



JUNIOR SPARTANS BOYS BASKETBALL



“EVERY KID, ALL THE TIME”

To: Junior Spartan Parent(s) and Participants

My name is Joe Rux and I am the boys basketball coach at Brookfield East High School. Once again, the summer has gone by way too fast and the beginning of another school year is on the horizon. Participants from the junior and high school basketball programs recently completed summer programming and have made huge strides under the direction of the entire coaching staff at Brookfield East. The level of participation in open gyms, camp, leagues, tournaments and strength training was impressive and we look forward to seeing the effort given translate into success on the basketball court this season.

This past year, members of the Junior Spartan board and coaching staff have strived to not only build on the success already achieved, but look for additional opportunities for our athletes. For the third straight summer we were able to offer individual training sessions at a reduced rate to all Junior Spartan participants. Opportunities such as this would not be possible without the efforts of the fundraising committee and events such as the Adults Night Out. The mission of the Junior Spartan basketball program is to serve every kid, all the time. We have strived to make every decision while keeping this mission in mind. As we continue to move forward, I welcome any suggestions you might have in improving our program and making it one of the best youth experiences in the state. Together, I am positive we can make that goal a reality.

The attached guide will outline basic information that will help answer some of the questions you might have regarding the Junior Spartan basketball program. There will also be an Informational Meeting held in the Brookfield East Cafeteria from 6:00-7:30 p.m. on September 18th (athletes are not required to attend). This meeting will provide greater depth while giving families and opportunity to have any additional questions answered.

Please keep in mind that registration will begin September 1st. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at ruxj@elmbrookschools.org. We look forward to working with your son this season.

Sincerely,

Joe Rux
Boys Basketball
Brookfield East High School



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Mission Statement:

The Junior Spartan basketball program exists to provide OPPORTUNITY to its participants. At the heart of all decisions will be our mission: “Every kid, all the time.” Together, the Junior Spartan Board, Brookfield East High School and Junior Spartan coaching staff, and all stakeholders will strive to provide every participant with the opportunity to improve and play basketball in a competitive environment.

Who can participate?

The Junior Spartan experience is available to any boy interested in participating in basketball. We have a “no-cut” policy so anyone who would like to participate will have that opportunity. Teams will be offered for grades 3-8 and will be implemented utilizing age appropriate criteria for youth development through the athletic experience. The Junior Spartan program is a feeder system for the Brookfield East boys basketball program. As a result, we ask that at a minimum your family is considering Brookfield East High School for your child’s education.

What fees are associated with the Junior Spartan experience?

The fee for participation is \$375.00. This fee covers expenses associated with facility use for practice sessions, league/tournament registration, and the purchase of equipment (basketball, practice jerseys, uniforms, etc). The registration process will be on-line this year and can be completed through the Junior Spartan basketball website. Please complete the registration process by October 4th, 2019. There are no refunds available after the registration period concludes, unless withdrawal from the program is associated with an injury or family relocation. The website can be accessed using the following link: www.beastbasketball.net.

Each year we also host multiple fundraisers to offset operational expenses. The Junior Spartan basketball tournaments, Drive 4UR School, and “Adults Night Out” are our primary fundraisers and we will need volunteers to help make these events a success. Volunteers will be needed to assist with the organization and workload associated with each fundraiser. ***Each grade level will be responsible for assisting with specific fundraising events*** to ensure that the all fees associated with the Junior Spartan program can remain reasonable. Thank you in advance for your cooperation and assistance.

Any surplus funds in excess of \$15,000.00 (base operating budget) will be donated to programs and facilities that benefit the students of Brookfield East. The Junior Spartan board has determined all money will be allocated in the following manner:

- 1) Individual Training Sessions
- 2) High School Summer Basketball Program
- 3) Strength Training Resources
- 4) Maintenance and Renovation Efforts at Brookfield East High School

What process will be used for team selection?

There will be a 2-day try-out process that will be used to evaluate participants. The evaluation process will be used for team formation and, more importantly, to develop practice sessions that assist with player development.

We will be utilizing a multi-faceted approach to team selection in an effort to serve every participant in the Junior Spartan basketball program. League rosters will be comprised using the A/B model (requirement of the WYBL) and tournament rosters will utilize the split team model which will incorporate a “floating roster” component this season. This component will help with tournament assignments while considering the competitive nature of each event. In this manner, we feel each athlete will be able to maximize their ability for improvement. Team assignments will not be provided prior to the beginning of practice and will change based on criteria utilized for league/tournament participation.

Practice/League/Tournament Information:

Practice Sessions-

Practice sessions will be held twice/week and will last 90-120 minutes in length throughout the duration of the season (3rd grade exception). Practice sessions are mandatory for all participants in the Junior Spartan basketball program. It is impossible for the coaching staff to serve athletes who are not present, or the athletes who are present, when practice sessions are not attended. Practice sessions will be held on Sunday evenings at Brookfield East High School and one additional time at another location in the community. Please keep in mind that Fall sports are a priority until the conclusion of the season. If your child is going to miss practice due to an illness or family emergency, please contact his team’s coach as soon as possible.

League Participation-

Each level, with the exception of possibly the 3rd grade, will participate in the Wisconsin Youth Basketball League on Sundays. There are 284 participants and each team will play 2 games/day every other week. League schedules will be made available on the Junior Spartan website as soon as they are released by the WYBL.

Tournament Participation-

Each level will participate in approximately 6 tournaments on various weekends throughout the season. Tournament dates/locations will be determined once registration is completed and events are made available by host schools. Thank you in advance for your patience and understanding.

Player Participation (League/Tournament) Guidelines

The goal is to provide opportunity to every participant in the Junior Spartan program. Each player will participate in every league/tournament game. Opportunities and the length of those opportunities will be determined by the coaching staff.

Conflict Resolution Policy

In an effort to make the Junior Spartan program a positive experience for all members, including volunteer coaches, please refrain from addressing issues with your child's coach. All questions and concerns should be directed to Coach Rux via email at ruxj@elmbrookschools.org. If there is a disagreement or concern regarding playing time, please wait 24 hours before addressing the issue.

Additional Opportunities for Parent Involvement

- (1) Coaching Opportunities: The Junior Spartans boys basketball program would like to invite any individual who is interested in assisting with coaching duties during the 2019-2020 season. Coaching responsibilities will include assisting with the development of practice sessions, attending practice sessions, and being available to provide instruction during drills and league/tournament games. Our goal will be simple, to provide an opportunity for EVERY athlete to develop the technical and tactical skills necessary to have a positive learning experience. A coaching application can be found on the Junior Spartan website that should be completed and turned in by October 4th, 2019. All coaches who volunteered last season will need to resubmit the coaching application and indicate that the "Volunteer" background check requirement in the Elmbrook School District has been completed. The background check can be accessed on the district website at no cost to the volunteer. We cannot thank you enough for your willingness to serve the participants of the Junior Spartan basketball program.
- (2) Junior Spartan Board: Any parent interested in serving on the Junior Spartan Board should notify Coach Rux by October 4th, 2019. The goal will be to have 1 representative from every grade level on the Junior Spartan Board for 2019-2020. The Junior Spartan Board will participate in monthly meetings to discuss the operation and budget of the Junior Spartan basketball program. This is a "working" Board and all members will assist with committee development. The Board will be a crucial element and it is important that we have representation from all grade levels to ensure success this season and beyond. Thank you for your consideration. It is greatly appreciated.

(3) Committees: Each grade level will be assigned a specific fundraising event this season. Even if it is not possible to volunteer the time needed at the Board level, committee participation will greatly enhance the quality of opportunities provided to your child and all athletes in the program.

Important Dates:

September 18th: Mandatory Parent Meeting at Brookfield East High School

Grades 3-8= 6:00-7:30 p.m.

September 22nd: Session #1: Try-Outs

Grades 3-5= 4:00-6:00 p.m.

Grades 6-8= 6:00-9:00 p.m.

September 29th: Session #2: Try-Outs

Grades 3-5= 4:00-6:00 p.m.

Grades 6-8= 6:00-9:00 p.m.