

# Jr Trojan Basketball

## 2009-2010 GUIDEBOOK

<b>Commissioner:</b>	<b>Bruce Thayer</b>
<b>Boys Directors:</b>	<b>Don Dalton Tom Webster</b>
<b>Girls Directors:</b>	<b>Kevin Carlson Clay Krapp</b>
<b>Advisory Council:</b>	<b>Coach John Stanton Coach Shawn Eckwall Mark Mann Darin Johnson Luann Kulm Kraig Kingston Teresa Starks Bruce Thayer Don Dalton Tom Webster Kevin Carlson Clay Krapp Tim Lorenz</b>

## **OBJECTIVE:**

To provide opportunities for the youth of our communities to improve their fundamental and team basketball skills. The Jr Trojan program is designed to provide progressively competitive opportunities for athletes in grades 5 through 8.

**Outstanding skills teaching + Challenging Play Opportunities= GOOD  
BASKETBALL PLAYERS**

The competitive basketball program shall not conflict with SSAP, as that program is essential in introducing young players to the game of basketball and allows for kids to compete recreationally while learning valuable skills. We highly recommend all Competitive players continue to play in the SSAP program.

## **JR TROJANS ADVISORY COUNCIL**

The Advisory Council will be asked to assist the Commissioner and Directors with decisions regarding the organization's operations, including the selection and evaluation of coaches and players.

The council will work cooperatively with the Tournament Planning Committee when planning the annual basketball tournament.

## **ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS**

Any youth wishing to participate in the Jr Trojans program must first adhere to the following eligibility:

- Registration fees for participation in the program must be paid prior to the first practice. The approximate fees are as follows:
    - 6 Tournaments: \$100.00
    - 5 Tournaments: \$85.00
    - 4 Tournaments: \$70.00
- \*\*Fee DOES NOT include \$25.00 uniform deposit

- Players will need to attend a tryout (or series of tryouts) to determine placement on the appropriate skill level team.
- 5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade teams are encouraged to play in an organized league.
- It must be the intent of all players to attend Platteview High School.
- 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade players must participate in the Platteview Central basketball program. The player may need to attend a tryout (or series of tryouts) to determine placement on one of 2 competitive teams, based upon the level of skills demonstrated during the tryout.
- Roster changes may occur subsequent to the initial placement based upon player performance in games and practices at the coaches or advisory council's discretion.
- All players must be enrolled in the 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, or 8<sup>th</sup> grade to be considered eligible for participation in the program.
- It is recommended to have a maximum of 16 players for each age and gender division, providing 2 teams (A & B) for each grade level. Players may be moved from one squad to another squad under the direction of the coaches.
- If a player participates in another basketball organization (other than the Jr Trojan program), his/her first priority for games and practices must be with the Jr Trojans. A player may not play for another team in the same tournament that his/her Jr Trojan team is entered into.
- EXCEPTIONS
  - Individuals moving to the Platteview School District after the completion of an organized league or junior high seasons will be considered for eligibility.
  - Injuries, which prohibit a player from taking part in either an organizational league or junior high season, will not hinder a player's eligibility. If a player is injured during the tryout, special consideration may be made on the player's behalf.
- The Commissioner, Directors, and Advisory Council will appoint a "Point" person for each grade. That person may or may not coach, but will be responsible for securing coaches for their grade level.
- Tryouts will occur each fall for placement on the team for each grade. The Advisory Council will assign evaluators for each grade and gender.

## **COACHING RESOURCES:**

The following is a list of resources available to coaches.

- 1) 4 basketballs and a ball bag will be checked out to each coach.
- 2) Uniforms will be provided for grades 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>.
- 3) 2 videos from the Better Basketball collection will be given to each coach (Better Shooting & Better Defense).
- 4) The high school coaches will conduct a Coach's Clinic in the fall that coaches must attend.
- 5) A playbook will be given to each coach. It will include a variety of drills that can be used during practices.
- 6) Sample practice schedules to illustrate time needed for drills, and how to prioritize focuses for each practice.

## **TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE**

Each year, our organization and it's coaches receive entry applications for tournaments. Many of these tournaments conflict with others, so the Commissioner, Directors, and Coaches will cooperatively decide which tournaments will be attended. Participation in the Platteview tournament is mandatory. It is encouraged to enter larger tournaments where there is more than 1 division for each grade level. Below are some recommended tournaments for the fall of 2009 and spring of 2010.

-Mid-October:	Titan Early Bird Classic	Papillion South
-Mid-November:	GBA Tournament	Gretna
-Early-December:	Skyhawk Tournament	Skutt Catholic
-Late February:	Jr Trojan Shootout	Platteview
-Mid-March:	MIT	Lincoln
-Late-March:	Bellevue Jam	Bellevue

We'll also create a master list of other tournaments that the coaches can access. There are some great out of town tournaments (Kearney Blowout, etc) that can be fun for overnight stays.

### **EXCEPTIONS:**

-Since 7-8<sup>th</sup> grade boys have their Jr High season in the fall, they are encouraged to play more tourneys in the winter/spring, or play in an organized league.

-Since 7-8<sup>th</sup> grade girls have their Jr High season in Jan-Feb, they are encouraged to play more tourneys in the fall, and/or play in an organized league.

## **TOURNAMENT PHILOSOPHY**

Our goal for any team participating in a tournament will be for the team to be competitive and win as many games as possible.

In the 5<sup>th</sup> grade division, coaches will be encouraged to play all players as equally as possible.

In the 6<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> grade divisions, coaches will be asked, but are not required, to play all players. Playing time will depend on the situation at hand.

Players who do not regularly attend practice, fail to produce an acceptable excuse for missing a practice or game, or do not exhibit proper sportsmanship and/or respect for others may face a suspension from participation, at his/her coach's discretion.

## **PRACTICES**

Once teams are selected, coaches will be responsible for scheduling practices. The Commissioner will have a master list of gym openings, so the coach will need to coordinate with the Commissioner to secure gym times. If there is more than one team in a grade division (e.g. Boys 5<sup>th</sup> grade), it is encouraged those teams practice together. Some available gyms are:

Springfield Community Building  
Springfield Elementary School  
Platteview High School  
Platteview Jr High  
Westmont Elementary

Coaches will need to keep practices to 90 minutes in length. Coaches will be allowed 3 contacts per week (2 practices and 1 tournament, or 3

practices). Due to the limited gym space, there should be no Jr Trojan program practices from Dec 1-Jan 31<sup>st</sup>. Exceptions will be granted for teams playing in the Twin River Basketball League.

## **COACHES**

Our coaches are volunteers and should be commended for the extraordinary amount of time and energy they give for the betterment of our kids and the program.

We expect our coaches to conduct themselves in a professional manner and that they exhibit good sportsmanship. This includes during practices, games, and all other events centered around the Jr Trojan program. We extend this same expectation to the parents of our athletes competing in the Jr Trojan program.

Coaches will be evaluated and are encouraged to ask for assistance from the Commissioner, the Directors, and the Advisory Council.

## **UNIFORMS**

All players will be required to pay a \$25.00 security deposit for their uniform. If uniforms are not returned, those athlete's deposit check will not be destroyed. **The \$25.00 security deposit check for the uniform will be destroyed, not returned, after it is returned to their coach.**

Coaches will be required to return all materials (i.e basketballs, uniforms, etc) to the Commissioner by April 15 so the items can be inventoried and replaced, if necessary.

## **CONCLUSION**

Any situations not outlined in this guidebook that may occur will be handled on a case-by-case basis by the Advisory Council. The Advisory Council encourages new ideas from parents, coaches, and anyone interested in furthering the development of youth basketball in our community.

Let's keep in mind, our objective is to provide opportunities for the youth of our communities to improve their fundamental and team basketball skills, and do so in a progressively competitive environment. We need to get kids interested in basketball, and keep them interested by helping them improve their skills, and then provide the opportunity to use those skills in competition.