



NOT YOUR AVERAGE BASKETBALL CAMP

NYABC Program 2017

Parent and Player Information

Mission:

Our mission is to provide children with challenges and their families a fun and safe environment to grow socially and emotionally through the game of basketball.

NYABC Program:

1. We ensure safety first. Fun second. Basketball third.
2. We guarantee a 1:1 volunteer to player ratio. This is key to our programs success! Sometimes we will have a 2:1 or 3:1 volunteer to player ratio, but it will never be the other way around.
3. This program is unique for every child; one size does not fit all. Each buddy pairing will function differently based on the needs of the player.
4. Our division is NOT competitive; players will not “win” or “lose”.
5. This is our fourth year in operation. We realize that we are not perfect, and are constantly finding ways to improve the experience of our program for our participants. We are open to suggestions!

Clinic Information:

The basketball clinics are usually 2-4 weeks long, and take place once a week on the weekend. Each session consists of one hour of gym time, followed by a brief snack time and an opportunity to network and socialize with other players and families.

The cost per clinic varies, but a typical clinic will cost \$25 per session. This cost includes an NYABC t-shirt, refreshments, and a certificate at the conclusion of the clinic.

Parent Roles:

We would like for you to take this time to sit on the sideline and enjoy watching your child have a great time playing sports! Of course, we realize that your role on the sideline is not permanent – please feel free to jump in, help, and coach when necessary. Just let us know! Encourage your child to participate, and the volunteers will do their best to keep them engaged for the full program. Keep in mind, what you see may not look like a regular basketball clinic.

Please be respectful of our volunteers and our coaches. They have made a commitment to our program. Without them, this experience would not be possible.

Volunteer Roles:

We would like the volunteers to help the players have fun, while maintaining a safe environment for all. They are encouraged to use the game of basketball to engage the players, even if it does not fit inside the box of what basketball is supposed to look like.

During the “game” portion, volunteers are to help the players as much as possible by playing little to no offense or defense. We want the players to experience and enjoy the game as much as possible. Even though the volunteers are on the opposite team, we still encourage them to help their players.

What we have told them:

- Safety first, fun second, basketball last.
- Your main job is to engage, be a cheerleader, and to be flexible. Try everything and anything, use trial and error, and be creative! Our goal is to keep players active for the entire program.
- Get to know your player. Find out from them or parents what interest them/motivates them.
- Always be supportive. Use positive feedback at all times. Focus on your kid first.
- Be patient and gentle with the players. All players will have various levels of skills and abilities. Some players may react to things differently than others. It is important that you not “react”. Please be patient and know that parents, coaches, and other volunteers are here to help.
- Don’t be afraid to ask coaches or parents for advice. Communication is key.
- Let us know if something is happening that the coaches or parents should know about.

Objectives:

1. We try to achieve a specific goal over the duration of the program. This goal is developed by the family and NYABC. (i.e. improving patience, building social skills, motor skills, etc.)
2. We try to teach the players how to dribble, pass (bounce passes only), shoot, and the basic rules of the game of basketball. The rules are very lightly enforced.
3. The program may look like chaos at times. As long as the kids are safe and are having fun, just go with it!

Other Important Reminders:

There is absolutely no “drop-off/pick-up”. An adult must stay the entire time. Parents know their child best, and are best suited to help in the event of a physical or emotional issue. If you have to leave for any reason, you must take your child with you.

Please stay thirty minutes after the program on day one to enjoy snack time. Please stay one hour after the program on day two to enjoy a complementary lunch. This is just as valuable to the children as the basketball portion! Take this time to network with other families.

Please do not show up early. Doing this makes the program seem long and cumbersome, especially for the players. By the time we are ready to start, the players are ready to go home.

**Thank you so much for making this program work.
We really appreciate your support – without you, NYABC would not be possible!**

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