



## City of Broadview Heights Parks and Recreation Department

9543 Broadview Rd. 440-838-4522 [www.BHRec.org](http://www.BHRec.org)

Samuel J. Alai, Mayor Paula Horner, Director

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### Every Question that Could Possibly Be Asked about Basketball. 2020 Edition

Hello everyone and thank you for your interest in Broadview Heights recreational basketball program. My name is Gary Diehl and I am the Athletics Manager for the city. That is, I run all the sports programs. Over the years I have been asked lot of questions about our programs so I decided to try and answer them all in advance of your season. So, below are the 50 most commonly asked questions about our basketball program.

**1. When does registration start and end?**

Basketball registration begins September 1<sup>st</sup> and closes October 31<sup>st</sup>.

**2. What does it cost to register?**

Members: \$10

Residents: \$110

Non-residents: \$120

**3. Do you have to be a resident to play?**

Nope, everyone is welcome.

**4. What are the age groups?**

Boys 1<sup>st</sup> grade

Boys 2<sup>nd</sup> grade

Boys 3-4<sup>th</sup> grade

Boys 5-6<sup>th</sup> grade

Boys 7-8<sup>th</sup> grade

Boys 9-10<sup>th</sup> grade

Boys 11-12<sup>th</sup> grade (these are team registrations)

Girls 1-2<sup>nd</sup> grade

Girls 3-4<sup>th</sup> grade

Girls 5-6<sup>th</sup> grade

Girls 7-8<sup>th</sup> grade (we do not always have a 7-8<sup>th</sup> grade girls team)

**5. I want my child to play in a different league. How do I go about doing that?**

The ONLY reason, let me repeat, the ONLY reason you should be requesting to play in a different league is because of your child's skill (or lack thereof). Carpooling, convenience, to play with siblings, to play with neighborhood kids or to play for a particular coach are NOT valid reasons for a league change. If that is the case, you must fill out a league change form. An online version of that form is located here:

<https://broadview-heights.org/FormCenter/Parks-Recreation-4/League-Change-Form-57>

League changes are not guaranteed and players playing in the age appropriate league will get priority over kids asking to play in a different league.

NEW for 2020: If you fill out a league change form requesting that your child be moved up because of his or her skill level, conveniently to the same league as his or her sibling, or car pool pal, and it turns out that the player's skill level is NOT the same as the players in that league, that player will be moved back down to where they belong. It is not fair to the other players on the team to have to play with a player who's skill level is sub-par simply because it's convenient for the family.



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### **6. Oops! I forgot to register before the deadline. What do I do now?**

First, make sure you are on a wait list. You can register on the wait list online if you have ever registered for anything here before. If you have not, you have to call the rec center front desk to do so. 440-838-4522

Then, keep your fingers crossed that there are openings on teams after the registration ends. If there are, we can get you on. If not, you have to wait until someone drops out, breaks a leg, or moves out of town. It does happen.

It is also highly unlikely you will be able to request to play on a particular team if you register late.

Take home message: Don't register late!

### **7. My child is trying out for a school or travel team and we won't know if he made until after your registration deadline. What do we do?**

You need to register before the deadline to be guaranteed a spot of a rec team if he does not make the school or travel team. Notify us when you find out and we will issue a refund if he made the team.

### **8. What is the maximum number of players on a team?**

Double the number of players on a side.

Most teams will have 10. 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade teams will have 8.

### **9. When will I hear from a coach?**

Before Saturday November 23<sup>th</sup>. Maybe sooner. If we do not have enough coaches in the age group however, it may be later as I won't release rosters until I have all the coaches.

### **10. I have not heard from my coach yet and I am freaking out!**

Try not to freak out. It will be OK. If you haven't heard from your coach by November 23<sup>rd</sup> email me. [GDiehl@broadview-heights.org](mailto:GDiehl@broadview-heights.org). email is a lot quicker and easier than calling me by the way.

### **11. When do practices start?**

We are going to try for the week of November 25<sup>th</sup>

### **12. When and where are practices?**

Coaches pick their own practice times. There is a section on the registration form asking for conflicts you may have. We try to put you on a team that does not practice on your conflict days but that is not always possible. Most practices are held at the Broadview Heights Rec Center. Occasionally coaches will practice at one of the school gyms.

### **13. Do practices continue once the games start?**

Yes.

### **14. I indicated that my child cannot practice on Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday and now I see she has practice on Wednesday. What's up with that?**

Although we do have a place on the registrations for practice conflicts, sometimes there is only so much we can do. We try to avoid conflicts but do not always have a team that practices on the most convenient day for a player, particularly when they have multiple days of the week that are conflicts. Sometimes there are conflicts that just can't be avoided.

### **15. When does the season start and end?**

The season begins the weekend of January 4<sup>th</sup>

The season ends the weekend of March 21<sup>st</sup>.

For questions regarding Broadview Heights Sports programs, contact the Parks & Athletics Manager: Gary D. Diehl, [GDiehl@broadview-heights.org](mailto:GDiehl@broadview-heights.org) 440-717-4063



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### 16. When and where are the games?

Boys and Girls 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade games take place at the Rec center Sundays from 12:30 PM to 6:30 PM

Boys and Girls 3<sup>rd</sup> through 7<sup>th</sup> grade games take place Saturdays at the rec center with the younger ages starting at 9:00 AM and games running through 7:00 PM.

Boys 9<sup>th</sup> /10<sup>th</sup> grade leagues play Friday nights at the Brecksville Broadview Heights Middle School Gym

Boys 11<sup>th</sup> / 12<sup>th</sup> grade league plays Friday nights at the rec center

NOTE: There is a possibility some of the 3<sup>rd</sup> / 4<sup>th</sup> grade games will be played on Sunday afternoon. We won't know until we get closer to the season.

### 17. How long are games?

Games start on the hour. Most games play 4 x 8 minute quarters.

1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> graders play 8 x 4 minute periods.

### 18. When will game schedules be available?

About mid-December

### 19. Where are the game schedules?

Game schedules will be located on the website [www.BHrec.org/scoreboard/basketball](http://www.BHrec.org/scoreboard/basketball)

NOTE: Game schedules are subject to change for a variety of reasons. Always check with your coach about your upcoming game.

### 20. What does my child need for basketball?

Just tennis/basketball shoes. If you spent a bunch at the orthodontist, maybe a mouth guard. If he/she wears glasses, a strap is a good idea.

### 21. When will uniforms be ready?

Usually a week or so before the season starts. Coaches will be told when uniforms are ready and will distribute them to their teams.

### 22. What do I do if the uniform is the wrong size?

Bring it to the rec center and they will swap it out for one that fits.

### 23. When is picture day?

Usually mid-January. Your pictures will take place before your games on that day. There is not a make-up day.

### 24. What do I do if we are out of town that day?

Contact the photographer and ask if there they have any other sessions nearby where you can go to get your individual pictures. If you are not there the day of your team pictures there is no way to reshoot them.

### 25. What about earrings and jewelry?

Almost certainly someone will show up week one with earrings. She (or I suppose he) cannot play with earrings. There is no way around it. They have to come out, even if they were just pierced.

No. you cannot put tape over them.

I have actually seen a kid's ear get ripped up because she was wearing earrings. It was gross.

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### **26. Do we get trophies/medals at the end of the season?**

Yes. 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> graders get participation medals. Other leagues get season and tournament champ trophies. And don't go there about the "everyone gets participation medals" thing, because they didn't do that when you were a kid and kids these days are all a bunch of snowflakes because everyone is a winner. They're six years old! It isn't going to make or break them either way.

### **27. Do you ever cancel games because of the weather?**

Up until last year I would have said no. But last year we did. If the city says to stay off the roads we will cancel but otherwise games are always on.

### **28. I want my child to play for a specific coach.**

Don't ask. Please don't ask. And coaches, don't send me a list of players that you want on your team. I know, I know, he's played for coach so and so for years and he will be devastated if he doesn't get him this year. Well, what if that coach isn't coaching this year? What if he moved away? You have no idea how many times I hear the word "devastated" in conjunction with a child's placement on a particular team. Really? "Devastated?"

### **29. OK then smart guy, how ARE teams made up?**

It's tough. You are not allowed to request to play for a coach and a coach cannot request players. But your child wants to play with his buddies, one of whom is the coach's child. So 9 kids all request the coach's child (thinking that I am so dumb I don't see what is going on here).

But the thing is, you also want all the teams to be even. But all your child's buddies are in the 5<sup>th</sup> grade and the league is made up of 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders and there is an opposing team made up of all 6<sup>th</sup> graders who all requested to play with that coach's kid. So you complain, "Hey that team is all sixth graders and ours is all fifth graders. Not fair!" But you all wanted to play together, so the math just doesn't work out.

Oh, and then a third of your team can't practice on Mondays and Wednesdays and another third of them can't practice on Tuesdays and Thursdays and the final third of your team can't practice after 6:00 PM on any night. AND, everyone must play on the same team with so and so because of ride sharing, even though you live on complete opposite sides of the city.

One year we tried to not allow any request. A mob of pitchfork and torch wielding angry youth sports parents then stormed the rec center demanding my head on a pike. So yea, it's tough. All I can say is we do the best we can and try to make everyone happy which I know is a fool's errand.

### **30. The blue team is made up of all sixth graders and ours is all fifth graders, that's not fair!**

See above

### **31. That other team is stacked! It's not fair!**

There is a longer answer to that question located here:

### **32. Why don't you do a skills evaluation before the season?**

We used to. It didn't work. Only about a 5<sup>th</sup> of the kids showed up. Bear in mind we have over 600 kids in the program to evaluate. And they want to play with their friends.

### **33. Why don't you have coaches rate their players after the season?**

We used to. It didn't work. Not all the coaches would do it and the ones that did evaluated their best players low so they could get them back and their worst players high so they would be put on another team.



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**34. Why don't you just (insert whatever good intentioned suggestion you have about how to do it better here)?**

We have committees of long time coaches in each sport that meet to discuss ways to improve all the processes. We came up with some pretty good ideas last year and everything for the most part seemed to work out fine. I know you're trying to help but if I have to have a discussion about every idea, I will never get around to actually putting teams together.

**35. My son or daughter wanted to play with friends and will be absolutely devastated if that doesn't happen.**

There is that word again, "devastated." We are usually able to put kids together who want to play together. But not always. If it is going to be a problem I will usually contact the parents ahead of time and try and address it.

**36. We specifically indicated that we wanted to play with this friend and that friend and I just heard from a coach and we are NOT on the team that we specifically requested to be on. Why bother to ask if you are not going to honor our request. I am so angry right now and I want a full refund plus an additional 20% as punitive damages.**

People always use the word "specifically" when they are really mad. Like was stated above, we try to put kids together and make all the world a happy place. But it is not always possible. Often people don't "specifically" make a request and then later decide they want to play on a certain team. Something that we should have psychically known somehow beforehand.

If we know what you wanted and can make it happen, we will. If we can't, sorry, but we just can't for whatever reason. But we will never offer a refund because a player didn't get on a team they wanted.



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### Things Coaches Might Ask

**37. I volunteered to coach, why did I do that?**

Because you are a wonderful parent and you and your child will cherish this time for the rest of your lives. And you get a free coaches shirt!

**38. Do we get game balls?**

No. All the balls will be provided at the rec center for games and practices.

**39. Do we get cones?**

No

**40. Do you have pinnies we can use for practices?**

I used to. But I gave them to coaches to use at practices. Now I don't. So no. Fun Fact though: Pinnie is actually short for Pinafore which is a sleeveless apron like garment.

**41. What size balls do we use**

1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> graders use 27.5 balls

3<sup>rd</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> graders use 28.5 balls

9<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> graders use regulation balls

**42. What are the rules?**

Each league has specific rules for the age group. Those rules can be found on the website [www.bhrec.org/scoreboard/basketball](http://www.bhrec.org/scoreboard/basketball).

If a rule is not addressed in the league specific rules we follow Ohio High School rules.

**43. Where can I get a copy of the rules?**

Same as above

**44. I don't like the rules. Can I change them?**

No.

**45. How do I reschedule a game?**

You don't. We cannot reschedule games.

**46. Can I have an extra practice?**

Maybe. Practice space is really tight. There may be some extra time available but we won't know that until we know how many teams we have and when they are practicing.



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**47. The Browns are playing in the Super Bowl, but we have a game scheduled during that time. What do we do?**

This may be the only reason we would postpone games. Hopefully we will have to!

**48. I want to yell at the referee. Can I?**

No. Absolutely not. I will have a lot more to say about this as the season approaches.

**49. How many coaches can I have on the bench?**

There is to be only the head coach and one assistant and the assistant needs to stay seated during play.

**50. What if our jerseys are the same color as our opponents?**

Ask me for pinnies. The home team has to change color if they are the same. But make sure I get them back because they're expensive. Fun Fact: Pinnie is actually short for Pinafore which is a sleeveless apron like garment.

**51. What is Gary Diehl's home address so I can go to his house and yell at him?**

It's easier to just send me a nasty email. I have a file for them.



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And remember, it's a recreational basketball league for kids. It's just for fun. Enjoy it! Thanks!