



## **2025-2026 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 this Winter! 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!**

**Today, the 2<sup>nd</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> Grade kids will start their season with today's season opening basketball skills clinic. We will run the kids through exercises to work on basic basketball skills focusing mainly on dribbling, footwork, passing, rebounding and shooting. 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' current abilities and skills so I can ultimately better pair them up to make as even if teams as possible. Following today's clinic, the kids will return next Saturday, December 13 for their first team practice with their coaches.**

**Important Dates to follow around the upcoming holidays:**

**December 6<sup>th</sup> – Skills Clinic – 11:45-1:00pm  
December 13<sup>th</sup> – Practice #1 with Teams. Skill Stations  
December 20<sup>th</sup> – NO BASKETBALL (HOLIDAY WEEK OFF)  
December 27<sup>th</sup> – NO BASKETBALL (HOLIDAY WEEK OFF #2)  
January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2026 – Practice #2 with Teams. Go Over Rules  
January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2026 – Game Day #1  
January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2026 – Game Day #2 + Picture Day**

**Games – All Games will take place on Saturdays. We will have 6 games on the following dates – Jan. 10, Jan. 17, Jan. 24, Jan. 31 & Feb. 7, Feb. 14. The 1<sup>st</sup> 2 games on January 10 & 17 will start closer to 11:45am due to the K-1<sup>st</sup> Rookies games still going on. My hope is that they will end on time, and our games will move up to start as early as 8:30am starting on Jan. 21 (Week 3). The game schedule will reflect this, BUT times will be updated if there are any delays/cancellations from now until then.**

**Picture Day – Picture Day is scheduled for Saturday, January 17<sup>th</sup>. Pictures will be taken prior to games starting that day following all Rookies Basketball games. We will give out Picture Order Forms to parents on January 10<sup>th</sup> after games. Shyvel's Photography will be back to take our individual, and team pictures this season. Thank You, Shyvel!**

**Make-up Days/Cancellations/Communication: There will be up to 2 make-up days available at the end of the session (February 21 & February 28). These make up days will ONLY be used if we must cancel one of the above dates due to dangerous winter**

weather and travel conditions/no power at the Y. If I feel like we won't be able to have the program, I (Ben) 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 up to you to decide if you want to come. I will wait as long as I can before making an official call. I will send you all an automatic text from our computer system that will let you know if a cancellation is happening or not. I will also alert team coaches who will also message in team chats. Please avoid bombarding the Y with calls if you have not heard from me yet. If you do not hear from me, consider the program on as normal. PLEASE opt-in to receive alerts from the Warren County YMCA via Daxko Engage. Text WCYMCA to 54539 to opt in. If you do not do this, you will miss alerts regarding delays/cancellations/program updates.

**Volunteer Coaches:** This program is one of several throughout the year that we need help from volunteers to help as team coaches. My staff and I will be focused on refereeing and running game clocks so the more help we have with leading the kids, the better! If we do not have enough coaches, my staff and I will run the games like we do for the Rookies Basketball program where we coach and ref at the same time. This is much trickier with this older group, and it would require extra help from my staff, if available. With all of that said, any help you can provide is extremely important and welcome! I will host a coaches' meeting on Thursday, December 10<sup>th</sup> @5:30pm in the AP Room. If you want to coach, but can't make it to the meeting, please let me know asap. We will go over 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 of the 2 weeks of practices in December & January due to the limited gym space.

**Kidtropolis:** A friendly reminder, Kidtropolis is closed to the public during all Youth Basketball/Youth Sports activities. Once Basketball ends every Saturday, Kidtropolis will be reopen and be available to use.

Finally, if you have any interest in sponsoring our program and your child's team, the cost for the basketball season is \$200. This helps offset t-shirt, equipment, and staff/referee costs. Your logo/business or family name will be added to the back of ALL the program/team shirts as well as on the game schedule. If interested, I will need confirmation and will need your logo artwork sent to me by the end of week 2 (December 13<sup>th</sup>) prior to when I order shirts and make game schedules. As an extra 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 2026.

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**