



P.L.A.Y Travel Basketball

Parent Meeting
October 2024

Basketball Board members



- **Aaron Arterbury** – VP of Basketball
- **Ken Loehlein** – Director of Operations
- **Cole Nelson** – Director Boys Travel
- **Lindsey Gust** – Assistant Director Boys Travel
- **Marc Lunde** – Director Girls Travel
- **Jen LaValley** – Assistant Director Girls Travel
- **Britni Kesselring** – Boys Tournament Director
- **Courtney Ruckdashel** – Boys Tournament Director

Basketball Board members



- **Bridget Borrell** – Girls Tournament Director
- **Kelly Schwandt** – Girls Tournament Director
- **Katie Fautsch** – Equipment Manager
- **Megan Thomas** – Equipment Manager
- **Christine Schmitz** – Uniform Manager
- **Lyndie Schmitz** – Website/Communication Coordinator
- **Tonya Miller** – Volunteer Coordinator
- **Kim Prchal** – PCA Coordinator
- **Kim Wunsch** – Scheduling Coordinator
- **Andrea Fisher** – Referee Coordinator

P.L.A.Y. Mission Statement



Prior Lake Athletics for Youth, serves the Prior Lake / Savage School District, to provide competitive yet fun athletic opportunities for kids. Our priority is safety, skills development, and the teaching of life lessons through sports.

Our program promotes the importance of sportsmanship, teamwork, leadership, and integrity. We believe learning both success and failure through competition will benefit our future generations.

Code of Conduct: Players



I will promise to conduct myself in accordance to the following Code of Conduct at all times understanding that there will be consequences if abused.

1. I will treat each athlete, coach, parent and official with respect and dignity.
2. I will do my best to attend all practices to learn the fundamental skills, and be attentive to coaches to learn game strategies.
3. I will contact my coach if I am unable to attend a practice or game.
4. I will accept the calls of the officials and will play to the rules of the game.
5. I will give my personal best efforts at all times to help my team and coaches.
6. I will treat all equipment, fields, courts and facilities with respect and adhere to all rules of these areas.
7. I will control Emotional and Verbal outbursts that are detrimental to myself or those around me.
8. I will not use profanity.

Code of Conduct: Parents



As a parent of a P.L.A.Y. athlete, I will:

1. Engage in “No-Directions Cheering”, letting the players and coaches take responsibility for the first goal of winning. I will relentlessly focus on the second, more important, goal of using sports to teach life lessons to my child and other youth.
2. Set an example for my child by Honoring the Game and will encourage him/her to remember ROOTS (Respect for the Rules, Opponents, Officials, Team & Self). This includes appropriate language, comments, dress, and actions.
3. Use positive encouragement to fill the Emotional Tanks of my children, their teammates and coaches. As I understand people perform at their best being positive.
4. Reinforce the ELM of Sports Mastery with my child, meaning that I will encourage my child to... (E) put in a high level of Effort, (L) have a teachable spirit to continue to Learn and improve, (M) to quickly rebound from Mistakes.
5. Support my child’s commitment to their team by getting my child to and from practice and games on time. I will share in my child’s commitment to the team as an in-season sport and work with coaches when conflicts arise.
6. Allow a 24 hour ‘cool down, be objective’ period before I discuss any serious concerns I have with a coach before communicating with that coach in an objective and adult manner.

Role parents play



Before a game:

- Ask for and support THEIR goals
- Release your kids to the sport and the coach

During a game:

- Be there!
- Model appropriate behavior
- Focus on the TEAM
- Pick your role – Spectator, player, coach or official

After a game:

- Learn the best way to support your child (regardless of outcome) and give them space
- Save the post game analysis
- Be a confidence builder

Conflict resolution



- It is a fact...conflicts will occur. Open and effective communication is critical!
- Following procedure should be used:
 - Players and parents should first discuss any issues with the Head Coach of the team
 - If the issue can't be resolved or is in regards to the Head Coach the matter should be brought to the Girls or Boys Travel Director
 - If the issue still cannot be resolved, the matter should be brought to the VP of Basketball
- 24 Hour rule is not just for tryouts...it's always in effect!

Travel Basketball



- Aimed at higher level of competition with more repetition
- Goal is to have fun, develop skills while being competitive
- Significant time commitment from both players and families
 - 9 or 11 tournaments
 - 2 to 3 practices per week
- Should be players primary sport/activity during the season
 - No additional travel leagues or full season sports should be played during the season

Playing time



- Following the mission statement of P.L.A.Y., we want all players to have a fun and competitive season
- All players will play
- There will be times when some get more than others
- Playing time is determined by:
 - Skill and game knowledge
 - Foul trouble
 - Match-ups
 - Attitude
 - Attendance
- Inbalanced playing time is the #1 piece of feedback in end of year surveys. Don't wait...bring it up if it is a problem!

Playing time policy



- **3rd through 5th grade:**
 - Minimum expected playing time for every player is an average of 45% of minutes per game over the course of a tournament.
- **6th through 8th grade:**
 - Increased emphasis placed on players and team performing at a higher competitive level
 - Minimum expected playing time for every player is an average of 40% of minutes per game over the course of a tournament.
- Holistic tournament is used to allow coaches more flexibility across multiple games vs a single game.

Practices



- 2 to 3 times per week on weeknights only
 - No Wednesday practices
- Coaches may add additional practices if gym space is available
- Early time slots are available and help create space in the schedule (2:30pm and 4:30pm). Validate this works for parents
- Work with other coaches as needed to swap times or locations
- Kim Wunsch – Scheduling Coordinator
 - kw4pack@gmail.com

Tournaments



- 3rd grade: 9 tournaments
- 4th – 8th grade: 11 tournaments
- Tournament dates are updated on website. PLEASE CHECK AGAIN as there were some changes to specific teams due to the addition of new teams!
- All tournaments held in the Twin Cities metro area (except Brainerd)
- Most tournaments use a “no gate” model
- Additional tournaments can be registered for by coach with costs being covered by parent group. (No overnight tournaments allowed for boys)
- MYAS State Tournaments (location announced closer to dates):
 - Girls: February 22nd and 23rd
 - Boys: March 1st and 2nd (3rd through 6th grades)
 - Boys: March 8th and 9th (7th and 8th grades)

Brainerd Tournament (Girls)



- February 15th and 16th
- Block of hotel rooms will be reserved at a discounted rate for families. Details will be provided soon!
- Families are responsible for costs.
- Reminder: Athletes, parents and families represent Prior Lake. Follow all policies and conduct yourselves with the utmost integrity!



P.L.A.Y. It Up Classic Tournament



- Girls Tournament – November 9th and 10th
- Boys Tournament – February 8th and 9th
- Parents must volunteer for a 6-hour shift to support these tournaments
 - Parents who volunteer to coach are excluded from the volunteer requirement. Team Parent only has to do 3 hours.
 - Local tournaments are a significant source of revenue for the program. We rely on volunteers to help bring it to life!
 - Please uphold the commitment once you have signed up!

Coaches

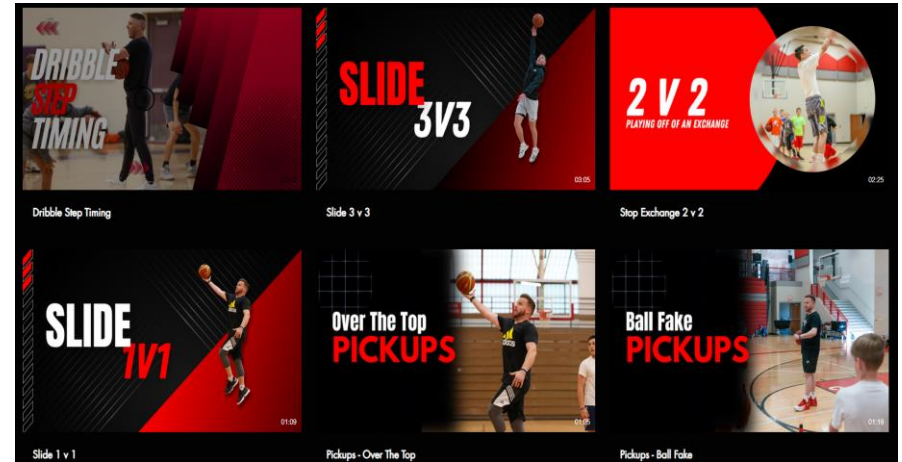


- First and foremost...THANK YOU!
- Equipment Pickup: October 14th or 15th from 7pm – 8:30pm
- Hold team meeting before first practice
- Communicate effectively with parents
 - Practice time or location changes
 - Player performance/behaviors
 - Potential for adding tournaments
- Have a practice plan and keep activities fresh and engaging
 - Encouraged to work with other teams to foster competition and development
- Monitor and ensure playing time standards are met
- Submit tournament photos via new Google Forms process
- **Important:** End of season player evaluation is required of each coach

Coaches tools



- **Partnership with Catalyst Training**
 - NBA Skill Development program
 - Over 500 videos available online and in app for coaches
 - Two voluntary youth coaching clinics ran by NBA Skills Coach Reid Ouse
 - Wed, October 23rd 6pm
 - January date TBD
- **High school coaching clinics**
 - Boys – Monday, October 14th at 6pm, Twin Oaks Middle School
 - Girls – Tuesday, October 15th at 6pm, PLHS Basketball Team Room



Miscellaneous



- Travel program Handbook
 - www.playinfo.org/travelbasketball
- Picture Day
 - Week of November 11th – 15th
- Boys overnight moratorium
- SportsEngine
 - Used for scheduling and communication
 - All activity completed by Coaches/Team Parent
- Laker Sports Pass
 - Free admission to PLHS athletic events (winter sports only) for all grade levels
 - Paid adult is required and team jersey must be worn
- PLHS partnerships
 - Meet the Lakers (Boys) - Monday, November 25th at 6pm, PLHS Gold Gym
 - Team of the Night – select nights and teams, details coming soon

Miscellaneous



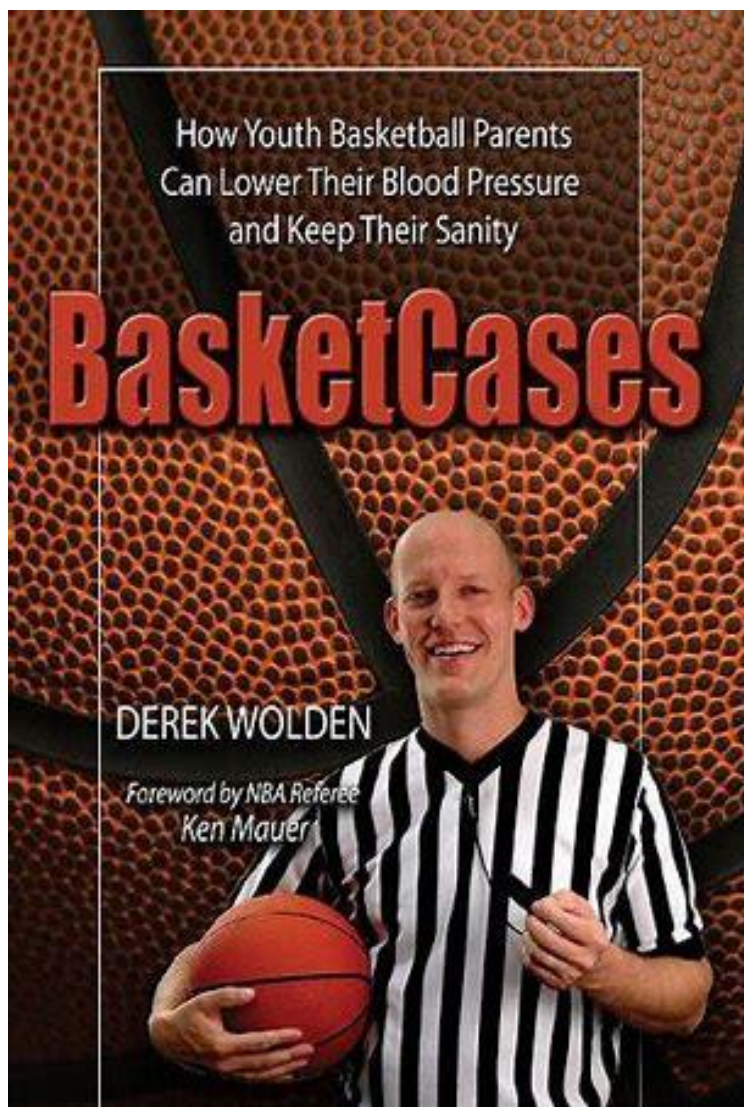
- Volunteer hours
 - 6 hours per family (unless coaching)
 - Fulfilled during PLAY Tournament and new opportunities to support Open Gym will be available in the winter!
- Team volunteer activity
 - Options will be coming shortly
- Submitting tournament results and photos





Kim Prchal

Basketball PCA Coordinator



Derek Wolden