



Hortonville Basketball

Hard – Smart – Together

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I. MISSION

The purpose of Hortonville Basketball is to teach these young men life lessons. The players that leave this program will understand the importance of commitment, trust, communication, confidence, accountability, and how to compete for what they want. They will learn discipline, how to handle adversity, and how to work with others for the good of the whole. Young men that leave this program will be ready for the “Real World” and not be afraid of it.

“**HARD-SMART-TOGETHER,**” meaning we are focused on what Hortonville Basketball emphasizes. Are we going to class, listening and being respectful, being honest, being a servant leader in the community, looking someone in the eye when they are talking, defending, blocking out, triple-threat position, sprinting our cuts, taking high-percentage shots, etc.? **Are we doing all the little things necessary to make Hortonville Basketball better each and every day?** We ignore what everyone else is doing and focus on our fundamentals. Do what we do best and we will be successful!

Hard

- Rebounding: Take pride in it, put yourself in a position to do it by being physical, attack basketball off the rim
- Deflections: Never stop being active, get hands on a pass, dive on the floor for loose balls
- Screening: Set defender up for screen, make contact with defender & screener, go hard off screen
- Passing: Use good hard pass fakes and never be careless with the ball
- Run the floor hard: Beat your opponent down the floor every time
- Finish: Play every possession of every game HARD regardless of score
- Dribble penetration: Stop it by keeping the basketball in front of you; put your chest into them
- Shot selection: Don't settle for just perimeter shots, get to the rim and finish strong

Smart

- Watching film: Understand how to watch film so you/we can get better
- Focus: In practice, in the locker room, during time-outs, in the classroom
- Defensively: Know what we are in, know your opponents abilities, know the situation
- Offensively: Know what we are running, get ball to the hot hand, understand the flow of the game
- Game plan: Be aware of what we are trying to accomplish and be able to adapt to in-game adjustments
- Your role: Know your strengths and weaknesses and do what's best for the team
- Don't be silent: Ask questions if you don't understand what it is we are asking you to do

Together

- Get on the Bus:
 - Pick your teammate up when they are on the floor
 - Constantly communicate to the team (from bench, on the floor, locker room, bus, etc)
 - Celebrate the success of your teammates
 - Hold your peers accountable in a positive way
 - Win and lose as a team, don't let individual stats cloud what we are trying to accomplish
 - Be a great teammate, let's have the best, most energetic bench in the FVA
 - When players come out of the game, coaches and teammates stand to applaud their effort
 - Negative body language will not be tolerated, rely on teammates to pick you up when frustrated

II. PROGRAM PHILOSOPHY

We are deeply passionate about player development both in basketball and in the game of life. We believe in teaching a comprehensive system of play that will allow us to experience the consistent results of competing and winning **championships** on and off the court.

CORE VALUES

1. **Commitment** – Hortonville Basketball Players will be committed to the coaching staff, teammates, weight room, skill development, representing HHS, fundraisers, and game plans.
2. **Trust** – Hortonville Basketball Players must trust their teammates to be in the correct positions on the court, to work hard in the off-season and in practice, to work on skill development, to support them in public, to take care of the academics, to believe in the coaches and trust the plan they (coaches) have in place for them.
3. **Communication** – Hortonville Basketball Players will talk when running back on defense, talk while on offense, acknowledge a good play from a teammate, listen when coaches are speaking, and talk about things off the court that need to be completed. Communication is a skill that needs to be developed to make anything successful.
4. **Confident** – Hortonville Basketball Players will play with confidence at all times. You will understand that there will be ups and downs to a season or within a game, but you will still remain confident in the plan, your ability and your teammates' abilities.
5. **Compete Fearlessly** – Hortonville Basketball Players are not afraid of the moment; they respect all teams and fear none. You will compete with the highest of energy in the weight room, in practice, and in games. We will outwork the other teams each and every day to make sure that we are the best we can be. This means that you will have some toughness—both mental and physical—to not give in when things aren't going your way. This also means that you don't get too high when things are going good because you know more work is needed to continue at a high level.

III. PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

1. Instill work and accountability in each student athlete so he can maximize his full potential in the classroom, on the basketball court, and in the game of life.
2. Prepare each student athlete for the real world by holding him accountable to our program core values.
3. Create a family atmosphere for all past, current, and future Hortonville Basketball Players.
4. Establish an attitude and tradition that will attract students to want to participate in the basketball program at Hortonville High School.
5. Compete and win the FVA Championship and the Division 2 State Championship.

IV. IDENTITY OF A HORTONVILLE BASKETBALL PLAYER

1. Gives his best effort in everything he does, tells the truth and makes no excuses regardless of circumstances.
2. Maintains a positive mental attitude and body language.

3. Understands his role on the team, takes great pride in it, and focuses on team goals more than individual goals.
4. Attacks everything he does! Finishes everything he begins!
5. Believes that team defense wins championships, and is entirely committed to development in this area.
6. Has a clean and profanity-free mouth. No F-words.

V. IDENTITY OF A HORTONVILLE BASKETBALL COACH

1. Serves as a leader and responsible role model.
2. Acts professionally and honestly in all relationships.
3. Treats and teaches each player with respect.
4. Communicates role on and off the court.
5. Remains loyal to each player in public and in private.
6. Evaluates each player's basketball talent.
7. Enhances each player's basketball skill-set.
8. Assists each player now and after graduation in any way possible.
9. Makes decisions on what is best for the team.
10. Provides discipline and structure for each player and helps him mature and grow as a young man.
11. Works each player out of his comfort zone in practice to prepare for the ultimate goal.
12. Makes Hortonville Boys Basketball a positive and memorable experience.
13. Stays firm, fair, and consistent regarding discipline.

VI. IDENTITY OF A HORTONVILLE PARENT

1. Puts program first.
2. Publicly supports all members of the program.
3. Communicates any issues in an appropriate manner.
 - a. Utilizes one-on-one conversations.

VII. COACH-PLAYER-PARENT COMMUNICATIONS

Our goal as a staff is to promote a family atmosphere where all parents and students are comfortable. The coaching staff will strive to make sure all of the parents and students are on the same page.

Communication throughout the entire year is vital for successful parent and student relations with the coaching staff. Communication is important for successful player development on and off the basketball court, too. Great teams begin with great parents! Coach Hintz will have an "open-door policy" for students. We encourage any student who has an issue with his coach to reach out to the coach to reach a resolution.

4-STEP HORTONVILLE BASKETBALL COMMUNICATION PROCESS

Step 1 – Student meets with head coach

Step 2 – Student and parent meet with head coach

Step 3 – Student, parent, and coach meet with the athletic director

Step 4 – Student, parent, coach, and athletic director meet with principal

Students are expected to meet with Coach Hintz first if they have an issue or problem. If a coach receives an email, phone call or face to face communication from a parent/family member before hearing from the student, the coach will politely ask that the student comes to the coach first (as directed in the 4-Step Hortonville Basketball Communication Process). This process streamlines the communication process and promotes accountability to all students within the Hortonville High School boys' basketball program.

There will be times during the season when a parent or player may be confused about why something happens the way it does. Please remember that knowledge is the best way to find a solution. There are many things that are part of the game plan that are not seen or heard during a game. These instructions take place at practice, in the locker room, on the bus, during film session, or in the huddle on the floor. The only way to be clear about what is happening on the floor during a game is to get all of the information so that a clear judgment can be made. This is why we stress that players come see Coach Hintz if they are confused about their role, playing time, etc.

24-HOURS

Remember, immediately following a game—win or lose—is a tough time to talk to the coach. Usually the coach, player, and parent are very emotional. Please adhere to the 24-hour rule. Wait until the next day to contact the coach with an issue. Usually by then, both sides might be more rational and able to find a solution to the problem. Coach Hintz prefers communicating in person rather than by phone or email. If meeting in person is not possible, speaking over the phone is the second-best way to communicate.

VIII. COACHES CRITERIA FOR PLAYER EVALUATION

1. *Effort*

Student-athletes will be great practice players, fundraisers, community members, youth camp workers, and film-session participants regardless of their status on the team.

2. *Skill*

Student-athletes will be critiqued on whether or not they have the skill to play competitive high school basketball. Skill refers to their ability to defend, shoot, pass, dribble, rebound, and demonstrate high-level fundamentals.

3. *Basketball IQ*

Student-athletes will have knowledge of the game. This is critical, as each player will need to blend his skills and talents into an organized and structured setting. Our program will challenge these athletes mentally as they are introduced to a wide variety of concepts, terminologies, and schemes.

4. *Coach-ability and Attitude*

Our coaching staff is looking for young men who will accept our teaching and coaching. We expect each player to respect the decisions that we make as coaches, have a willingness to be taught and coached, and follow the philosophy of our program at all times. Attitude is extremely important within our program! It's contagious. Is yours worth catching?

5. *Character*

It is our philosophy for our student-athletes to represent Hortonville High School, themselves, and their families with the utmost character. It is a belief of our coaching staff that the avenue of sport, more than any other source, demonstrates the true character of human beings. Therefore, we want our players to be selfless, encouraging to teammates, respectful of our opponents, officials, and fans, and have genuine joy to compete in the game of basketball.

IX. ACADEMICS – DRUGS AND ALCOHOL

Please refer to the co-curricular code at this Web address:

<http://www.hasd.org/schools/hs/hhsathletics.cfm>

X. PRACTICE

- Players are expected to trust and listen to their coaches to learn. Never negatively question a coach on the court or in public. However, players are expected to ask clarification questions regarding basketball skills, concepts, etc.
- Players are expected to demonstrate a positive mental attitude along with positive and inspiring body language. Players that showcase a negative attitude will lose the privilege to practice and play games.
- Players are expected to compete with a consistent and maximum effort.
- Players are expected to improve their skill-set each night before they walk off the court.
- Players are expected to hustle in drills and never loaf on the court; **NO WALKING!**
- Players are expected to get on the floor and start pre-practice as quickly as possible.
- Players are expected to wear their Hortonville Basketball practice jerseys.
- Players will not be shooting half-court or non-game shots before or during practice. When time for a drill, players will put all the balls back in the rack before the next drill can start.
- Players are expected to know the difference between “hurt” and “injured.” Hurt means you have obvious pain but you are able to continue playing because the pain is manageable. Injured means you have pain that is not manageable and beyond your pain threshold where you need to seek medical attention from the trainer. All injuries need to be reported to the coach or trainer before you leave.
- Players who are considered “injured” will not be cleared to practice until the trainer or doctor approves.
- Players are expected to take care of injuries during practice time.

- Players are expected to take care of school property and equipment including the locker room, old high school gym, North Greenville, HMS, FHS, and all bathrooms. No spitting or gum tossing in gym.
- Players are expected to attend every regular and post-season practice. Excused absences will be given out to players who contact their direct coach 24 hours in advance with a realistic reason. Unrealistic reasons are going to another sports game, going to girlfriend's house, going to the weight room, going to a concert, etc. Realistic reasons are group projects, study hall, family emergency, family reunion, sick, etc.

XI. ATTENDANCE

- Attendance at all games, practices, meetings, conditioning sessions, and team events is **mandatory**.
- All varsity players should be at JV games for the start of the games.
- Excused and unexcused attendance for games will be dealt with on a case-per-case basis.
- JV and Freshmen players are expected to watch the entire Varsity game home or away.
- Players are expected to attend every regular and post-season practice. Excused absences will be given out to players who contact their direct coach 24 hours in advance with a realistic reason. Unrealistic reasons are going to another sports game, going to girlfriend's house, going to the weight room, going to a concert, etc. Realistic reasons are group projects, study hall, family emergency, family reunion, sick, etc.
- For every unexcused absence, that player will sit out at least the first quarter of the upcoming game. If a player has more than three unexcused absences in the season, he will be suspended as well as given an action plan to get back on the team. Commitment to teammates and coaches is one of our top priorities at HHS.

XII. PLAYING TIME

- Players will be assigned to a team that is parallel with their demonstrated abilities. This assignment is not permanent. Players have the opportunity to move up or down based on performance during practices and games.
- The determination of the playing time is entirely up to the head coach and is dependent upon many factors. These factors are both measurable and subjective. On top of these factors, Varsity, JV, and Freshman are different levels of play regarding pace, talent, and objectives.
- Playing time can be affected due to actions that are not tolerated, such as: complaints to officials, technical fouls, ejections, fights on the court, arguments with coaches, etc.
- It is not guaranteed that any player will play at all during the season, let alone how much they will play. **What is guaranteed is that the coach will have an open-door policy and occasional meetings with the players. The meetings will be private and provide insight into what needs to change for them to earn more playing time.**
- **Freshman Level**– Time to develop more skills and get accustomed to our system; winning will not be substituted for skill development. Not everyone is guaranteed playing time or equal playing time; playing time still has to be earned.

- **JV** – Another level for development; this level is for a player that has the opportunity to help the varsity team the following season. Developing a player’s skills and knowledge is more important than winning.
- **Varsity** – Best players play regardless of age, playing time determined by who gives us the best chance to win.

XIII. TRAVEL ATTIRE/GAME ATTIRE

- The objective is to look professional, presentable, and represent HHS with class. We will wear travel suits on all away games (the ones issued at the beginning of the season). For home games, players will wear khaki pants and a Hortonville shirt.
- Players will refrain from wearing hats/beanies on game days while inside the facility. Wearing a sweatshirt under the travel suit is allowed because of the cold winter months. Coats are also allowed and can be removed in the locker room.
- The objective is to look uniform and as a team. Players will wear the issued warm-up shirt, jersey, and shorts for all home/away warm-ups and games. **Game jerseys will remained tucked in at all times.**
- Wristbands, armbands, or headbands are not allowed unless given permission by Coach Hintz.

XIV. LOCKER ROOM

- The locker room is our “home,” and all players—no matter their grade level—are expected to feel welcome and safe. Keep your areas, including your locker, clean.
- Locker room music will be appropriate in language and in volume. If not, it will be removed.
- The locker room is a place to mentally prepare for the game/practice. We have zero tolerance for unprofessionalism or horseplay inside the showers, bathroom, etc.

XV. EQUIPMENT

- Players will be issued team equipment during the regular season. This equipment is extraordinarily expensive and extremely valuable to our basketball program. Due to our tight budget, equipment needs to be treated with respect to ensure longevity. All players and parents must understand that equipment is a loan from the school and has to be returned after the season is over. If a player does not return his game jerseys, game shorts, warm-ups, etc., HHS will fine him in order to pay for the replacement. Ordering replacement items is expensive and the Boys’ Basketball Booster Club or HHS will not be liable for lost or stolen items that were issued to players.
- If the items are returned with stains, holes, discoloration, etc., the player faces the possibility of being fined so a replacement item can be ordered.
- All equipment issued to each player should be returned to the head coach the first Monday following the conclusion of the last game.

XVI. SOCIAL MEDIA

- There will be a form given to the players that they will sign in regards to social media.

XVII. AWAY TRIPS

- Players are required to stay with the team at all times on away trips.
- Players who leave the travel party, no matter the circumstances, will have their parents called, be sent home immediately, and be suspended from the team.
- All HHS Boys' Basketball policies are in effect when traveling.

TEAM BUS

- All Varsity, JV and Freshman players must ride the team bus to and from away games. If you have a family event to attend, then the proper paperwork needs to be filled out with the athletic director at least 24 hours in advance. Having homework or studying for a test is not an excuse, plan ahead and bring necessary schoolwork materials if needed.
- No cell phone calls on away bus trips (text message parent or guardian if absolutely necessary); talk to your teammates while on the bus.
- Traveling to our away game is a time for concentration and mental preparedness. Players are expected to refrain from horseplay, loud conversations, and other distractions.
- There are no assigned seats or saved seats.
- Players are expected to show courtesy and respect to bus drivers and fellow passengers. This includes following all established bus rules and keeping the bus clean.

XVIII. FILM SESSIONS

- Players are expected to watch game film on a consistent basis. The coaching staff will videotape each varsity game and upload it to Hudl. There will be team film sessions, individual film sessions, and take-home assignments regarding film.
- During team film sessions, players are expected to attentively listen to the coach and focus on the important parts of the film, such as: mistakes and corrections to make, what other teams are doing, individual player tendencies, etc.

- Film sessions will shed more light on performance, both good and bad. Players are expected to maintain a positive attitude regarding criticism from the coaching staff. These sessions are used as a tool to help you!

XIX. JEWELRY

- To ensure everyone's safety, no jewelry will be worn at any time during practice, game, walk-thru, etc. Please keep all valuables locked up and secure. Coaching staff is not responsible for lost or stolen jewelry.

XX. HEADPHONES

- Players can wear headphones only on the team bus. Headphones/media players are not allowed in the gym, bleachers, or locker room. Enjoy the time together with your teammates and coaches. We will have pre-game music playing in the locker room along with pre-practice music on the court.

XXI. CELL PHONES

- No cell phones during team meetings, practices, meals, pre-game, etc., except for emergency situations. No cell phone calls on away bus trips (text message parent or guardian if absolutely necessary).

XXII. PLAYER LETTERING

- In order to receive a Varsity letter for playing HHS boys' basketball, the student must complete the season in good standing with HHS, coaching staff, teammates, and the community.

XXIII. CAPTAINS' ROLES

- The captains are the communicators between the coach and players and vice versa. Captains will be asked to address certain things to the team on the coaches' behalf. The message we ask them to deliver to the team will be a reflection of the coaches' intentions. Understand that the captains will be put in positions to relay messages to the team that the team may not want to hear.

**PLAYERS WILL HAVE CONSEQUENCES FOR MISTAKES IN
BEHAVIOR AND JUDGMENT ON AND OFF OF THE
BASKETBALL COURT. THESE CONSEQUENCES WILL BE
FIRM, FAIR, AND CONSISTENT.**

WHAT'S NEXT?

1. **Athletic Forms:** Make sure to check with the main office to complete all forms needed for participation. Don't assume that something is in unless you clarify with them; sometimes things get lost and then it's too late and you miss some practices. If you do not have all forms by the first practice, November 16, you will not be allowed to participate until the forms are in.
2. **TRY-OUTS:** We start practice Monday, November 16, from 6 a.m. to 7:30 a.m. in the Fieldhouse. Players will be given a minimum of three days to showcase their basketball skills before cuts are made. Cuts will be made, and teams will be formed at the conclusion of the Wednesday, November 18, practice.
3. **MARK YOUR CALENDARS:**
 - a. June 23 – Fort McCoy trip for players that are going to be Sophomores-Seniors. Leave at 6 a.m.
 - b. June 20 – JV/Freshman tourney
 - c. June 19, 20, 21, 22 – Varsity Tournament at Kaukauna (Only two days; those TBD)
 - d. November 16 – First day of practice (6 a.m.)
 - e. November 18 – Parent Meeting (6 p.m.)

FURTHER INFORMATION

1. **WEBSITE:** hortonvillehoops.com
2. **Twitter:** @hvillehoops
3. Please feel free to contact Coach Hintz at 920-538-3627 with any questions or email him at matthintz@hasd.org
4. The end-of-the-year banquet will be the Sunday after the boys' WIAA State Tournament. It will be located at Grandview Golf Course starting at 5:30 p.m.

I HAVE READ THROUGH THE PROGRAM MANUAL. I AGREE TO THE TEAM GUIDELINES AND EXPECTATIONS.

X _____
Student Athlete (print name)

Date

X _____
Student Athlete (signature)

X _____
Parent/Guardian (print name)

Date

X _____
Parent/Guardian (signature)

**PLEASE RETURN THIS PORTION TO COACH HINTZ BEFORE MONDAY, NOVEMBER 16.
THANK YOU!**