



October 2007

BAC BOYS IN-HOUSE BASKETBALL
PARENT'S HANDBOOK



2008

**Burnsville Athletic Club
Boys In-House Basketball**

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www.bacbasketball.com



BAC BOYS IN-HOUSE BASKETBALL

OUR MISSION

BAC provides supervised recreational and competitive programs for young people intended to instill principles of sportsmanship, honesty, loyalty, courage and respect.

OUR ORGANIZATION

If you are new to BAC In-house basketball, welcome. If you are a returning member, welcome back. We believe that the In-House Basketball program, like all BAC sports, play a part in providing the quality of life we enjoy in ISD 191 (Burnsville, Savage and Parts of Eagan). BAC programs are the catalyst for many long-term relationships between families that might otherwise not happen.

We are an all-volunteer group. With the exception of part-time office staff, there are no paid BAC In-House Boys Basketball positions. The In-House Basketball Committee membership changes each year as families transition in and out of the program. Anyone who has an interest in making a positive contribution to our program and helping make basketball happen for our youth is welcome to take on a volunteer role. We are always looking for people to help put together a quality basketball experience for the boys and their parents.

Please contact us at 952-895-4425 if you would like to get involved.

This is an instructional league. We hope that the opportunity to play organized basketball will help your son learn to appreciate and play the game for many years. We also look at our program as an opportunity for the boys to make new friends and to get some exercise during the winter months.

The program serves about 900 kids from grades 3 through 12. That works out to about 90 teams, 180 volunteer coaches (head and assistant), and approximately 1,800 parents. We schedule 100 - 150 practices per week, 50 - 75 games per week and referees as needed for the 11 weeks of our season. (The number of weeks will vary from year to year. It is currently based on the District 191 school schedule).

HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT YOUR PLAYER

Parents play a key role in making the basketball season rewarding. Please consider that:

- Our coaches are volunteers and most coaches are also basketball parents. Offer to help him or her with administrative details. Coaches will vary in their ability to utilize assistants, but at least make the offer to help out if you can (e.g., coordinate your team's picture day; run simple drills during practice; assist with equal participation during games; coordinate the treats list; keep stats; do communications; etc.).
- Practice time is limited to one or two session per week. Encourage your player to work on his skills everyday, individually or with friends.
- During games, let the coaches coach and avoid yelling instructions to players from the sideline. It confuses players on the floor.



- Encourage your son to accept aspects of the season that may not play out ideally. Team assignments, referee calls, player's positions, coach's personalities are all part of a team game. Teachable moments present themselves in dealing with realities that don't meet expectations and doing so gracefully and with good sportsmanship.
- Each team needs to provide either a scorekeeper or a clock operator. Offer to do these easy tasks.
- Feel free to grab a custodian's mop prior to your son's game and mop the court. Don't be shy, just do it!
- Take the initiative to keep our gyms clean. Pick up trash after the game. Stack chairs after the last game of the day. For the first game, get to the gym early to help with setup.
- The BAC In-House Basketball administration is set up to support the coaches and players. The coach's focus will be on the players not the organization. The coach may not be able to answer all of your questions about BAC; however, a coach can refer you to a committee member.
- If you have complaints about coaching, consider discussing it with him or her off-line, away from the boys. Consider that there are two sides to every player's complaint. The coach is often getting to know a new group of players and every coach imparts his/her own way of running a team. We prefer that issues be resolved at the coach's level.
- Don't forget to acknowledge your boy's coach for volunteering to coach the team.
- Understand that the coaches are volunteers with a range of skill levels and experience, and we never have a surplus of volunteer coaches. You can expect the coaching that your player receives to vary from year to year in a volunteer-based recreational program.
- Parents have the responsibility to get their player to practice and to games on time (15 minutes early) and to pick them up on time. Please afford your son's coach the courtesy of a phone call if your son will miss a game or be late. Planning for equal participation is difficult to adjust at game time.
- Don't leave your son unattended if the coach(es) haven't yet arrived for practice or the game. If a practice or game has been cancelled without your knowledge, you may be leaving your son stranded alone for an hour.
- Coaches should ensure that no child is left unsupervised after practice or a game, so if you (parents) are late, you are forcing the coach to stay late. Being on time is common courtesy.

GYMS, PRACTICE, AND SCHEDULES

As mentioned we have 100 teams that need practices and at least one game, per week. We rent gyms from ISD 191. The schools have the first opportunity to use their gyms. And they are the schools' gyms. Community Ed is next in line to schedule activities, followed by BAC. In all fairness, ISD191 has been very responsive to our needs. Within BAC there are Traveling Boys and Girls Basketball and Girls Traveling Volleyball programs that also compete for gym time during the Boys In-House Basketball season.

Gym scheduling is a manual process from ISD 191 on down. We understand that changes are inconvenient for you, so we do our best to avoid errors. Unfortunately some changes (e.g., spontaneous school events) are out of our control and we will strive to notify you in a timely manner.

For liability reasons, an open gym requires a maintenance person to be on duty. Custodians are not obligated to be there (i.e., work overtime) so we need to acknowledge their role in making basketball happen. Please help maintenance staff by keeping the gym space clean and assisting with stacking chairs after the last game of the day.



Our goal is to provide each team with at least an hour of practice per week. We generally do not schedule practices on Wednesday evenings for non-High School teams. We try to assign gym times with consideration for the age of the players. We don't have 3rd graders practicing at 9:00pm on a school night.

Communication of practice times and locations for all grades is very important because missed gym slots are not easily replaced. This is especially true for the younger grades because the early times are the hardest to find. Please do not drop off your child at a school without being sure that he's in the right place and will be supervised. Practice and game schedules can be found at www.bacsports.com.

BOYS IN-HOUSE BASKETBALL POLICIES

REGISTRATION CANCELLATION AND REFUND POLICY

BAC BIHBB will provide a 100% registration fee refund before December 15 (less any late fee). Late fees will not be refunded because they represent extra effort expended to incorporate a late registration that is then being withdrawn.

Cancellations from December 15 to January 1 of the New Year will be refunded 75% of the registration fee (less any late fee).

Players that are injured before the first scheduled practice are eligible for a 100% refund (less any late fee), if the request is made before January 15 and they have not accepted or used any BAC equipment. Players that are injured and out for the season before mid-season (before Game 6) are eligible for a 50% refund of their registration fee (less any late fee). Players injured after mid-season (Game 6 or later) are will not receive any registration fee refund.

All cancellation requests must be made to the BAC office via mail (BAC Boys In House Basketball; 100 Civic Center Drive, Burnsville, MN 55337; Hotline: 952-895-4425 for questions) with documentation of a paid registration (cancelled check or registration form). Do not expect to receive a refund if your cancellation request does not include a copy of the registration receipt or a canceled check.

SUSPENDED STUDENT POLICY

BAC players that are suspended from school by District 191 will not be restricted by BAC from playing in BIHBB games. Confidentiality requirements do not allow District 191 to inform BAC of student suspensions and BAC cannot make determinations based on information from second-hand sources. While BAC strongly encourages that suspension consequences include the loss of privileges such as recreational basketball and that suspended students do not play, it is the responsibility of parents to determine whether or not their school-suspended child should participate in BAC games.

TEAM FORMATION POLICY

First and foremost, special requests for placement of certain players on certain teams are strongly discouraged. We recognize that certain hardships may result; however, it is not possible for BIHBB to satisfy everyone's requests. There is no guarantee that such requests can be accommodated.

Elementary grade teams are organized by 1) the availability of volunteer coaches. 2) The player's neighborhood school. If there are two teams at one school, the rosters will be balanced between those two teams with input from the coaches and with respect to player skills. If there are too



many or too few players at a school, it will be necessary to have at least one mixed school team. It is possible under such a circumstance that the best arrangement would be to combine the players from two neighboring schools in a manner that may have 4-5 players from the school be on the mixed school teams to assure that each player would be playing with some schoolmates.

The Junior High teams (Grades 7, 8 and 9) are formed by pooling the players by school (Metcalf, Nicollet and Eagle Ridge) and setting up multiple teams within each Jr. High based on scoring stats and coaches' knowledge of the boys' skills. The geographic (neighborhood) aspect of elementary grade team formation is not part of the consideration for Junior High team formation.

The prime objective in forming teams, if possible, is to avoid perennial 0-10 teams. The primary and most easily obtained performance statistic is the player's previous year's scoring average, which is admittedly only a partial picture of the player a year later. We rely on a pre-season session with coaches to obtain their input on adjusting preliminary rosters. The grade coordinator reserves the authority to address imbalances that remain after the coaches meeting.

Our High School league allows players to form their own teams. Each team must have an adult coach attend practices and games as a responsible representative for the team. The coach is responsible for the behavior of the team. Teams are organized into a tiered league by the High School League coordinators after the first four games give an indication of each team's level of play.

Again, volunteer coordinators form the teams. If, in your mind, it needs fixing, we encourage you to get involved.

REGISTRATION, CLOSE OF REGISTRATION AND WAITING LIST

Any students from 3rd grade through High School who attend school in District 191 or who live in the cities of Burnsville or Savage are eligible to play in the Boys In House Basketball league.

In addition to online registration at www.bacbasketball.com, BAC BIHBB will advertise and hold three official registration events for prospective In-House (recreational) basketball players. One of the three sign-up events will be held on a weekday evening. Two registrations will be held on Saturdays. Registration will occur in the September through October timeframe (approximately). There will be no scholarships awarded after the last official registration day.

After the official registration days have passed, late registrations will be accepted for a limited time. Phase I late registrations will be accepted through November 30. Placement on a neighborhood team is not guaranteed with late registration. Phase II of late registration starts December 1. Phase II registrants will be assigned to a waiting list for their respective grade. Any team with less than 10 players will be designated as having openings and waiting list registrants will be placed, in the order that their completed (and paid) registration is received, with teams that have openings. There is no guarantee that a Phase 2 waiting list player will be placed. The factors that can be expected to impact placement include other players dropping out, season ending injuries and suspensions.

Waiting list players will pay the full fee at the time they request to be placed on the waiting list. The waiting list will be discontinued after four weeks of season play have occurred (i.e., registration will be closed), at which time any unplaced players on the waiting list will have their registration fee refunded.

SPORTSMANSHIP

Players, coaches and parents must not argue the referee's calls. If appropriate, the coach might ask for a clarification on the call. Referees will make errors or unpopular calls during a contest.



This is part of the game. It is impossible to make a call that benefits both sides and it is impossible to get them all right. Errors can be minimized but not eliminated.

The desire to win can sometimes compromise the goals of sportsmanship, fairness, skills development and providing a positive atmosphere. A successful season doesn't have to be defined by the won-loss record. Consider the gains made in skills, friendships and conditioning. It is the responsibilities of the coaches and their assistants to control the actions of themselves, their players, and parents.

The BAC In-House program is a recreational and development league. It will exhibit a wide range of basketball talent. It is not appropriate for anyone to make negative comments about players, officials or coaches.

REFEREES

As part of an organized game we need referees and every player will tell you that a refereed game is a more meaningful game. We are proud to be offering referee training for youth (9th Grade and older) because the outlook for the future is a shortage in referees. Our adult referees have been refereeing a long time and they also mentor young referees.

We have some very experienced junior referees and some inexperienced referees also. Expect that they make mistakes. Most referee calls are judgment calls. We realize that parents, coaches, and players will disagree with a call or two. That is part of the game. We do monitor the junior referees and coaches will forward feedback to the referee coordinator.

Ideally fouls would be called close; however, games would never end in some cases if we did. The skill level of recreational players leads to many inadvertent fouls and as players tire their control worsens.

We all need to remember that this is all about a game. As a parent, we ask that you please set a good sportsmanship example. Parents can be ejected from games by referees, and the In-House Basketball program will support the referee's decision.

EXCERPTS FROM THE BAC IN-HOUSE BASKETBALL RULES

EQUAL PARTICIPATION RULE

- A. Each player on a team will have an equal amount of playing time (or as close as possible). No player will play more than one segment greater than other players. Exceptions to this rule include:
1. Illness or injury to a player: Notify referee and coach. (The player may return to finish his segment.)
 2. Game ejection.
 3. Disciplinary action by a coach: The parent/guardian of the disciplined player, opposing coach, and officials must be notified before the game.
 4. After four individual fouls in the first half, the player must sit. After five individual fouls in the game, the player is fouled out.
 5. If an equal participation action or infraction occurs during the game, the opposing coach and officials are to be notified.
- B. Equal participation actions and infractions must be clearly noted on the score sheet.



- C. In the event a substitution is made due to the above situations (in A1, A2, A3 or A4), the player entering the game must be a player with the least amount of playing time and that substitution time will not be used to determine equal participation for that particular player. The player that substitutes in this event shall be denoted on the score sheet with an "S" in the segment spot. This same player may not have another "S" segment until all other eligible players have an "S" segment.
- D. In an event that a player on the floor receives a technical foul, that player must sit out the remainder of the segment and be replaced by an eligible "S" player.
- E. Overtime games: Equal participation will continue through overtime. No player will play more than one segment greater than other players. OT consists of a two-minute period with substitutions occurring after one minute. If more than 10 players are on one team, two players can share one segment.
- F. Equal participation is a requirement for all grades levels. This includes regular and overtime play. Any discrepancies must be noted before conclusion of the game. Protests will not be handled after a game is completed. Key checkpoints are before the start of the 2nd half and before the start of the last quarter (i.e. segment 7). Use these times to address and correct discrepancies. A technical foul and loss of possession will be assessed against the offending team. The equal participation error must be corrected.

TECHNICAL FOULS (DISQUALIFICATION)

- A. Technical fouls will result in the awarding of two points for the opposing team (no foul shots) plus ball possession. A violation of the illegal defense rule is considered a technical foul.
- B. Players, parents and coaches that are disqualified from a game are automatically disqualified from the next game. This includes play-offs.
- C. If a team has 5 players remaining and one fouls out, the team has the option of playing with 4 players or playing with five. If they play with 5 fouls, a technical foul will be assessed for each foul committed by that player. Whatever decision is made, it cannot be changed during the course of the game.

GAME DURATION AND TIME-OUTS

- A. Games consist of four quarters lasting 8 minutes, each.
- B. Each quarter is divided into two 4-minute segments to allow for substitutions under the equal participation rule.
- C. Time will be running for the first two minutes of every segment (stopped for foul shots). The last two minutes of the segment will be stop time.
- D. Each team is allowed two timeouts per half and one timeout per overtime period. Time outs last for one minute.
- E. Half-time is limited to five minutes.
- F. Overtime periods will consist of two minutes (stop-time). This is divided into two one-minute segments to accommodate equal participation. If the game is still tied after the overtime period during the regular season, the tie will stand. During the playoffs, overtime periods will continue to be played until one team wins.



SPORTSMANSHIP

EVERYONE MUST RESPECT THE REFEREES AND THEIR CALLS. It is important that players are taught not to argue with coaches, referees and teammates. Play fair, don't cheat, don't fight, don't hurt others and be positive. Players must be willing to share the ball, pay attention to the game plan and try to execute accordingly.

FACILITY RULES

- A. NO FOOD OR DRINK ALLOWED IN SCHOOL GYMS (INCLUDES GUM).
- B. INDIVIDUAL TEAMS MUST ASSIGN PARENTS TO SUPERVISE HALLWAYS DURING GAMES AND PRACTICES. AREAS OTHER THAN THE GYM ARE OFF LIMITS.
- C. RESPECT OTHER TEAM'S AND ORGANIZATION'S GYM TIMES.
- D. RESPECT SCHOOL PROPERTY.

PLAYER'S UNIFORM

The current BAC Uniform is proof of your BAC registration and is required for game time. If one is lost, it can be replaced for a fee of \$20. Please wear black shorts and, if T-shirts are worn under the jersey, please wear black T-shirts. All jewelry must be removed prior to practice and games to prevent injury. There is no penalty for not meeting the uniform requirements. The home team will wear the YELLOW jersey while the away team will wear BLACK.

Frequently asked Questions and Answers

- 1. **Who is eligible to play in the Boys In-House Basketball league?**
Any students from 3rd grade through High School who attend school in District 191 or who live in the city of Burnsville or Savage.
- 2. **How many players registered for the 2007 Boys In-House Basketball season?**
Last year there were almost 850 players and almost 100 teams.
- 3. **What is the activity fee for Boys In-House Basketball?**
The activity fee is \$105 for 3rd grader through 6th graders and \$115 for 7th graders through High School.
- 4. **When does the season start and end?**
The season starts in January 2008 and will end with a week of playoffs and a championship weekend in mid- March 2008.
- 5. **How many games does each team play?**
Each team will play ten games.
- 6. **How many practices will there be for each team?**



There will likely be one practice per week, two if we can find equal gym space for all teams.

- 7. What grade levels have playoffs?**
All grades except 3rd grade have end of season playoffs. 3rd Grade will have a double-header fun day with participation trophies awarded.
- 8. What grade level does one have to be to qualify to be a referee?**
You must be in at least 9th grade to be a referee.
- 9. Where can I get current information regarding Boys In-House Basketball?**
For information, call the BAC hotline at 952.895.4425 or check the website at www.bacbasketball.com
- 10. Can I apply for a scholarship?**
To apply for a scholarship you will need to fill out a scholarship form with income information at the time of registration. The application also needs to be accompanied by a copy of a District 191 lunch assistance program letter. Scholarships are only available during the official registration period through the end of October. Scholarships are not available for late registrations.
- 11. When will the player be contacted by the coach?**
The coaches will call the players in mid to late December.
- 12. Can I be a coach or an assistant coach?**
Please indicate your interest in coaching on your son's registration form. All coaches and assistant coaches need to fill out and sign a background check form. We are always challenged to find enough coaches.
- 13. Will there be a coaches meeting before the season starts?**
All coaches will meet in early December.
- 14. May I request a specific coach?**
No, we place all players on neighborhood teams within a school area.
- 15. Why is my child playing with different kids this year?**
We may have had more or less kids sign up this year, or a different parent may be the coach.
- 16. Can I choose which area my child will play in?**
No, we place all players on neighborhood teams within a school area.
- 17. What if we live in Burnsville but my child attends a public school outside of ISD 191?**
Your child will be placed on a neighborhood team within the school area where you live.
- 18. What if we live outside of Burnsville and my child attends an ISD 191 school?**
Your child will be placed on a neighborhood team within the school area you attend ONLY if there is an open roster spot. If there is not an open roster spot, you will be placed on the next closest team with an open spot.
- 19. What if we live in Burnsville and attend a private school?**
Your child will be placed on a neighborhood team in the area that you live.
- 20. Can my child play at a higher or lower grade level?**
No, all teams are formed by grade.
- 21. What if my daycare provider lives in one area and I live in another?**



Your child will be placed on your home neighborhood team.

22. What if we live in one school area, but have a variance for ISD 191 to attend a different school?

It is our preference that your child plays in your home area. If you elect to register and play in the school area you attend, you will be placed on a team in that area only if there are roster opening, otherwise, you will be placed on a team in your neighborhood.

23. What if I need to carpool?

All the families on the team will be from your area and carpooling can be arranged AFTER teams are formed.

24. What if my child's team does not have a coach?

All parents on the team will meet with the grade coordinator. If nobody is willing to coach or co-coach, the team will be dissolved and placement on other teams throughout the league will be made, PROVIDED THERE ARE OPEN ROSTER SPOTS. If a dissolved team member is unable to be placed on a different team, a full refund will be provided.

25. May we request our child to play with a specific child?

Special requests for placement of certain players on certain teams are strongly discouraged. There is no guarantee that such requests can be accommodated and it is not possible for BIHBB to satisfy everyone's requests. Teams are formed per the Team Formation policy available at www.bacbasketball.com.