

Basketball Parent Information 2021-22

Thank you for taking the time to read through this document. Below is some important information about our Athletics Program at Highroad Academy along with how you as parents can help us out. Please let us know if you have any questions or concerns.

Athletics Philosophy Overview

To develop student athletes who develop their God-given athletic skills and use those skills for the Glory of God. We also want to help our students excel both on the court and off the court, and grow in their integrity and intensity.

Athletics Blog

Link Here: [HIGHROAD ACADEMY KNIGHTS](#)

- Important updates, practice schedules, games and tournament information, etc.

Pictures and Videos:

- Parents can really help us out by taking good quality **pictures** and **videos** of our Highroad teams and athletes and sending these to myself mmilec@highroadacademy.com or sending me a flash drive with the pictures/videos.
- BLOG POSTS - If you have time and love to write, you can also send me "articles" to add to the blog...basically short summaries of the games and/or tournaments that the team played in. After being reviewed, these can be added to the blog.

Expectations for Teams and Players

Academics

- It is our policy that all student athletes are in **good academic standing** in order to participate in any team activities. Any students found to be failing one or more classes will not be able to participate until then have improved their grades to a passing position.
- Athletes also may miss a significant amount of class time due to games and tournaments. The coach or teacher sponsor will send a message to all teachers notifying them about the absences, however the **STUDENTS** are **REQUIRED** to talk to their teachers and make sure they stay up to date in all of their classes.

Illness and Health Guidelines

- Student athletes may not participate in a game or practice if they have been absent from school due to illness. This keeps them from spreading the sickness to other players and coaches.

- Please adhere to all current Covid protocols put into place by the local health authority for both players and spectators.

Spectators

- Spectators at all games are required to wear a mask and sign in at the gym entrance with contact information. This information will be kept for 45 days and then shredded.

Attendance

- It is important for players to be committed to the team and to be able to make all (or most) of the given practices. When players do not show up to practices or games, it makes the coach's job that much harder as they may have to alter drills, practice plans etc. Please discuss any absences with the coaching staff prior to the absence. This also applies to showing up late.
 - i. Playing time may be taken away from players who are late or absent from practices.
 - ii. Continual lates and absences may put the players position on the team in Jeopardy unless prior agreements have been made with the coaching staff.

Jersey Return

- Please wash and **RETURN ALL JERSEYS** at the end of the season. Jerseys are expensive to replace and it is important to be able to have enough for each player the following season.

Playing Time and Grade Level

Grade Level Differences

- **Grade 7** (and below):
 - i. Equal Playing time...exceptions are injury/illness or significant disciplinary reasons.
 - ii. Please realize that sometimes depending on the number of players and 5 min shifts, there may be some games where some players play 1 extra shift than others.
- **Grade 8 and 9:**
 - i. NOT Equal playing time, but all players should play a significant amount in each game.
- **Jr. and Sr. Teams (10 to 12):**
 - i. Playing time will be determined based on ability, effort, team needs, character and commitment (ex. lates/absences)
 - ii. Player selection will be determined by the coach and athletic director, but as a Sr. level team, there may be some cuts made.
 - iii. All players should play significant minutes throughout the season. Some players may play more during exhibition games and tournaments, while other players will play more during league games and playoffs.

Parent Perception vs. Coaches Perception

- What's best for the team as a whole might not be best for your child, for example:
 - i. Player K's best position on the court (and favourite) is #3, but the team plays the best when player K plays at position #1. The coach may end up playing K in both positions, but possibly only one of the two.
 - ii. If something like this were to happen, a good way to deal with this would be to respectfully talk to the coach about their view of the situation and positions (not on game days - see below).

Coaching:

Communication with Coaches:

- Communication with coaches is essential, but there are some things that need to wait to be communicated.
 - i. Please **DO** communicate with coaches on game days about rides to and from games, player illnesses or injuries, etc.
 - ii. Please **DO NOT** talk to, email, call, etc. a coach on Game Days with regards to playing time, starting vs sitting on the bench, questioning their decisions, what they could have done better, coaching philosophies, etc.
- Coaching is already a very difficult job and we want to give our coaches the time and respect they deserve as they are volunteering and really trying to do their best for the teams as well as each player.
- If you have an ongoing issue with a coach that cannot be solved through respectful conversations, then please feel free to discuss this with Shawn Krahn (Basketball Director) or myself (Matt Milec - Athletic Director).

Coaching Opportunities:

- We are always looking for good quality coaches at Highroad and would love to get more parents involved in this area.
- If you are an experienced coach or would like to learn more about coaching, please let me know.
- There are opportunities to help as a head coach, assistant coach or parent sponsor (*A parent sponsor would help organize rides, email parents, be an emergency contact for the school etc. This is also helpful with some of our student coaches or younger alumni coaches*).

Driving Expectations:

There may be times throughout the basketball season when parents will be required to drive other students to various games and tournaments. When this occurs, you will need to have the following completed.

- 3 Million Liability on Insurance

- Criminal Record Check

Pick Up From Away School Following Games/Tournaments

- Parents may drive their child home following an away game or tournament, but please make sure to let the coach know before you go.
- Students may only drive home with another student or students' parent(s) with consent from the parents of both students involved.

Pick Up From Highroad Following Games/Tournaments

- Students should arrange a ride home from Highroad **no more than 15 min** following the home game or return from an away game or tournament.

Home Game Expectations:

Hosting games is a lot of work and a lot of stress, but there are ways that both parents and students can help make each game run smoothly and for the night to go well.

- First, for every home game we need **Minor Officials** - People to run the score clock, shot clock and score sheet. Please allow your child (or yourself if you are interested) to help out with this throughout the season when they do not have a game of their own.
- Second, after the last game of the night, the gym needs to be cleaned
Cleanup:
 - i. Chairs stacked AND put away in Chapel, padding off walls, score table put away, floor swept, etc.
 - ii. Parents and coaches, please do not let the students play around, leave or stand to the side while there is still work to do.
 - iii. **IF ALL** students and parents help clean up, it should only take a few minutes, rather than leaving it to the coaches or Athletic Director which can take over an hour by themselves.

Sponsorship:

As the number of teams that we have at Highroad grows, so does the cost. If you know of anyone or a business that would like to help sponsor a team or sport, please let us know.

Parent/Spectator Code of Conduct:

Parents and Spectators are very welcome (and encouraged) to attend and support our school sporting events. However, it is also important that they follow a code of conduct.

Parents/Spectators should:

- Be respectful towards all referees, coaches, athletes, and other spectators.
- Cheer for and not against.
- Respect the decisions of the officials, even if you do not agree.
- Respect the decisions of the coaches.
- Do not interfere with the play or the competition.
- Refrain from the use of foul language and physical force at all times.
- Be an example of integrity for our student athletes along with the visiting teams, coaches, and spectators.