

New Milford Youth Basketball Organization



Travel Program
Player and Parent Handbook
www.newmilfordhoops.org

NMYBO 2009-2010
www.newmilfordhoops.org

Welcome

Dear Parents/Guardians and Athletes,

It is with great pride and privilege that I welcome you to the New Milford Youth Basketball Travel Program. We are dedicated to creating a positive experience through competitive basketball to complement the growth and development of young men and women.

We acknowledge that participation in the NMYBO Travel Program is a privilege that has a positive effect on the lives of athletes, their families and the community. Please use this handbook as a guide and tool for the rules, regulations and important details that will illuminate what is required for successful participation in NMYBO programs.

We are happy to provide this handbook for parents/guardians and players. This is one of the ways we try to keep you informed, building collaborative bridges between NMYBO and the home. NMYBO is a non-profit local organization that we consider to be an important member of this community. We strive to create a greater learning of basketball team and individual skills.

If you ever have questions or concerns regarding your son's or daughter's NMYBO experience please feel free to speak to their coaches. If you have need for further assistance, I am always available by email or by phone.

Respectfully yours,

Louis M. Heaton
NMYBO Travel Director
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HeatCon7@aol.com

NMYBO Board of Directors

President - Paul Gangi 860-355-4249

Vice President - Lou Heaton 860-350-2625

Treasurer - CJ Osborne 860-355-3205

Secretary - Ray Curatolo 860-350-2715

Board member - Keith Golembeski 860-354-8669

Board member - Tonya Helsel 860-799-7069

Board member - Greg Showalter 860-355-2889

Board member - Shai Joshi 860-355-9885

Registrar – Danielle Carroccio 860-350-8201



Mission Statement

The NMYBO (New Milford Youth Basketball Organization) is a non-profit organization providing the opportunity for boys and girls of all levels of ability to experience instructional and competitive basketball in a safe and fun environment while promoting sportsmanship, discipline, and respect.

Goals

It is the goal of NMYBO Travel program to provide the athlete and their parents a positive educational experience in basketball and enhance life-long learning and healthy lifestyles through competition, sportsmanship and ethical conduct.

- Maintain a model travel program which provides educational experiences for its athletes and positively engages the entire community.
- Foster and maintain a culture which ensures a continued commitment to a high level of achievement.
- Develop athletes who desire a high level experience learning the game of basketball and all the life lessons that come with it.
- Ensure that NMYBO provides the appropriate treatment and support of our athletes.
- Establish and foster channels of communication amongst families, coaches and teams to develop a positive fun atmosphere.
- Build team and community support of the NMYBO and its athletes.



Commitment to Athletics

NMYBO's primary purpose is to develop responsible, capable and mature young men and women in the game of basketball. As our Mission statement states, we look to *"providing the opportunity for boys and girls of all levels of ability to experience instructional and competitive basketball in a safe and fun environment while promoting sportsmanship, discipline, and respect."*

NMYBO strives to instill values that include but are not limited to discipline, loyalty, confidence, self-esteem, cooperation, and development of performance to allow athletes to maximize their potential.

NMYBO has a long history of success attaining our goal for our athletes. *Participation in NMYBO is a privilege - not a right.* If you are an athlete that desires to be part of NMYBO Travel you must be willing to work hard, learn, and make sacrifices that non-participants do not experience.

Affiliations

NMYBO is a member of the Fairfield County Basketball League. (www.fcblhoops.org)

We, as a member, follow their guidelines for participation. The FCBL provides all rules for competition and creates the rulebook for all games sanctioned by the FCBL. NMYBO may implement rules that supersede FCBL rules, but are not allowed to develop a lower standard of compliance.



Chain of Command

When questions arise during the season, parents and or players should communicate directly with the coach of their respective team.

The player should speak to the coach first. It is important to allow the player and coach the first opportunity to solve a problem prior to parent intervention.

Should the concern remain unresolved, the parent should speak to the coach. (Coaches and parents should have another person present during the meeting.)

Should the issue still be unresolved the parent should contact the Program Director and meet with the Director and the coach.

If the issue is still unresolved the parent should contact a NMYBO board member to set a meeting with the Board, the coach and the Program Director.

Always remember that players and parents have every right to talk to their coach. Also remember that the coach's answer may not be the one you want to hear but still be an acceptable answer.

We ask that parents with concerns to not attempt to talk to coaches directly after a game. It is best to have a "cool off time". This is in the best interest of all involved, players, parents and coaches.

The best way to communicate with a coach is via a phone call or an email. Talking during practice or games (unless scheduled before hand) is not fair to other players and parents.



Missed Games and Practices

Athletes are expected to be dedicated to team goals including attendance to all practices and games. This is the foundation of competitive teams. Choosing to play for NMYBO Travel Program comes with the understanding that practice is necessary for success. Players that continue to miss practices put themselves at a competitive disadvantage, compromise team goals and teammates, and risk injury from lack of proper preparation and conditioning. Coaches reserve the right to allocate playing time based on a player's dedication and commitment to the team and practice.

Coaches and Team Rules

Our coaches have the right to establish team rules and expectations that exceed our policies. The coach will make all players and parents aware of his or her expectations and rules at the start of the season. All teams will abide by the following team rules:

- Players should be punctual for all team related activities.
- Players will not be allowed to compete if they do not routinely practice.
- Players will give the maximum effort in an attempt to improve.
- Players will be polite, courteous, respectful and kind to all coaches, players, officials and parents.
- Players are expected to be committed to the team. During the basketball season, basketball comes first.



Spectator Code of Behavior

NMYBO and the FCBL endorse sportsmanship and appropriate behavior during practices and competitions. The expectation is that athletes and parents shall model behaviors that are respectful, polite and courteous. In an effort to share in common sportsmanlike behavior we ask our athletes, their families and the community to:

- Respect decisions made by contest and school officials.
- Refrain from taunting, booing, heckling, and the use of inappropriate language.
- Remember attending a contest is not a license to verbally abuse and assault others or to be generally offensive.
- Obey all local and school regulations.
- Be a fan, not a fanatic!

Violations of the code of behavior may result in the removal from the event and exclusion from future events. Repeated violations may also result in an athlete forfeiting his/her right to participate in a contest or contests. Athletes are perceived as role models and should behave accordingly.

Player Commitment

Today's athletes have many opportunities and choices to make concerning their free time. When an athlete accepts a position on a NMYBO team, our expectation is that the athlete is making a commitment to the program and is willing to make sacrifices necessary to insure the success of that team. If the athlete cannot embrace all the rules and expectations of that team or if the athlete feels that the rules are too demanding, he/she should not participate in the program.

Player Expectations

Athletes must understand that participation in NMYBO is a privilege. We hold athletes to the highest of standards, and the individual athlete understands this when they make the decision to be a NMYBO athlete. Team members are expected to make sacrifices and choices that non-participants do not have to make. As with all privileges, it is important to remember that NMYBO reserves the right to revoke NMYBO privileges when a player fails to meet the expectations and/or violates rules and guidelines of NMYBO or specific team rules.

Athletes are expected to:

- Demonstrate respect for authority, honesty, integrity, responsibility and accountability.
- Demonstrate the highest level of sportsmanship and fair play at all times, regardless of circumstances.
- Comply with all NMYBO rules, regulations and policy as well as the rules and regulations of the venue where they are playing.
- Exhibit appropriate conduct and behavior on the court in season and during the off season.
- Be well groomed and neatly attired when attending athletic functions.
- Understand unexcused absences from practices are detrimental to the team. Vacations and other activities that are not considered valid reasons for missing practices or contests can lead to missed playing time.
- Attended all team meetings, practices, and games unless excused by the coach.
- Understand that *participation* in NMYBO is a *privilege* which may be revoked for failure to comply with reasonable rules and regulations and stated expectations.



Code of Conduct

- Respect decisions made by contest and NMYBO officials.
- Refrain from taunting, booing, heckling, and the use of inappropriate language.
- Remember attending a contest is not a license to verbally abuse and assault others or to be generally offensive.
- Obey all local and program regulations.
- Be a fan, not a fanatic!
- Players are to be respectful to all coaches, players, parents and officials.
- Expect officials to make mistakes. It is not an exact science. It is a great way for our players to learn how to deal with adversity and how life is not always fair in their eyes. ***It is what it is!!***

Any player assigned two technical fouls in a game will not be allowed to attend any NMYBO function until a one game suspension is served. That means no attending practice or games until they miss one game

Any player assigned two technical fouls in a game for the second time in a season will not be allowed to attend any NMYBO function until a three game suspension is served. That means no attending practice or games until they miss three games.

Any parent assigned a technical foul in a game will not be allowed to attend any NMYBO function until a two game suspension is served. That means no attending practice or games until they miss two games.

Any parent ejected from a game will not be allowed to attend any NMYBO function until a five game suspension is served. That means no attending practice or games until five games are missed.

If a parent comes to a practice or game while they are suspended, their son or daughter will not participate until they leave the property.

NMYBO reserves the right to ask anyone to not attend games or practices if they show they are not willing to conform to our code of conduct.

Facility and Equipment Use and/or Misuse

Uniforms are the property of the athlete and purchased at the beginning of the season. It is the responsibility of the athlete to maintain the uniform during the season. Any damage or loss is the responsibility of the athlete and his or her legal guardian to purchase or repair the uniform.

Any misuse and or damage to any equipment or facility will result in disciplinary action and the cost of repairs is the responsibility of the athlete and his or her legal guardian.

Disciplinary Actions from Violations

Our goal is for athletes to flourish in our basketball program. We look to develop mature young adults who do not compromise the principals and values of their teammates, coaches and NMYBO. Any infraction of the code of conduct will jeopardize the athletes' opportunity to participate in any or all NMYBO functions. Repeat offenders risk being removed from NMYBO or future NMYBO functions. In the unfortunate event that disciplinary action is needed, the following process will occur:

- The incident must be reported to the coach and the program director and the NMYBO Board of Directors.
- If disciplinary action is required and results in missed playing time in practice and or games, the parents and athlete will be notified. Athletes and parents have a right to appeal the consequences of unwanted behavior in writing to the Program Director.
- A disciplinary meeting may be requested by a parent or guardian. The meeting will be limited to the coach or coaches, athlete, parents or guardian, Program Director and the Board of Directors if need be.

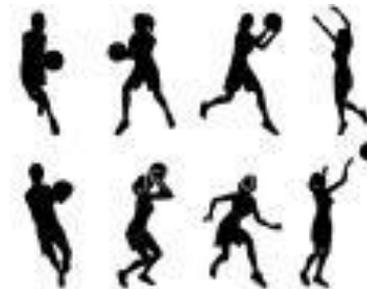
What an Athlete Needs for Participation

Athletes should be aware of when the season starts. These dates are posted on the NMYBO website www.newmilfordhoops.org. The following items are necessary for a player to be eligible to tryout or participate in NMYBO

- Must complete a registration form and pay all fees.
- Must complete a medical form.
- Must complete a waiver form.
- Players should bring appropriate, comfortable clothing and sneakers for participation. It is the athlete's responsibility to bring their own fluids (water, Gatorade, ETC...)

Eligibility Guidelines

Athletes must live in New Milford or a town that sends its students to New Milford High School.



Transportation

NMYBO is not responsible for any transportation. Parents should understand that they are required to provide rides to all practices, games and tournaments. The New Milford Youth Basketball Organization is also not responsible for setting car pools or managing carpools.

Insurance Coverage and Injuries

NMYBO places health and welfare of athletes above all else. Any injury that occurs during a NMYBO function must be reported to the coach and the Program Director immediately and an injury report must be filled out.

NMYBO has secondary insurance for injuries that occur during any of our functions. NMYBO insurance may cover costs that the athlete's primary insurance does not cover. Please contact the Program Director for information and the supplemental insurance forms if this occurs.

Any athlete that is under a doctor's care for any injury, condition, or treatment of any kind must provide a written release from the said doctor to be able to resume participation in any NMYBO functions.



Tryouts

All travel teams are to be picked from tryouts. Tryouts will be conducted by the coaches and independent personnel. There will be a minimum of three tryouts and a maximum of five. Players can be cut after attending two sessions. Any player unable to tryout due to an injury may be allowed to tryout at a later time depending on the injury, when they are able to tryout, and if the team is already full. This will be at the coach's and Program Directors discretion.

Notification of who has made the teams will be on the NMYBO web site; www.newmilfordhoops.org. Coaches may or may not speak to players individually.

Playing Time

Playing time is earned in practice. Coaches allocate play time by taking in consideration a players size, skill level, dedication and game situations. It is our goal is to have everyone play. It is the coach's decision on how much and when each player plays in games. Not every player will play the same amount in every game. **We do not** have a minimum time that everyone plays. A coach may sit a player out of a game but will explain to the player why.

