

Waconia Basketball Association



The Waconia Basketball Association is excited to offer our winter travel basketball program again this year!

What to expect with WBA

Waconia Basketball Association was established in 2005. We are a competitive travel basketball association that provides a competitive culture that grows our athletes' character both on and off the court. We are invested in the Positive Coach Alliance that helps us provide annual training for our players, coaches, and parents. We have strong relationships with both the Boys and Girls High School Basketball programs where many of our participants have gone on to play for their programs!

WBA is a competitive youth travel program. We offer boys/girls teams for 4th-8th grade. Our participation numbers will determine how many teams per grade level. Team roster size ranges typically from 8-10 players. Each team will consist of a head coach, assistant coach and team manager. Teams are typically coached by volunteer parents. It is the goal of WBA to hire a non-parent coach for our 7th & 8th grade purple teams.

Level of Commitment

The Association has high expectations for its teams, coaches, and players. Here's what you can expect:

- The practice season begins in October and tournaments end in March.
- Practices are generally scheduled two weeknights per week for an hour and a half.
- Teams will participate in 8 tournaments a year. Teams have the option to add 2 additional tournaments at the teams expense and with Board approval.
- Tournaments are generally held two to three weekends per month.
- Most tournaments are one-day events. However our teams may play in two-day events, with multiple games per day. Some may include Friday night. Teams generally play at least three games in a tournament.
- Sunday morning games are likely.
- Parents must volunteer at least 8 hours throughout the season.
- Every effort is made to provide you with a schedule of practices and games as early as possible throughout the season. The expectation is that you will be able to eliminate most scheduling conflicts if provided with adequate time to make adjustments. The goal should be to attend every practice and game. If a conflict does exist, it is the parent's responsibility to inform the coaching staff as soon as possible.

Practices

Practices will be set evenings for at least the start of the season. This allows us to provide two team practices and skills practices to all teams as fairly as possible. We work with 6 different facilities to schedule practices that range from in town to 15 miles outside Waconia. Practices can start as early as 4:30pm and go as late as 9pm.

Where Do We Play

We aim to participate in tournaments within approximately 1 hour of Waconia.

Volunteer Expectations

WBA Families are expected to volunteer 8 hours per player each season. Volunteer opportunities include: committees, two home tournaments, team manager, coaching, and board of directors. Each player turns in a \$200 check deposit for the association's volunteer expectation. Should a family not complete the 8 expected hours, this check will be cashed at the end of the season.

WBA Participation Fees

Season Registration Payment due AT TRYOUTS: Check payment for \$600.00
= Season Registration (\$490) + Full Uniform & Shooting Shirt (\$110)

**No checks will be accepted after tryouts. Online payment option only available in "must have" situations and \$18 will be added to cover online card processing fees. (If your player does not make a team, we will shred your check.)

The participation fee includes: team tournament entry fees, uniform, home boys/girls tournament expenses, practice facilities fees, etc.

Electronic payments are the only form of payment accepted after Tryout weekend.

Uniforms

Uniforms are on a 2 year rotation. There will be new uniforms for the 22-23 season. Sizing samples will be available at tryouts.

Spiritwear

Each season we will have apparel options for families to purchase to support your favorite Wildcat! This will be communicated at the beginning of the season via email from the board.

Suggested Equipment

Basketball:

Size 27.5: 3rd & 4th Grade All Boys & Girls

Size 28.5: 5th & 6th Grade Boys / 5th - 8th Grade Girls

Size 29.5: 7th & 8th Grade Boys

Basketball Shoes

Water Bottle

Tryout Process & Team Formation

We have our annual tryouts throughout one weekend each year typically in August. Attendance for both days is highly recommended. We hire a third-party evaluation company to do the evaluations during the tryouts.

Team formations are based on the number of kids trying out for each grade and basketball skill levels. Because we are a competitive program we form A (Purple), B (Gold), and C (White) teams that are based on skill levels of players.

Who is eligible to participate

Try-outs are open to all players in grades 4 through 8 with the possibility of allowing 3rd graders to participate should the Board of Directors approve. We aim to prioritize Waconia ISD 110 students and/or those living within the ISD 110 school boundaries above players living outside school boundaries. However, pending registration numbers and various requirements found in our Handbook, players living outside school boundaries may be able to try out.

Fundraising Information

We intend to have an association wide fundraiser of Kwik Trip Car Wash Gift Cards this season. The fundraiser will be held beginning of 2023. Full details will be communicated soon after the season starts. We will have fun fundraising activities such as Dine Local Nights scheduled throughout the season as an option for families.

League Affiliation

WBA belongs to the Minnesota Youth Basketball Alliance. The MYBA is a collaborative effort between the MYAS, the MYAS Basketball Board of Advisors, and travel basketball leaders from around the state working together to enhance community-based youth basketball during the winter season.

Required Pre-Season Meetings

- We will hold a Parent informational meeting prior to the season to fully go over these details and more for the upcoming season.
- We will hold a Coach informational meeting/training prior to the season

Get to know us better

Visit waconiabasketball.com to view our full WBA Handbook, important dates, and more about our association. You can also find us on Facebook and Instagram for announcements and updates throughout the season.

Questions? Contact the Board of Directors at board@waconiabasketball.com