

2025-2026
WAA Travel Basketball
Parent Information



Mission Statement

WAA Traveling Basketball is dedicated to growing **each player's** enjoyment of basketball by developing skills in practice and applying them at the **appropriate level of competition** based on age and ability. Our primary goal is to run a competitive program where all players **improve, have fun, and return** to play basketball next season.

Expectations

- Gym Use – respect school property & staff (need support from parents to kids)
 - NO BOUNCING BALLS IN HALLWAY
- Players can only be at the gym on their practice dates/times
 - We do not have open gyms, and all courts are in use by WAA teams
 - Players cannot just "hangout" at the gym on their off days or before/after practice
- Parent/Player Contract Attestation
- Treat refs with respect
 - Current ref shortage
- Respect what the coaches are doing (no sideline coaching)
 - All coaches are volunteers
- Ensure a positive environment is created for all players

Playing Time

- Grades 4 & 5 – equal playing time
 - *Assuming practice attendance, positive attitude, effort, sportsmanship, etc.*
- Grades 6 & up – equal playing time rule does NOT apply
 - *Players should receive reasonable playing time (minimum 30%), assuming practice attendance, positive attitude, effort, sportsmanship, etc.*
 - *All players should play in each game, if this does not occur, please reach out to travel directors*

Conflict Resolution

- The head coach is your first point of contact
 - If the conflict is game related, please wait **24 hours** before contacting the coach
 - If there is player to player conflict, please report this to the coach immediately as this usually happens out of the coach's sight and they cannot help if they do not know about it
 - Playing time is up to the coach's discretion, please encourage your child to talk with their coach if playing time is the issue
- If the issue needs to be escalated, please reach out to the appropriate traveling basketball director
 - **Girls Traveling Director:** Laura Maciejewski at girlstravelbasketball@waawoodbury.org
 - **Boys Traveling Director:** John Rodemeyer at boystravelbasketball@waawoodbury.org
- Further escalations will include basketball directors as well as the higher-level WAA board
 - **Girls Director:** Angie Heldstab at girlsbasketball@waawoodbury.org
 - **Boys Director:** Nick Maciejewski at basketballdir@waawoodbury.org

Travel Schedule

- Pre-season basketball opportunities– end Aug to beginning of Oct
- Practices officially start in October (typically after MEA break)
- Team Pictures – November 7
- Kickoff Night – Mid-November
- Rochester Tournament – November 22/23 (hotel information coming soon)
- WAA Youth Night at Woodbury High School Game – TBD
- Tournaments Nov to March – see Boys and Girls Travel Websites for more details

MYAS Grade State

- Girls – February 28 / March 1 (all teams participate)
- Boys – spring break timing makes State an option for teams this season. Please plan accordingly:
 - Grades 3rd-6th March 7/8
 - Grades 7th-8th March 14/15

Tournament Schedule

- Tentative weekend dates & locations are posted on Travel Page
- Game schedules typically will not be released until 7-10 days prior to each tournament
- Tournament directors will typically use the Tourney Machine App (Sports Engine) or RegPlay App (MYAS) when sharing schedules



Practices

- Facilities are always challenging to obtain
- The goal for traveling basketball is to have:
 - 2 practices per week
 - Girls teams will play in 10-11 tournaments and have at least 1 skills session per month
 - Boys teams will play 9-10 tournaments and will have skill sessions supplementing tournaments for select teams
- Practice locations, days of the week, and time of day will vary
 - We know that many players have religious events on Wednesdays, but we are unable to avoid practicing that night. Not enough Gym space to use only the days that coaches/families desire.
 - Late practices – We must use what we are given. Typically, older teams practice later.
 - Earlier access is not available due to Kids Club and HS/MS Sports.

Practice Start Times

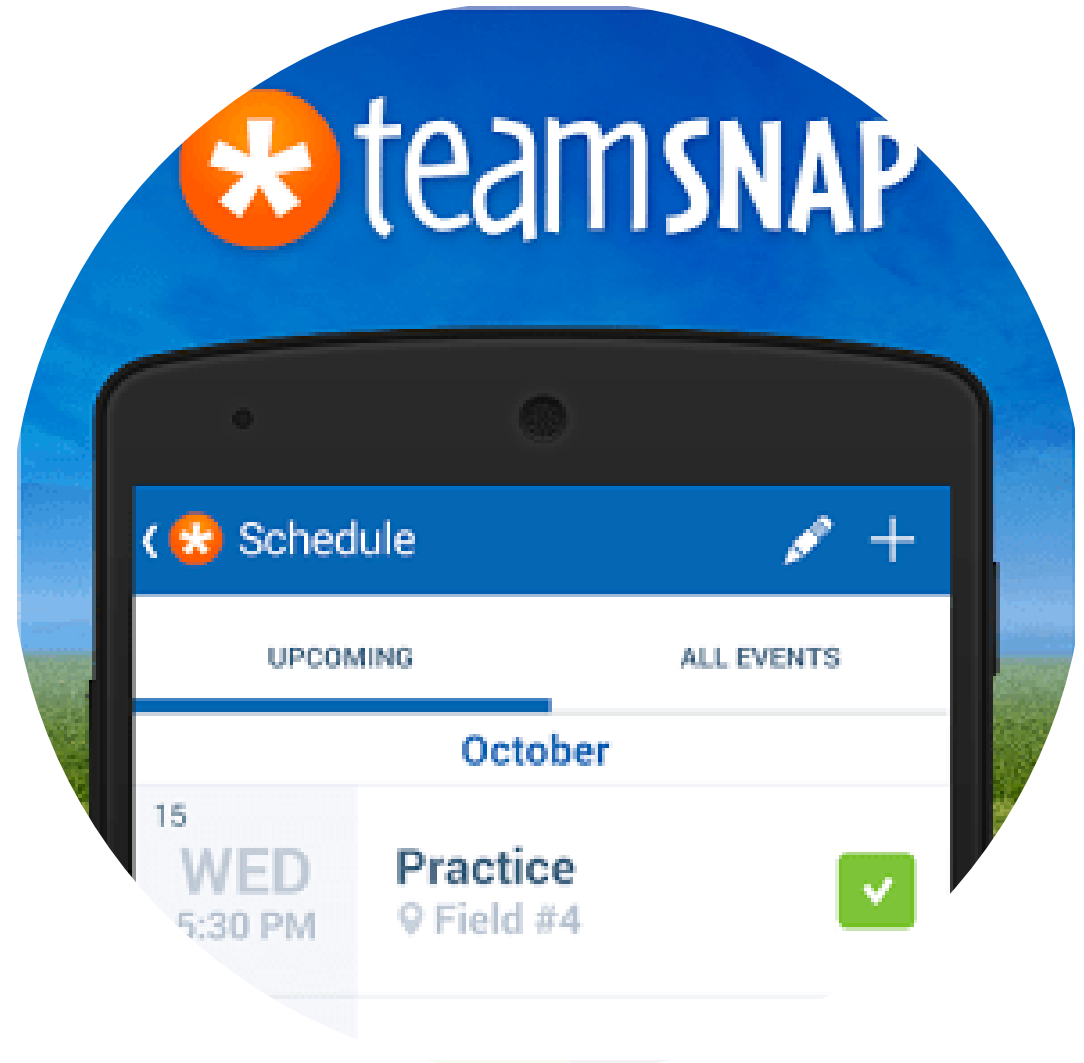
Early practices typically start at 6:00 or 6:30pm

Late practices typically start at 7:30 or 8:00pm

(Fridays occasionally start at 5:30pm)

TeamSnap

- You will receive an invite to your team's TeamSnap via email
- Download the app and log in so you stay up-to-date with Team information
- Game and practice schedules will be posted in TeamSnap
- Parents should mark availability accurately in TeamSnap so coaches can plan practices accordingly
- Coaches will communicate by email or TeamSnap



WAA Tournament

- Volunteer Requirement of 4-6 hours or \$300 charge for not fulfilling the obligation (per family).
 - Concessions Sales
 - Concessions Set Up
 - Site Supervisor
- Our Woodbury tournament helps supplement costs for our WAA traveling basketball program which allows us to keep registration at a lower price for families.
 - Boys Woodbury Classic January 24 & 25
 - Girls Royal Rumble Jan 31 & Feb 1

Tryout Process

- Independent evaluators
- 2 sessions – required that you attend both (some smaller 1 team age groups will have just 1 session)
- Please contact Laura Maciejewski (Girls) or John Rodemeyer (Boys) via email if you have a conflict with tryouts
- Goal is to place all travel ready players on a team, but sometimes for their own development, it's more appropriate to ask a player to be placed in the in-house program
- Teams will be posted on the website within a week after tryouts
- Parents are not allowed to observe tryouts
- Players should bring a water bottle and an indoor basketball appropriate for their age group (see chart on website)
- Tryout Schedules will be posted on the Boys and Girls Travel Pages

Tryout Skills Assessment

Players will be assessed by independent evaluators over the course of 2 days of tryouts.

- Day 1 has more focus on skills with built in competition.
- Day 2 has more focus on game type situations and application of skills.

The below chart contains the skills and abilities that players will be evaluated on during their tryouts.

Lay-Ups	Shooting	Ball-Handling	Passing	Defense	Offense	Team Play	Hustle/Aggressive	Listening
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of both hands • Accuracy • Finish in traffic 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accuracy • Correct Form • Shot Selection 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of either hand • Dribble under pressure • Eyes up • Limits turnovers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sees the floor • Accuracy • Catches the ball • Strength of pass 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can guard on the ball • Help position • Ball pressure • Communicates • Doesn't take possessions off 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understands spacing • Pass and cuts • Understands screening • Takes open shots within their range • Shot selection 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Team Player • Passes to the open person • Helps on defense • Encourages teammates 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effort at both ends of the floor • Goes after loose balls/rebounds • Never walks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Listens to facilitators instructions • Stops play when whistle blows • Asks questions if lacks understanding

Uniforms (Jersey + Shorts + Team Hoodie)

- This is the SECOND year of our NEW 3-year uniform cycle
- **NEW PLAYERS must order a uniform (jersey, shorts, hoodie), along with any returners who no longer fit in their uniform from last season.**
- Families order uniforms online through BSN.
- If your child does not make a team, you will be refunded uniform costs and registration fees after teams are posted.
- Sample uniforms will be available to try-on at Uniform Fitting dates (directors will email families dates for boys & girls fittings)
 - We will not have any extras, so it is important that you order the correct size!
- Online ordering process through BSN – link will be posted on the boys and girls travel website and emailed out to families
- Uniforms will be shipped directly to families this year
- If you have questions or cannot make the try on , please reach out to [Maren Dries](mailto:basketballuniforms@waawoodbury.org) (basketballuniforms@waawoodbury.org)



Player and Fan Gear

- The BSN store will open in September
- We will send out an email with the link once it opens
- We will also post the link on the WAA Girls and Boys Travel Basketball Pages and on our Facebook Page

Refund Policy

- Before Tryouts
 - Full refund, less the \$30 admin fee, and less uniform order
- After Tryouts
 - If travel team was made...
 - No refund
 - Except in cases of injury
 - If travel team was not made...
 - Uniform order is cancelled and refunded
 - Transfer to in-house program with credit back for the difference or full refund

Help Wanted – Open Positions

Future Board Openings

Positions need to be filled in the next 1-2 years, due to families aging out of the program.

- Equipment Manager
- Girls Director
- Girls In-House Director
- Girls Tournament Director
- Boys Travel Director

Questions

- **Uniforms / Apparel:**

- Maren Dries at basketballuniforms@waawoodbury.org

- **Girls:**

- Laura Maciejewski at girlstravelbasketball@waawoodbury.org
- Angie Heldstab at girlsbasketball@waawoodbury.org

- **Boys:**

- John Rodemeyer at boystravelbasketball@waawoodbury.org
- Nick Maciejewski at basketballdir@waawoodbury.org