



Dear Orono Basketball Parents of 3<sup>rd</sup> Graders:

We hope you had a wonderful summer and the start of the school year has gone well! OBBA has been planning for the 2020-2021 season, and as you might expect, it is a bit of a moving target. We have decided to proceed as though we will have a normal 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade season and are preparing plans to adjust when/if needed. Communication on changes will be sent via email, posted on our website and on social media (Instagram).

We are excited for the 2020-2021 season and thank you in advance for your patience and understanding as we will surely be navigating uncharted waters. The safety of our players and our community is our top priority and we will make all decisions accordingly.

### **Registration**

Registration opens **Monday, September 21st!** Access the link via our [website](#). Registration is set to close November 1<sup>st</sup> so please register as soon as possible.

Registration Fee: \$250 per player (*no change from last season*)

Fee includes Orono reversible Jersey and Basketball as well as tournament registration costs. Orono branded shorts are optional and will be available via our Spirit Store which will open in October. More info to follow.

**Scholarships** OBBA provides scholarships to families who qualify. Please complete application [here](#) or see link on OBBA website. OBBA Families: please consider contributing to our OBBA Scholarship Fund, which enables our organization to provide opportunities to other children in our district. When completing your registration online, please look for the option to donate to the fund or contact the OBBA directly to make your donation. 100% of your donation will be used to cover the costs of scholarships for children in our program. Donations of any amount are appreciated. Thank you for supporting our community and our program.

### **Program Overview**

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade program will include Saturday Skills sessions along with one (1) weekday practice and three (3) weekend tournaments.

### **Saturday Skills Sessions**

Jefferson Mason will be back this year to continue to work his magic with our youngest players. The focus is skills work with drills and games that incorporate skill development. Our goal is for all children to have fun while beginning to develop basketball skills and developing a love for the game. All sessions will be held at the Orono Intermediate School.

**Important:** Unfortunately, due to COVID restrictions, parents are asked to drop-off and pick-up kids but not stay to spectate or assist during the sessions. Players will be asked to wear masks when entering/exiting the facility but will not be required to wear a mask during participation.

### **Saturday Skills Dates**

- November 7th, 14th, 21st
- December 5th, 12th, 19th
- January 9th 16th, 30th
- February 6th, 13th

**Location:** Orono Intermediate School Gymnasium

**Practice Times:** (subject to change based upon registration #'s)

11:30 AM – 1:00 PM	3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade Girls
2:00 PM – 3:30 PM	3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade Boys

### **Weekday Practices**

3rd graders will have one additional weekday practice beginning the week of November 9th. Specific schedules will be posted to SportsEngine at a later date.

### **Tournaments & Team Formations**

If registration numbers support forming more than one team per gender the teams will be created to ensure as even and balanced of teams as possible. Team Formations will begin at the weekday practices as the start of the season.

Each 3rd grade team will play in three (3) tournaments. Tournaments will be within the Twin Cities metro area. We attempt to find 1 day tournaments whenever possible but it may be the case that tournaments will require both Saturday and Sunday play. Typical tournaments include anywhere from 3-4 games per tournament. Tournament participation is encouraged but optional.

### **Coaches**

We rely upon parent volunteer coaches for our 3rd Grade Teams. Please consider coaching if your time and talents allow. **Coaches must apply by November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020** Parent Coaches are responsible for the mid-week practice and will also assist in the last 30 minutes of the Saturday Skills sessions.

Coaching application link [here](#). OBBA provides coaches with all necessary equipment as well as coaching shirts. Coaches are required to complete safety training as well as pass a background check.

### **Open Board Positions**

Volunteers are a critical component to the success of OBBA and we are grateful to our amazing families who commit their time and talents. As our program continues to grow and develop, we always seeking volunteers to join our board.

We currently have two open board positions:

- Facilities Coordinator
- Girls Travel Tournament Director

Additional details for each position can be found on our website. If you are interested in joining the OBBA board the application is on the website or [here](#). Please reach out to myself or any board member if you would like to receive more information. Additionally, we welcome support in these roles by non-board members.

Lastly, please share this email with others who may not know about OBBA. Our emails are only sent to those currently associated with our program and we would love to see new faces this Fall. *If you wish to NOT receive our emails, please reply to this note and we will remove you.*

Visit our [website](#) frequently for updates throughout the remainder of the summer and into the season.

Thank you for your support of and commitment to Orono Basketball.

Beth Watkins, President  
Orono Basketball Association  
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