

Watertown-Mayer Youth Basketball Association



2006 - 2007

www.wmyba.org

Watertown-Mayer Youth Basketball Association *Basketball Program*

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Mission Statement

The goal of the Watertown-Mayer Youth Basketball Association (WMYBA) is to provide our youth with the opportunity to enjoy the cooperation of teamwork, the competition of the sport, and the value of improving skills through playing the game of basketball. The WMYBA 's program is a supplement to the school's program not a replacement.

Our programs are successful to the degree that they allow youth to have fun and learn the game of basketball at all levels. By doing this all players are winners.

The WMYBA season typically runs between the first weekend of November and the last weekend of March. We are not responsible for any Spring AAU and Fall League activities parents of student players might enroll their children into.

Philosophy The Watertown-Mayer Youth Basketball Association's philosophy is to provide a structured, enjoyable and learned basketball experience for all participants. Both recreational and competitive opportunities are offered.

Purpose and Structure The purpose of the basketball board is to plan, structure and coordinate WMYBA youth basketball; to be the governing body of the program; and to uphold the philosophy of the program. A process of interest and/or children participating in the program selects members.

Our meetings are scheduled monthly or as needed during the off-season. Any other concerns throughout the year can be addressed by contacting a board member and a time will be scheduled to meet with the board. Meetings are currently held on the 2nd Sunday of the month at the Watertown-Mayer High School at 6:00 pm in Room 116 (enter through the community education entrance on the upper level of the high school).

2005 / 2006 Board Members & Officers

Name	Position	Phone
Al Barfknecht	President	952-955-3836
Dale Hoeft	Vice President	952-657-2501
Denise Gehlhausen	Secretary/Treasurer	952-955-3893
Brent Theisen	Scheduler	763-479-0775
Dan Schreder	Coordinator 7 th & 8 th Boys (Traveling)	952-955-3257
	Coordinator 7 th & 8 th Girls (Traveling)	
Brent Theisen	Coordinator 5 & 6 Girls (In-House)	763-479-0775
Jason Wandersee	Coordinator 5 & 6 Boys (In-House)	952-955-3998
Al Barfnecht	Coordinator K-4 (In-House)	952-955-3836

GENERAL INFORMATION

Cost The cost for playing in the in-house league covers the following expenses:

- General administration fees: (postage, copying costs, storage shed and monitor fees, etc.)
- Equipment expenses
- Tournament fees (entry fees, trophies, referee fees, game balls, and so on)
- Team T-shirt (K-4)

The shirts are to be kept by each player at the end of the season.

The cost to play basketball is as follows:

Age	Estimated Cost
Grades K-4	\$40
Grades 5 and 6	\$75
Grades 7&8	\$100

Scholarship The parent should contact the president to make the proper arrangements. All names will be kept confidential.

Registration Registration for youth basketball is held between mid August through October. Flyers are available through our WMYBA.org. No registrations will be accepted after the "drop dead" date. The "drop dead" date is determined by the WMYBA board.

K – 4: Deadline: November 13, 2006 Drop-dead date: January 15, 2007
5th – 8th: Deadline: October 2, 2006 Drop dead date: October 8, 2006

Late Fee 5th – 8th A \$25.00 late fee will be applied to registrations received between the deadline date and the drop dead date. Late fees and drop dead date will be waived if a player is needed for a team that has not reached it's minimum number

Refunds Once a player has signed up, no refunds will be permitted

Practices/ Game Typically one game and practice a week, space permitting.
 K-4 grades practices on Saturdays December - February.
 5-6 grades practice one night a week and games/tournaments on Saturdays December - mid March.
 7-8 grades practices or tournaments on Saturdays November - mid March.

- Program Goals**
- Provide effective, high quality training for players and coaches at all levels.
 - Provide programs that are cooperative with, and respected by, other community programs.
 - Strive to create a fun and entertaining environment for the players, families, coaches and community.
 - Seek to maximize the potential of every player in the program.
 - Develop players and teams that are able to compete at a top level.
 - Encourage and foster player participation for the full length of a player's youth sports career.
 - Foster the importance of teamwork and the understanding that all team members play an integral part in the success of the team.
 - Promote skill development and create a positive self-esteem for every player

- Eligibility** Players are eligible to participate subject to the following criteria:
1. Must be enrolled/participate in a school basketball program.
 2. Must be a currently registered member of WMYBA
 3. Must have paid all applicable fees
 4. Must have completed all required forms
 5. Must meet age guidelines

Recreational Basketball / In-House / K – 6th

Philosophy In-House basketball opportunities are offered for children in grades K through 6. In grades K-4, we focus on developing skills with drills on dribbling, passing, shooting, defense and rebounding. T-shirts will be provided to each student participant. For the 4th graders, there might be an opportunity for students to play in several games at the end of the season, but that is not our goal or is guaranteed. It has been past practice to start K-4th grade practices the first weekend in December and concluding on the last week of February. There are no practices over the Christmas and New Years school holiday break. All schedule practices are dependent on gym availability. Each student will be given a schedule either before or during the first day of practice.

In grades 5 and 6 In-House, we focus on the value of teamwork. Balancing competition is the priority in selecting teams. A maximum of two coaches may request to work together. Teams typically have 1 practice and 2 games per week. Playing time is shared during the games. The 5th and 6th grade program works on basketball fundamentals as well as team play. The 5th and 6th graders participate in league play with games scheduled on Saturdays. They also will participate in tournaments held in neighboring communities. Numbers of tournaments are to be determined, annually, dependent on WYMBA budget.

Competitive Traveling Basketball / 7th - 8th

Philosophy For those players interested in a more competitive level of play, a traveling league is offered with weekend tournaments. The WMYBA reserves the right to choose between league play, tournaments, or both for their 7th through 8th grade teams. Traveling basketball is for those individuals who are interested in competing at a higher level. It requires a greater commitment, in that each participant is expected to attend all practices, league games and weekend tournaments.

In grades 7th and 8th, we offer a metro traveling program where we bring more focus on competition and developing skills. Metro teams are formed of our best players to compete with the best players from other communities in the metro area. Our goal is improvement in team and individual skills.

The WMYBA will pay for teams to play in up to 7 tournaments. Total number of tournaments to be determined, annually, by the WYMBA budget. We offer equal opportunity but not equal playing time. Recognizing that individuals will have different skills and needs, a positive environment will be created to foster contribution, accomplishment, confidence and a feeling of self-worth in all players. Each participant will be treated fairly and know they are an important part of the team. All contributions are valued.

Emphasis is on skill development, teamwork, cooperation, sportsmanship and respect for others. At the traveling age levels, more emphasis is placed on team development and equal playing time is not guaranteed. Winning is not the primary focus, however, more emphasis is placed on competing and striving to win.

Traveling programs are offered for grades 7 through 8. Teams are formed according to age guidelines set by the MYAS. Tryouts, if necessary are conducted by the boys and girls varsity basketball coaches or their designees.

Guidelines for Playing Time - Grades 7th and 8th

- Players should play a minimum of 1 quarter per game
- Play the 4th quarter to win with the players that are playing the best.
- In games where your team is far ahead or behind, try to equalize playing time.
 - A. Playing Time
 1. There is no requirement that equality of playing time occur.
 2. Once a team is selected, coaches shall treat all of the players on the team as part of the team. Coaches, particularly at the younger age levels, are encouraged to strive toward equal playing time.
 3. Playing time is at the discretion of the Head Coach based on the following:
 - a. Need to develop depth of talent at every position.
 - b. Attendance of the players at practices, games and team meetings.
 - c. Effort of the players in practice and game situations.
 - d. Commitment of the player to improve her/his skills.
 - e. Skill level of the players on the team.
 - B. Position Play
 1. Playing time should be arranged to enhance the development of skills for every player at more than one position.
 2. Players should be given opportunities at positions where they will be successful at and to build player confidence.

Team Descriptions

If numbers permit, and at the discretion of the board there may be one or more teams. There will be an "A" team, followed by a "B" team .

"A" Team

- This team shall be made up of the top 8 players. With a maximum of 10.
- Players shall be determined by a number of factors including try-out results, playing experience, past year's performance, needs at skill positions, the determination, commitment and desire to improve by the player.

"B" Teams

- The B teams shall be made up of the top players from the players available after selection of the A Team.

Extra Player

If a team needs an extra player for a weekend due to a schedule conflict, sickness or injury, the player must come from within the WMYBA. The head coach has the option to select the player. The coach will select from the next level down in the same age group. If no one is available, they are then allowed to proceed to the next age group.

Playing Up

A player cannot play up except to fill a vacancy due to lack of participants. A player cannot play down for any reason.

Playing Time and Player Development

Equal playing time in position and team-age dependant is not guaranteed.

Position

Not all players have the attributes required to play certain positions (for example, point guard or post).

Team-Age

The younger the age group (grades 5 and 6), the more individual player development and equal playing time is stressed. The older the age group (grades 7 - 9) the more team development and placing the most competitive team on the court is stressed.

Over the course of the season each participant will get a fair and ample amount of playing time, but not necessarily at the positions the player desires. Each coach is responsible for assuring this happens. The coach has the authority to limit playing time due to unexcused absences from practices or games, or for other disciplinary reasons.

Playing time can also be limited due to one or more of the following:

- Disciplinary action is being taken (based on attitude, practice habits, etc.)
- The player has been suspended
- The player is injured or sick
- The player has unexcused absences

Drug, Alcohol & Tobacco Policy

The WMYBA believes that all players and coaches participating in a WMYBA youth activity should refrain from the use of alcohol and/or controlled substance.

It shall be a violation of this policy for a player or coach participating in a WMYBA youth activity to use a beverage containing alcohol or use, consume, have in possession, buy, sell or give away any controlled substance.

Once a violation has been brought to the Board's attention and a decision has been made by the WMYBA Board, the player or coach will be informed of his or her ineligibility via a written letter from the WMYBA board.

First Violation Upon notification by the Board, the player or coach shall lose eligibility for the next two consecutive games or two weeks of a sport season in which the player or coach is participating, whichever is greater. No exception is permitted.

Second Violation The player or coach shall lose eligibility in the WMYBA for that season. No exception is permitted. No refund.

Accumulative Penalties Penalties shall be accumulative beginning with and continuing throughout the players or coaches participation in the WMYBA.

WMYBA Tobacco Policy The WMYBA does not condone the use of tobacco by players under the legal tobacco age. It shall be a violation of this policy for a player participating in a WMYBA activity to use tobacco. Once a violation has been brought to the Board's attention, the player will be informed of their ineligibility. The ineligibility will be the same as for the Drug/Alcohol Policy. The basketball program demands a drug, alcohol and tobacco free sports environment. Coaches and parents will refrain from the use of alcohol or tobacco during practices and games.

Unsportsmanlike Conduct Policy

The WMYBA reserves the right to dismiss at any time a player, coach or parent who by their conduct creates significant problems for the team or disrupts practices or games.

Unsportsmanlike conduct by a player, parent or coach will not be tolerated.

First Violation Upon notification by the Board, the player, coach or parent shall be suspended for 1 game.

Second Violation The player or coach shall lose eligibility in the WMYBA for that sport season. No exception is permitted.

Cumulative Penalties Penalties shall be cumulative beginning with and continuing throughout the players or coaches participation in the WMYBA.

Grievance Policy

When a player, parent or coach has a concern regarding policies, procedures or behavior, the following steps should be followed to resolve the issue:

1. Address the concern with the coach.
2. If the problem persists or is unable to be resolved between the player or parent and the coach, bring it to the attention of the program coordinator, in writing. Form included at end of Policy
3. The program coordinator should meet with the involved parties to discuss the situation and find a solution. If mediation is unable to resolve the issue, a meeting with the president will be necessary.
4. The WMYBA board members will discuss the issue and make a decision on the issue. The decisions of the WMYBA Board will be final.

Coach Selection Process

Coaching Selection Anyone interested in coaching a team must check the appropriate area on the registration form. We encourage everyone to get involved. In the event that there are multiple people interested in being the head coach, the Board members will evaluate the candidates on their commitment to coaching, experience, knowledge of the game, and coaching philosophy to select the head coach. Assistant coaches will be selected by the Grade Coordinator.

Selection Criteria Selection Criteria includes at a minimum the following items:

- Previous youth coaching experience.
- Ability to teach players of all skill levels.
- Attendance and active participation in coach and player clinics.
- If the applicant has previously coached, feedback from prior seasons.
- Ability to provide positive reinforcement to players in both practices and game situations.

Additional Duties **Coaches are responsible to help clean up the Watertown-Mayer facilities at the end of the tournaments they are participating in no matter what time their last game is over.**

Ethic Codes

Coaches' Code of Ethics

I hereby pledge to live up to the following WMYBA Coaching Code of Ethics: I will place the emotional and physical well-being of my players ahead of my personal desire to win.

- I will remember to treat each player as an individual, remembering the large spread of emotional and physical development for the same age group.
- I will do my very best to provide a safe playing situation for my players.
- I promise to review and practice the necessary first-aid principles needed to treat injuries to my players.
- I will do my best to organize practices that are fun and challenging for all my players.
- I will lead, by example, in demonstrating fair play and sportsmanship to all my players.
- I will ensure that I am knowledgeable in the rules of basketball, and that I will teach these rules to my players.
- I will use those coaching techniques appropriate for each of the skills that I teach.
- I will remember that I am a youth coach, and that the game is for children and not adults.
- I will demand a drug, alcohol and tobacco-free sports environment for my team and agree to assist by refraining from their use at all games and practices.
- I will refrain from the use of profane language.

Players' Code of Ethics

I hereby pledge to live up to the following WMYBA Players' Code of Ethics:

- I will do my best at all practices and during all games.
- I will listen to my coaches while at practices and at games.
- I will practice good sportsmanship by treating all players, coaches, parents and officials with respect.
- I will not use profanity. I understand that I will be warned for the first offense and, at the discretion of the coach, can be suspended from play for the remainder of the current practice, current game or for the following game.
- I will do my best to help my parents get me to games and practices on time.
- I understand that improvement comes from practice and sometimes I may decide to practice on my own, away from scheduled practices and games.

Parents' Code of Ethics:

- I hereby pledge to live up to the following WMYBA Parents' Code of Ethics:
- I will encourage good sportsmanship by demonstrating positive support for all players, coaches and officials at every game, practice or other youth sports event.
 - I will place the emotional and physical well being of my child ahead of any personal desire to win.
 - I will insist that my child play in a safe and healthy environment.
 - I will provide support for coaches and officials working with my child to provide a positive, enjoyable experience for all.
 - I will demand a drug, alcohol and tobacco-free environment for my child and agree to assist by refraining from their use at all youth sports events.
 - I will remember that the game is for children and not for adults.
 - I will do my very best to make youth sports fun for my child.
 - I will ask my child to treat other players, coaches, fans and officials with respect regardless of race, sex, creed or ability.
 - I will promise to help my child enjoy the youth sports experience within my personal constraints by assisting with coaching, being a respectful fan, providing transportation or whatever I am capable of doing.
 - I understand that the WMYBA reserves the right to dismiss at any time a player who by the conduct of their parent significantly creates problems for the team or after verbal warning continues to disrupt practices or games.
 - I will assign responsibility for my child to the coach if I am not present at games.

<h2>Parent's Additional Responsibilities</h2>
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Parents will be asked to work WMYBA activities.

Duties to include: admissions takers, concession stand workers, school hall security, score keepers and time keepers if high school or middle school student are unavailable to help, set-up for and clean up of tournaments. Parents will also be asked to be tournament directors. Their duties would include making sure workers are scheduled to work during the tournaments we host. Presently, WMYBA policy is to have one tournament for each boys and girls team 5th through 8th grade

DISCLAIMER:

The Watertown-Mayer Youth Basketball Association (WMYBA) is not responsible for any injuries which result from participation in their basketball program. In addition, the WMYBA is not responsible for replacing any lost of or stolen articles the players might lose during the season.

The WMYBA Board has the final decision on any issue not covered in this handbook.

Revised: 10/06

