either by email or in hard copy form.
7. What is the CHAP board doing in terms of building chemistry across the entire program?
- It is our desire as a board for the CHAP Chariot teams to support each other and build chemistry across all ages of the program. Don Oesterle, CHAP board member and varsity boys and girls coach, is spearheading an effort to build more cohesion amongst the players and families.
 - Here are a few pro-active initiatives Don has introduced this season:
 - First, he is requiring his varsity players to volunteer for the CHAP youth basketball program. They will rotate for practices and games, but the goal is to make sure those youth players are given the opportunity to interact with and look up to the varsity players.
 - Second, he is requiring his varsity players to come at least an hour early to their games to support the CHAP teams playing before them.
 - Third, Don is asking that parents and players on younger teams stick around and support his varsity teams whenever possible. We will have an official "student section" this year for those younger players to sit together and cheer on the varsity!
8. Last year's schedule was confusing and I never knew which website was accurate. How do you recommend tracking schedule this season?
- This past summer we decided to move to SportsEngine to manage our website and calendar. The only website you should visit for schedule updates this season is www.chapchariots.org.
 - We plan to upload the initial game schedule later this week once we get confirmation from a few homeschool programs. ***Please keep in mind that the schedule is subject to change.***
 - We highly recommend you download the SportsEngine Mobile App to your smartphone. You will log-in to the app with same user name and password you use/create when you register your child for basketball.
 - Please make sure to sign up for push notifications for your child(ren)'s team. That way, when changes are made to the schedule you will receive notification on your phone.
 - The Mobile app can also be used by the coaches to communicate to all of the parents/players on their team in one direct message. To get those communications you need to have the mobile app downloaded to your phone and enable push notifications.

We apologize for the length of this letter. In the past we've had a pre-season parent meeting with the board to address all of these issues, but thought we'd pass the info on in written form this year. We welcome your feedback as to which method you prefer. Also, if you have any additional questions, please don't hesitate to email us. Here's the list of board members involved with CHAP basketball this season:

Keith Hall – CHAPSports@gmail.com; President of CHAP board. Oversees all of CHAP
Nate Reusser – nathan.reusser@gmail.com; Bball director and scheduler. Coaches girls JH & JV
Don Oesterle – don_oesterle@att.net; Handles all questions regarding boys/girls varsity
Matt Rottman – mjrottman@yahoo.com; Oversees CHAP Youth program. Coach of boys 10U

Looking forward to another fantastic year of CHAP Chariot basketball!!

Sincerely,

CHAP Board