



Winter 2024-2025 Youth Basketball League



Season Overview

On behalf of the Parsippany PAL, it is a pleasure to welcome you to the WINTER 2024-2025 Youth Basketball League. We extend our very best wishes for an enjoyable and memorable season! The purpose of this document is to provide all participants in the PAL youth basketball program with a season overview. Thank you and have a great season!

1. **League:** Divisions are based on grade levels. Each division will be scheduled with a full regular season game schedule. All teams will make the playoffs in grades 5 & up; playoff format will be single-elimination style - "PAL MARCH MADNESS" Tournament. Season is planned to wrap up around Mid-March.
2. **Coaches:** We need volunteer coaches! Head Coaches and Assistant Coaches! Experience is not necessary... a 'background' in basketball certainly helps but coaching and leadership comes in many different shapes and forms! The PAL will do our best to pair coaches together to help make the experience great for the players...and coaches! All head coaches will receive a \$49 registration refund at the end of the season.
 - a. To Register: <https://parsippanypal.org/programs-events/youth-programs/winter/youth-basketball/basketball-coach/> This quickly assists the PAL in directing your information efficiently and pooling all Coaches to receive consistent communication.
 - b. If you are interested in coaching but know you need help, please contact basketball@parsippanypal.org. Please include your players name, your name, phone # and email.
 - c. All Girls Divisions are complete with coaches. The Boys Divisions still need 1-2 per division. Divisions will NOT start until every team has a coach. If there are NOT enough coaches' volunteers in EACH division, we will NOT be able to begin on time.
3. **Player Evaluations:** ALL EVALUATIONS are complete.
 - a. The purpose of player evaluations is to rate the skills of each registered player to create competitive and balanced teams. It is expected for all participants to attend the player evaluations, this is an IMPORTANT method so that teams can be formed as fair as possible. Though this is not a perfect system, it is a fair system and consistent to spread out the 'skill sets' amongst the players/divisions. All players are strongly recommended and encouraged to attend their original scheduled time slot, to utilize the full value of the clinic/evaluation.
 - b. We have completed all the evaluations. If you did not attend evaluations, do not worry. All players registered/paid will be assigned to a team.
4. **Coaches' Mandatory RULES Review:** via ZOOM
 - a. An email link will follow once coaches are ASSIGNED & Teams are set. A Coaches meeting will be scheduled shortly before the season begins. The PAL will review all the general playing rules and regulations, highlighting those that are new, or have been adjusted, for the current season. Our Officials Assignor will address any coach questions, provide explanation and interpretation. After Teams are finalized - Coaches will receive an email regarding rules, practice scheduling, etc. We will go over anything that is unique to our league and set coach's expectations.
5. **Team Placement - Season/Practice Start - Practice/Game Sites:**
 - a. Following the final player evaluations, teams will be formed by 'drafting players' which will take place by our coaches, monitored by the PAL Basketball Staff. All players will be contacted once player evaluations are complete & teams have been finalized. Practices will begin once rosters are completed, and each team has a coach. Divisions will NOT start practicing until every team has a coach. If there are NOT enough coaches' volunteers in EACH division, we will NOT be able to begin on time.

- b. All practices will begin during either the 1st or 2nd week of December. Practice Times and locations will vary based on facility availability. Each team will be provided with 1-2 practices per week with a maximum of one hour in duration. It is the responsibility of the parent to provide transportation for their child to/from practices and games.
- c. PRACTICES will take place at various Parsippany Schools & the PAL – coaches will communicate the schedule to their players.
- d. All games will begin in early January. A detailed game schedule will be provided by mid-December. Game times will vary. For planning purposes:
 - i. Weeknight Games; approx. start times = 6pm/7:15pm/8:30pm; younger ages playing earlier.
 - ii. Weekend Games; start times will vary throughout the day / evening as early as 9AM.
- e. ALL GAMES will be scheduled at the Parsippany PAL (33 Baldwin Road, Parsippany, NJ 07054)

6. Team Placement:

- a. Our priority is to place children on teams according to their rating (evaluations). During evaluations, players are rated based on ability, performance, and experience on the court. This gives the PAL & our coaches a level-setting opportunity to spread the talent across divisions – to ensure Teams are as fair and consistent as possible. Although not an exact science, with 370+ players in a large league, this gives us the ability to work towards standardizing teams and providing the most enjoyable experience. To create parity across all teams and due to the size of the program, coaches will draft players with guidance from our PAL Basketball staff.

7. Uniforms:

- a. Custom reversible GAME JERSEY'S will be provided. Shorts are NOT provided. Participants are encouraged to wear black shorts. Sports performance/basketball sneakers are recommended.

8. Safe Playing Environment:

- a. The PAL is committed to providing safe playing facilities and equipment, healthy playing situations and be ready for emergencies, should the need arise.
- b. Parsippany PAL's Philosophy: The philosophy of the PARSIPPANY PAL is to instill in young people a positive attitude, good sportsmanship, sound fundamentals, confidence, and high moral standards.

Contact Information:

- EMAIL: BASKETBALL@PARSIPPANYPAL.ORG
- Website: WWW.PARSIPPANYPAL.ORG