



## **2022-2023 WARREN COUNTY YMCA 2<sup>nd</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Co-Ed Basketball Parent's Letter**

**Dear Parents/Guardians**

**Welcome to the 2<sup>nd</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Co-Ed Basketball Program at the Warren County YMCA. Thank you for having your youth in our program! First things first, our YMCA Basketball Programs and Leagues are all about the kids. It's all about teaching them the 'fun'amentals of the great sport of basketball. We thank you for the opportunity to help lead your kids!**

**For our 2<sup>nd</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> Grade group, we will meet on Saturday mornings starting at 11:30am following Bidy Basketball Games. For this first week (12/10), we will split the kids into multiple groups and run a station-to-station clinic focusing on the following basketball drills/skills: Shooting, Passing, Defending, Footwork, Rebounding and Dribbling. Some of the kids may already know these skills, but it is important that we go over them as a group as some of the kids in the program may have never touched a basketball before. This also gives me and my staff the opportunity to better see each kids' abilities and skills so we can better pair kids up to make teams. That way we can make teams as even as possible when we get to games. We will run this clinic for 1 hour and 15 minutes. For week 2 (12/17) the kids will be placed on teams and will practice with their team.**

**The remainder of this program's schedule is as follows:**

**2 Weekend Break (Christmas and New Year's Weekends)**

**January 7 – PICTURE DAY\*, kids receive team shirts, practice #2 with team.**

**January 14th, 21st, 28th, February 4th, and 11th are all scheduled as game days.**

**February 18th and 25th will act as MAKE UP DAYS if we any cancellations.**

**Games – As stated above, the games for this program will all be on Saturdays January 14-February 11. We will have 5 games in total. If we end up with 6 teams like last year, each team will play each other once. The first 2 weeks of games (1/14 & 1/21), game times will be 11:30am and 12:30pm as they will trail Bidy Basketball. If Bidy Basketball ends on time with no cancellations on (1/21), starting (1/28), this group's games will be earlier in the morning at either 9:30am or 10:30am. This will be reflected on the schedule, and I will update you if we need to change times around. This worked perfectly last year, and I hope schedules will work out again this year.**

**Picture Day\* – The asterisk on January 7<sup>th</sup> means it is Picture Day! We will hand out picture forms before Christmas. I will hand out team t-shirts on picture day prior to pictures as well. We will take 1 team at a time during the practices that day for pictures so that way each team has plenty of time to practice and work on drills. Shyvel and Beckie from Shyvel's Photography will be taking our pictures again this year! A big thank you to them for doing so again!**

**Make-up Days/Cancellations – There will be 2 make up day options at the end of the session as stated above (Feb 18th & 25th). These will be used only if we have to cancel one of the above dates. Cancellations will be made ONLY if the winter weather is deemed too dangerous. If I feel like we won't be able to have the program, I will cancel; otherwise it is on. If you live out of town, and don't think you can make it, but I have not cancelled, it is on you to decide if you want to come or not. I will wait as long as I can before making the call. I will send you all an automatic text from our computer system that will let you know if a cancellation is happening. If my system is not working, I will text coaches who will then forward the message to you. Please avoid bombarding the Y with calls if you have not heard from me yet. My current texting program has been not working correctly recently so please add yourself to our Simple Texting Program. Text SPORTS to (833) 458-3786 to receive updates regarding youth sports. This is where I will message you if my normal system is not working. You won't get that message however, if you do not get set up for it.**

**Coaches – This program is one of the few throughout the year that we need help from volunteer coaches. My staff and I will be focused on refereeing and running game clocks so the more help we have leading the kids, the better. I already have some parents who have signed up to help but we could always use more as some don't want to coach by themselves. Coach Gage and myself are willing to also coach a team each to help and allow me to bring a few more part time Y staff in to gain some refereeing experience. We just can't coach all the teams. ANY help you can provide is extremely important and welcome! I will host a coaches' meeting this Thursday, Dec. 15<sup>th</sup> @6pm in the AP Room. If you want to coach, but can't make it to the meeting, please let me know. We will go over all program info, rules, and I will give you your team roster. Unlike our other sports, you will not be required to run additional practices outside the 2 weeks we practice here as we don't have enough gym space.**

**Finally, if you are interested in sponsoring your child's team, the cost for the basketball season is \$190. This helps offset t-shirt, equipment, and staff/referee costs. Your logo/business or family name will be added to the back of your child's team shirts as well as on the game schedule. If interested, I would need a confirmation and will need your logo artwork by the end of week 2 (12/17) prior to when I order shirts. As a thank you, I will also have a 2x2 banner made for you that will hang outside on the baseball field fence during all Spring, Summer and Fall sports in 2023.**

**Thank you so much for reading this letter. I hope you and your child enjoy our program! If you have any questions, call me at the Y at 309-734-3183, or email me at [ben@warrencountyyymca.org](mailto:ben@warrencountyyymca.org).**

**Thank You,**

**Ben Davis**

**Youth Development Director**

**The Y: We're for Youth Development, Healthy Living, and Social Responsibility**