



Dear Pacer Basketball Parents & Players,

Our theme for the year is **WE before (B4) Me**. We have chosen this in that our teams/players/coaches will put their faith, family, and teammates before their own interests. We will seek to make sure that our faith, family, and academics are more important than any other interest in our daily lives.

Basketball is just a small portion of our lives that we can use to reflect our love for our Savior. To God Be the Glory!

2019-2020 Parents and Players,

Welcome to the Pacer basketball program! Whether YOU ARE a senior in their last year of basketball or a freshman who has just made the team, I hope and pray that your YOU find the basketball season to be a positive, challenging experience.

As you read the following paragraphs and pages; recognize the privilege that YOU HAVE to be playing high school basketball. Recognize the unique gifts that God has blessed **YOU** with. Recognize the wonderful opportunities God has placed into **YOUR LIFE** thru the sport of basketball. Finally, recognize the awesome responsibility that God has given **YOU** in being a young Christian role model.

High school athletics has much to offer our students athlete(s). As a student/athlete here at Shoreland Lutheran High School, being a student athlete takes on an even more important role. Our students have the opportunity to represent their Savior publicly numerous times throughout the season. Whether in the bleachers, at a restaurant, or on the court, our student/athletes set an example everywhere that they go. With that thought in mind, I am asking the young men that play basketball to excel in three areas, those being:

A) Their role as Christians. I expect them to “let their light shine before men at every opportunity.” Matthew 5:16

B)How they conduct themselves. Ephesians 6:6 talks about how a person’s true “character is revealed in what he does when no one else is watching.” I expect the young men in the basketball program to be men of character. I will constantly remind them that “many eyes, especially little eyes” are watching them.

C) Love each other. I Corinthians 13:4-7 tells us, ***“Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.”***

First love their Savior, then their teammates and staff, and finally look to their own interests last.

This handbook is designed to provide you with a quick reference guide in regards to any questions that may arise regarding the boys basketball program.

Obviously, no handbook can answer every question. Thus, if you have any concerns or questions, please speak to myself, or any of the coaches as soon as possible. - **MR. STRUTZ**

QUESTIONS REGARDING:

Your Commitment

Basketball comes after serving our Savior, family, and academic responsibilities, but before jobs, girlfriends, and other recreational pursuits.

Sickness / Missed Practices

All young men must be at school to practice or play. This is the whole day of school, unless a doctor's or dentist appointment, funeral, etc. occurs. All players are expected to be at all practices and games. Being late to school and/or missing school the day after a game is not acceptable. Communicate with your child's coach about possible conflicts before they occur. Whether or not a player plays (who has missed a practice the night before a game) will be left up to the discretion of the coach.

Transportation to Away Games

When a bus is needed for an away game, we will assume you expect that your son will ride the bus to and from the site if a return bus is scheduled unless we have a note from you stating otherwise, or unless a parent from your area asks to take your son with them. We will have a sign out sheet at each game to record the details. If these assumptions do not meet with your approval, please send a written version of your expectations.

Uniform Care

All team members will be expected to take care of and wash their own jerseys. Players whose jerseys are lost or damaged will be charged a replacement cost. A new jersey will not be issued until the jersey is paid for.

Duties

All Junior Varsity players are expected to tape varsity games and take statistics for the varsity games. All JV players are expected to be at all varsity games and all varsity players are expected to be at all JV games.

Playing Time

Individual players will have to sacrifice their own wishes and desires for the best interests of the team. Realize that being a member of the team may not be an equal opportunity experience. All are contributors and have specific roles, but not everyone will or can play. Situations – injuries, match-ups, coach's decisions, etc. will all have an affect on how much or how little playing time a player may receive. Some people will get more minutes or score more, not everybody will play every night.

Communication

Open lines of communication between parents, players, and coaches are a must. If at any time you have questions or concerns, please direct them to your coach. If you feel a meeting is needed, please make arrangements ahead of time. **Addressing a member of the coaching staff with a serious question regarding playing time, etc. immediately after a game is neither the time nor the place.**

Conflict Resolution Policy

During the course of a family's time at Shoreland, academic, athletic, disciplinary, or general conflicts may arise. God's Word in Matthew 18:15 commands that such conflicts are to be settled through proper communication between the people involved. The steps below outline the approved method for handling conflicts between coaches & players.

1. **Athlete to Coach** – athlete should seek out the coach and speak to him first.
2. **Parent to Coach** -parents should seek out coach and speak to him after their son has spoken with the coach
3. **Family to Head Coach** - Family should seek out the Head coach and speak to him after they has spoken with their son's coach.
4. **Family to Athletic Director** – Family should seek out the Athletic director and speak to him after they have spoken to the Head Coach.
5. **Family to Principal** - Family should seek out the Principal and speak to him after they have spoken to the Athletic Director.

Coaching Staff

Varsity Boys – Head Coach : Mr. Paul Strutz, Vice Principal & Dean of Students @ Shoreland Lutheran
School phone -262-859-2595 ext 205 ; Cell 262-515-4528
Home phone 262-898-3244

Junior Varsity Boys-Head Coach: Mr. Jeremy Strassburg **Cell 480-250-4011**

Freshman Head Coach: Mr. Kelly Hill **Cell 262-749-0810**

Our Pacer Basketball Philosophy

Basketball is part of the education process and ministry here at Shoreland Lutheran High School. Through basketball, just as in any class or activity, we attempt to carry out the mission of our school “to educate, encourage, and equip students for lives of Christian service.” Basketball is much more than just winning and losing basketball games. It is about self-sacrifice and service to our Lord and Savior using the special gifts that He has given us to glorify Him. As members of this basketball team, we will strive each and every day to use those gifts to pursue excellence. Our attitude and actions will reflect the love and thanksgiving in our hearts for the blessings we have been given.

Being a member of our Pacer basketball team is a tremendous honor and privilege which each player should hold in highest regard. In every aspect of the game, we will conduct ourselves with class. Players are expected to be role models and leaders both on and off the court. Our actions speak volumes not only about ourselves individually, but also about our school, coaches, parents, and most importantly our Savior.

The sport of basketball is a competitive game. We will work extremely hard in practice and in games to be at our best and give our greatest effort. ***In an environment where so many variables are beyond our control we will always take care of the one thing we can control – our effort.*** We will compete to the very best of our abilities and when the clock stands at zero, we will know that win or lose we have left nothing behind. Our play will be characterized by poise, toughness, resiliency, and determination. At the end of every contest we will know that we have done our best. We will be humble in victory and gracious in defeat because we ultimately know that basketball is just teaching us about life.

Finally, we will learn the importance and value of hard work and commitment. It is tremendously satisfying to work hard at a cause including basketball. It's satisfying to compete and do your best and work terribly hard at something so much so that you invest part of yourself in that work. It is this type of commitment and work ethic that ultimately come back and give you a depth of feeling, character, and accomplishment. The process itself may not always be enjoyable, but at the end of every practice, game, or season the people who have worked hard feel good about what they have accomplished. This is the satisfaction that feeds them and keeps them going. ***There is a difference between fun and happiness. Many young people confuse the two. Fun is something that you enjoy for the short term, whereas happiness comes from an internal feeling once the event has been completed. Fun is something you enjoy while it is going on, but things that make you happy are what you appreciate after all is said and done. There are only a few environments where hard work and connecting to a cause are as personally and deeply satisfying as team sports. If you can sell out to this team, put individuality behind you, and commit to your best every day then you will feel that sense of pride and accomplishment.***

It is my prayer as your coach that God be with you throughout this season. It is my hope that he bless our team in many tangible ways. More importantly though, I pray that God use basketball as a teaching tool to guide you in your personal life and bring you closer to him and that we in turn use basketball to be the “light of salvation” to all we come in contact with.

The Building Blocks of the Pacer Basketball Program

Ø The team is always more important than the individual. Everybody will be treated fairly, but we may not all be treated equally in all situations.

Ø There are no shortcuts to real success. You get what you pay for in sports and in life and you have to be willing to pay the price daily if you wish to earn success.

Ø We are committed to winning but understand that we don't measure success through wins alone. Everyone must be committed to reaching his true potential.

Ø There is a person behind every member of our basketball program and each person has tremendous value far beyond being a basketball player.

Ø As members of this team, we represent one another. The way we present ourselves and the decisions we make reflect back our program, school and most importantly our Christian faith.

Ø Trust is a key component to every successful team. Trust can only be earned through action that makes me believe in your sincere desire to help the team.

Ø Fear Nothing, Respect Everything! Have the confidence and conviction to fear nothing. Don't be afraid to raise your hand in class, to give your opinion, to stand up for what is right, to speak your mind when you believe in something, to set high goals, to reach for something and fail. If you have the courage to believe you can do extraordinary things there is a much better chance you'll achieve greater things. Respect all your opponents, teammates, classmates, teachers, and parents. Take nothing for granted because when you think you're at the top there's only one way to go.

Ø Never be content with what you've done. The best athletes are always looking for ways to improve. The idea is to strive for excellence. You never stay in one place. You are either getting better or getting worse. Get better each day in every facet of your life.

Ø Take pride in our school, equipment, and facilities. We have been blessed with our facilities. Take care of them.

Ø Your attitude should be the same as Christ Jesus (Phil. 2:5) Have an A+ attitude. Be positive, humble, willing to serve, determined, persistent, confident, and never give up!

Ø Be on time for every class, meeting, and practice.

Ø We will always attempt to make decisions based on the long term thinking and best interest of the program rather than short term desires.

Pacer Basketball

Shoreland Lutheran High School

A Pacer Basketball Player

A Shoreland Lutheran High School basketball player can come in any size, shape, or color. There may be no common denominator except for his love for the game, his love to intensely compete at the highest level, and a desire to get the most out of his abilities. He is not only proud of his strengths, but understands his weaknesses. He is first of all concerned with good of the team and knows that individual recognition will come through team excellence.

A Shoreland Lutheran High School basketball player has the enthusiasm of an evangelist, the discipline of a monk, the heart of a warrior, and never loses the honesty and character of a small boy.

He appreciates the support of hundreds of fans, but he is much more aware of the example he is setting for some small boy watching from the sideline. He is happy when he scores a basket, but never forgets that a teammate threw him the ball. While he never lets up at either end of the floor, the other team is not his real opponent; it is the full extent of his own potential he is always playing against. He lets the referees, with occasional assistance from his coach, do the officiating because he knows his job requires his utmost attention and he cannot control other factors.

A Shoreland Lutheran High School basketball player is made not born. He is consistently striving to reach his potential knowing that he will bypass other players who cannot withstand the strain of this quest for excellence. He realizes that the challenge and competition of today's game will better prepare him for tomorrow's world. He knows that the true measure of his performance is not recorded in wins and losses, but in how much of himself he has given to the game.

A Shoreland Lutheran High School basketball player never realizes when the odds are stacked against him. He can only be defeated by a clock that happens to run out of time. He is what a small boy wants to become and what an old man can remember with great pride what he once was.

Let us all work our hardest to develop a program with class that represents Shoreland Lutheran High School and ultimately our Lord and Savior!

Pacer Basketball - Player and Program Guidelines

- Ø Follow all rules as established by the SLHS student and athletic handbooks.
- Ø Honesty and integrity in dealing with any situation are a must. The coach on an individual basis will deal with any deviation from this.
- Ø You must be at school to practice or play and you are expected to be at all practices and games. Exceptions must be cleared with the Dean of Students or the Athletic Director. Communicate with your coach about conflicts before they become a problem.
- Ø Classroom behavior must be exemplary. Detentions and poor behavior will be dealt with.
- Ø School work is to be current. Players may be required to meet with a teacher and/or spend time finishing work after school if necessary.
- Ø Basketball comes after serving our Savior, family, and academic responsibilities, but before jobs, girlfriends, and other recreational pursuits. Club sports that practice during the week and play on weekends are highly discouraged. Please speak with the head coach before trying out if you intend to play a club sport.
- Ø Respect your teammates (all levels) at all times. You may have to sacrifice your wishes and desires for the best interests of the team. **Realize that being a member of this team is not an equal opportunity experience.** All are contributors and have specific roles, but not everybody can or will play. Some people will get more minutes or score more, **not everybody will play every night.**
- Ø Be cautious of things that promote individual attention. Such things will be discouraged and not allowed. Be a confident player, not a cocky player.
- Ø Expect that much will be demanded of you physically and mentally over the season and that you will have to make sacrifices during the season. Proper nutrition and adequate rest are important not only for basketball, but also your overall health.
- Ø JV players will be asked to video tape and keep stats for the varsity squad.
- Ø Travel to away contests may occur by school provided transportation and at times transportation on your own. Travel home from away contests should be with your parents and a note should be provided.
- Ø Nice dress is expected of all players at home and away both before and after games. The seniors and the head coach will decide nice dress upon each year. Nice dress would typically mean dress shirt (without or without tie) or sweater, nice slacks, and dress shoes. No jeans, tennis shoes, or hats are worn as part of our dress.
- Ø **Players are not to do anything that is detrimental to the best interests of the team. The coach, on an individual basis, will deal with any problems that arise.**

Shoreland Lutheran Basketball Player Expectations

- 1) 100% intensity, effort, and attention at all times, we will work harder than any team we play!!!
- 2) Be on time; you may be early, but never be late.
- 3) Communicate with your coaches, captains, parents, and teammates.
- 4) Respect your school and your equipment: be a good steward
- 5) Be disciplined or expect to be disciplined; This means:
 - q No profanity
 - q No unsportsmanlike conduct
 - q No calling attention to yourself through dress, words, or actions
 - q No disputing with officials or showing them up
 - q No trash talking with opponents or fans
 - q Never be late and always give full attention to your coaches
 - q Doing the right thing
 - q Representing your Lord, SLHS, and team properly
 - q Working as hard as you can in practice
 - q Placing the value of team and teammates ahead of yourself
- 6) **Good teams win games not individual players. Our one rule is very simple. Do not do anything detrimental to the good of the team or program. Anything that is will be dealt with on an individual basis.**