

Jackson Youth Basketball Assoc., Inc.

POLAR BEAR TRAVEL PROGRAM GRADES 3-6 2009-2010

INTERESTED IN TRYING OUT FOR A JYBA TRAVEL TEAM THIS YEAR? HERE ARE SOME THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW.

Q: How many teams will there be in each grade?

A: New for this season, we will have **3 teams in 6th grade** (24 players total)!! In 4th and 5th grade, we will have 2 teams (18-20 players total). There is 1 team in 3rd grade (10 players).

Q: Do I have to pre-register to play travel ball?

A: **No!!** Just bring your son on the day of tryouts. There is no fee for trying out.

Q: Is there a separate fee to play travel ball?

A: **There is no separate fee.** However, we do ask that all travel players participate in a fundraiser. Players in 4th, 5th, and 6th grade must raise \$100, and players in 3rd grade must raise \$75. This covers all of our costs (uniforms, tournaments, etc.) for the entire season.

Q: If I am chosen for a travel team, do I still have to play in the JYBA youth league?

A: Yes!! But don't worry...

Q: Will the travel team schedule conflict with the JYBA youth league schedule?

A: No!! All travel team games and practices will be scheduled around other JYBA youth league activities.

Q: What kind of time commitment is involved in playing on a travel team?

A: Travel teams will practice once a week and participate in a travel league on the weekends. Games are typically on Saturday afternoon/early evening or Sundays. Travel coaches often choose leagues in Tallmadge or Canal Fulton. Travel teams also participate in 5 tournaments. Typically, tournaments guarantee 3 games over a weekend, with the potential to play 5 or 6 games.

Q: How long does travel season last?

A: Typically, the JYBA travel season will conclude in mid to late February. However, coaches may elect to play a few more weeks to get in all of their allotted tournaments.

Q: How are the travel teams picked?

A: The tryouts are run by Coach Fuline and his staff. The evaluators consist of a panel of 3-4 individuals who are not otherwise connected with the Jackson program. They will choose the players at each grade level, subject to approval by Coach Fuline. Once the players are chosen, the travel coaches for that age group meet and divide the teams as evenly as possible.

Q: Tell me more about the 3rd team in 6th grade this year.

A: In the past, we have only chosen 2 teams in 6th grade (18 to 20 players). However, when players reach the middle school, they choose 24 players. We believe that by choosing 24 players in 6th grade, it will give more players an opportunity to develop their skills and obtain additional experience beyond the

JYBA youth leagues, and will better enhance the overall quality of our program. This third team is a “developmental team,” meaning that it will concentrate more on development of skills and less on competition. This team will play in a lower division in its league and tournaments in order to ensure a more positive experience. However, all 3 travel teams in 6th grade will practice together and the coaches will instruct all players, regardless of which team they are chosen for.

Q: Is playing time guaranteed on travel teams?

A: No. Unlike the JYBA youth leagues where all players play equally, there is no such restriction on travel teams. Coaches may rotate players at their discretion. However, it is expected that all players dressed for a game will play except in extenuating circumstances.

Q: My son is in 3rd grade but wants to play up a year with the 4th graders. Is that possible?

A: A player may try out to “play up” a year. However, to be chosen to play on the older team, that player must be evaluated as one of the top 6 players in that older grade (for 2nd graders trying out for the 3rd grade team, it is the top 3 players). You still must attend the tryout for your own grade level.

Q: What is your philosophy on how travel teams are structured?

A: Coach Fuline and the Jackson travel program believe in split teams at 4th, 5th, and 6th grade. We believe this is the best way to develop a maximum number of players. However, we recognize that there may be some who want to form A/B teams or other outside travel teams. We neither support nor prohibit this. Any such teams may be formed at their own cost and are expected not to conflict with any JYBA youth league or sanctioned travel activity.

If you have additional questions, please consult the travel policies published on the JYBA website, or contact Justin Greenfelder, JYBA Travel Director, at 330-280-2905 or jgreenfelder@bdblaw.com.

*****Open Gyms for anyone interested in trying out for a travel team will be held on the following date:**

Tuesday, October 27, 2009

4TH GRADE: 6pm to 8pm Strausser Elementary

5TH GRADE: 6pm to 8pm Jackson Middle School – Gold Gym

6TH GRADE: 6pm to 8pm Jackson Middle School – Purple Gym

2009-2010 Travel Team Tryout Schedule – Updated

3RD GRADE: Saturday, November 7, 2009 5:00pm to 6:00pm JHS Auxiliary Gym #2

4th GRADE: Tuesday, November 3, 2009 7:00pm to 8:00pm JHS Main Gym

5th GRADE: Wednesday, November 4, 2009 6:00pm to 7:00pm JHS Auxiliary Gym #1

6th GRADE: Wednesday, November 4, 2009 7:30pm to 8:30pm JHS Auxiliary Gym #1

Travel rosters will be posted on the JYBA website the morning after tryouts.

The first practice for the 4th, 5th, and 6th grade teams will be on Thursday, November 5, 2009.

The first practice for the 3rd grade team will be on Tuesday, November 10, 2009.

**GO BEARS
ONE HEARTBEAT**