

# **ST. MARY INTRAMURAL BASKETBALL PARENT HANDOUT**



## St. Mary K-3 Intramural Basketball Program Parent's Handout

St. Mary's Intramural Basketball Program is an introductory basketball program, for boys and girls in Kindergarten – Third Grade. Separate teams are formed for boys and girls and teams are organized into two divisions, kindergarten and first graders (K/1-Division), and second and third graders (2/3-Division). Fundamental skills will be developed through a practice and game approach to learning the sport of basketball in a non-competitive setting with the intention of preparing players for CYO basketball or other competitive leagues. Committed parent volunteer basketball coaches are the foundation of our successful program. This allows all players to have equal practice and playing time to develop their skills and knowledge at their own pace through practice and positive encouragement in a game-like setting.

### Season Overview

The intramural basketball season will consist of 12 practice/games from mid-November through February with a break during Thanksgiving and Christmas. At this time all games will be played on Saturdays. If games have to be cancelled due to weather or other events, games will be made up at the end of the season or on Sundays at the program commissioner's discretion.

### Schedules

Schedules will be available at [www.stmaryavon.org](http://www.stmaryavon.org). Once at the home page, click on the "Our School" link across the top followed by the blue "Athletics" and "Intramural Basketball" tabs. On the Intramural Basketball page, you will notice the schedule link. Click on the division your child is in to view the schedule.

### Weather

Games will be cancelled due to inclement weather if it is a hazardous condition. In this case an email will be sent to the coaches to inform them of the cancellation and a message will be posted on the website [www.stmaryavon.org](http://www.stmaryavon.org). Games that have been cancelled due to inclement weather may or may not be rescheduled depending on gymnasium and Parish Center availability.

### Parking

Please utilize the **main church parking lot** for games scheduled through 3pm. In order to facilitate the efficient and effective flow of traffic (whether vehicular or pedestrian), we suggest entering the Church parking lot from Church street off Detroit Rd. and exiting on Stoney Ridge Rd. **To accommodate parking and traffic flow for 4:00pm mass on Saturdays**, games scheduled between 3:00pm – 5:00pm should first look to utilize parking spaces on the Parish Center/Gymnasium side and along the right side of the half circle and in designated spaces. There should be **NO PARKING** along the inside of

the half circle at any time or on the grass area. **Please park in designated spots only and obey all parking signs.**

## Teams Scheduled Hour

Teams should arrive 10 minutes ahead of scheduled time and meet in the main hallway to change into basketball shoes prior to entering gymnasium. Please do not enter the gymnasium until the previous game has concluded. Also, guests are being asked to leave the courts promptly after the game to allow the next team starts on time.

## Game Time and Rules

Coaches are asked to ensure that all players have equal time and allow for as much practice and continued play as possible during games. This is done in a non-competitive setting so that each child develops at their own individual pace. During the games, coaches are encouraged to control the pace in order to teach the basic rules of basketball. A stoppage in play is permitted to accomplish this. Coaches are not there to act as referees and blow the whistle every time he or she sees a foul or rule violation.

## Offense

Based on the individual player's skill development and level, offense will include dribbling, passing, shooting, fundamental footwork (pivoting and jump stop), and moving without the ball. Travelling violations and double dribbling will not result in turning the ball over. Coaches should remind players about travelling, but should not call the violation. Turnovers should only result from the defense stealing a pass or by the ball going out of bounds.

## Defense

Defense skills that should be encouraged are gaining comfort with a basic defensive stance, sliding/shuffling, rebound positioning and securing a rebound. Defensive fundamentals for one on one situations should be stressed along with encouraging hustling to passes and rebounds. Players will wear wristbands matching the color of someone from the other team and will not be permitted to cover other individuals at any time. *At no time will players be allowed to steal* the basketball while another player is dribbling or holding the basketball. The goal is for offensive players to get comfortable dribbling and handling the basketball. Basic basketball violations that will be taught will include contact issues such as holding and reaching in. If the defense commits a foul, the offensive team should retain possession and re-start the possession from half court. The intent is for coaches to teach the fundamentals of offensive and defensive basketball by encouraging team play and proper spacing in man-to-man defense. This will allow players to learn basic defensive principles and will promote more offensive skills.

## St Mary's Gymnasium

St. Mary's Parish will have an on-site supervisor on hand during all Intramural Basketball games that will be in-charge of the building during events. Family members and guests are being asked to be respectful of the building and stay in designated areas. Designated areas include the main hallway, bathrooms and the gymnasium. All other areas of the facility are off limits. All spectators should stay in seated areas (chairs and bleachers) when watching practices and games. Only intramural players and coaches are permitted on the basketball courts. Please help maintain the facility so that basketball courts and hoops stay in good shape and ensure the floor stays clean for subsequent games.

Thank you in advance for your participation and cooperation in making this an enjoyable season for the children!

Pat Roach - Intramural Basketball Commissioner, Athletic Boosters Vice-President  
Mike Niederst - Intramural Basketball Commissioner, Athletic Boosters President  
Tom Meehan - Athletic Director, St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception  
Tim Maxey - Athletic Boosters, St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception

(Revised 09/01/2013)