



Rogers High School Boys' Basketball Handbook

2020-21

<http://gorogersroyals.com>
www.rogersroyalshoops.org

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Mission Statement and Philosophy

It is our goal to develop a competitive, interscholastic program that promotes a positive and winning attitude based on the athlete's physical, mental, and emotional ability. The values of hard work, cooperation, sportsmanship, discipline and the pursuit of excellence are paramount to the success of the student-athlete and of the program.

The process of athletics is what is important, not just the end results of winning or losing. We will do everything possible to win but the character traits derived from athletics in a good program that the young men carry into his adult life is the most important aspect.

Rogers Royals Boys' Basketball Staff

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We as coaches want to keep the lines of communication open between players and parents. Please use our home/cell numbers for emergencies only. Our time at home is for our families. If you need to contact us please try and do so during school hours and use our school numbers. Email should be used for housekeeping items only.

Forms To Complete Before Season

****ALL FORMS AND FEES MUST BE TURNED IN BEFORE ATHLETE IS ALLOWED TO PRACTICE!!!***

****<http://gorogersroyals.org> – Registration can be completed online***

1. Parent's permit and health questionnaire
2. Athletic eligibility statement
3. Rogers high school eligibility form
4. Sports qualifying exam (every three years)
5. Athletic fee
6. Player/Parent contract

Objectives Of The Boys' Basketball Program

1. Each player receives a diploma and an education. These are not necessarily the same. The diploma will come if you follow the plan set forth by counselors, teachers and coaches. Education is the learning to pour yourself out, learning how to make a commitment and rewarding yourself. It is the learning to give and the more you give, the more you will receive. To learn to give all you have and not be concerned with what others may think.
2. Establish an excellence. We want to compete at a level that our opponents cannot endure for the contest. Demand a higher level of intensity, aggression, and perseverance than our opponents. We do not pay a price to compete. Our opponents must pay a price for scheduling us.
3. Through the basketball experience; become better people. It is the intent of the program to teach more than fundamentals. Players will develop or improve a genuine care and concern for other people. They should be more accountable and responsible. They will learn to be positive about this day, their school, and their community. They will learn the influence they have on younger people and use this influence in a positive manner.
4. To have fun. Basketball is to be enjoyed. To be enjoyed it must be done correctly. Once learned how to play correctly, there is nothing more fun. A definite objective is the absence of tension or pressure. The players will know that their responsibility is to give their best physical and mental effort and once they do that, everything else will take care of itself.

Program Goals

1. Help develop important life skills
2. Provide a positive, enjoyable experience
3. Teach fundamentals of and build an appreciation for the game of basketball.
4. Build a program with a successful, winning tradition at all levels.

Selection of Teams

The Rogers High School Boys' Basketball Program will be run under the idea that the «talent should be promoted.» This is intended to challenge each student-athlete to compete to the best of his ability while creating success for the entire program. Younger student-athletes will be asked to «play up» when they can make a **significant** contribution to the varsity, junior varsity, or sophomore team. A younger player must be physically, mentally/emotionally, and socially ready for this move to happen. WE DO NOT move players up for the sake of moving them up. We as coaches will be looking to put together the most talented and cohesive teams we can to enable us to be successful.

Numbers Of Players Per Team

Varsity / J.V. Team – 18-19 *MSHSL Rules only allow 18 to
10th Grade Team – 14 dress during sections/state
9th Grade Team – 20 (A and B combined)

***These numbers are subject to change dependent upon numbers of participation and talent.**

Dependent upon numbers of participation and talent there will come a time when we as coaches will have to cut student-athletes from the program. As coaches, this is by far the most difficult thing that we have to do, yet it must be done with the team's best interest in mind. Each student-athlete will receive a fair tryout and an explanation on why they did not make the team. *Seniors are not guaranteed a spot on the varsity team. Each year is different and there may be exceptions to the rule but generally speaking, a senior will have to be in the top 8-9 in order to make the varsity team.*

Players Will Be Evaluated On:

1. Athletic Build (related to their position)
2. Skill Level
3. Character (good fit for team chemistry)
4. Academic and Behavioral Standing at RHS
5. Knowledge And Understanding Of Game
6. Coachability
7. Teamwork
8. Attitude
9. Commitment
10. Work Ethic
11. Potential
11. Needs At Desired Position

Squad selection is not solidified for the whole season. We as coaches recognize that basketball talents and performance will change throught the season. At all times throughout the season, players will be evaluated by the coaches and roles, responsibilities, playing time, etc...are subject to change.

Playing Time

Playing time **is not equal**. Playing time is earned and is not an entitlement because you have made the team. You earn the right to play by hard work in practice and performing to the best of your ability while working as one with your teammates to be the best possible TEAM you can be.

Each game is unique, and nothing is set in stone. Each and every night it is our job as coaches to put the best possible team on the floor, this can change from night to night. Our objective everytime we hit the floor is to win.

At no time will we as coaches discuss playing time with parents.

Playing time is a coaching decision and is not taken lightly. Players are encouraged to communicate any concerns they may have with the coaches. If playing time is one of them, the player is encouraged to speak with the coach, and the coach will discuss the areas that he will have to improve upon to earn more playing time.

Missing practice or arriving late to practice or games **WILL** affect your playing time and your standing on the team.

Lettering Policy

1. The total halves played by a player must equal the number of games the team plays.
2. If a player completes his freshman, sophomore, junior, and senior year as a member of the squad without earning a letter, he will receive a letter at the end of his senior year.
3. The player must be a member of the team for the entire season.
4. If the team makes it to the state tournament, all members of the team will receive a letter.
5. Any player who breaks MSHSL rules or has a violation related to alcohol, tobacco, or drugs will not receive a letter.
6. A player must return all high-school issued equipment at the end of the season. Failure to do so will result in loss of letter privileges and a financial responsibility.
7. Student Managers will have an opportunity to receive a letter.
8. The coach will decide upon any situation not covered by the above guidelines.

Tips For Basketball Parents

1. Remember why your son is participating: the love of the game, the lessons of life, the fun of being part of a group. It is great to have goals like getting a college scholarship. But, the number one priority should be to help the TEAM reach its potential.
2. Encourage your son as much as possible. The basketball season is a long one and there will be many peaks and valleys. Help him stay positive. Remind him that all contributions in games and practices help the team.
3. Accept the fact that players have different skill levels and talents. Players are going to be asked to fill various roles. Even though the media will focus on players who score, encourage your son by pointing out his contributions as a screener, rebounder, leader, defender, bench supporter, or team player.
4. Remember that the coaches work with the team every day and are in a much better position to make personnel decisions. Although you may not always agree with the coaches' decision, respect that they have good reasons for them. *Be careful not to confuse your son by asking him to do something different than what the coach wants from him. The most successful situation arises from a partnership among all parties.*
5. Encourage your son to communicate with his coaches. If he is frustrated, have him communicate it to his coach in the appropriate manner. Help your son help himself.
 - a. **Chain of Command:**
 - i. **Player and Coach Conversation**
 - ii. **Player/Parent and Coach Conversation**
 - iii. **Player/Parent and Coach/Administration Conversation**
6. Our team will not only be judged by their performance and attitude on and off the court but also by those who support them. Have pride in your son, his teammates, and the school. Respect our opponents in victory and defeat, let's show the opposition the respect that we would want from them. Let's develop a tradition in Rogers of good sportsmanship and class within our basketball program.
7. Be supportive of the program. It is impossible for each individual to agree with every decision we make as a staff. Do not let a small difference of opinion keep us from working together to make this season and the program the best it can be.

Social Media

We live in a world today where information is shared almost instantaneously. It is important that our players understand the role of social media and the potential consequences. **All players are expected to be mindful of what they say and who they may be talking about.** Once a message, picture, tweet, etc...has been posted, it cannot be taken back. *There may be consequences to what is posted on a social media site.* Parents are encouraged to have conversations with their student/athletes about the potential dangers of social media. When in doubt...don't post!!! We as coaches **will not** monitor social media but if something is brought to our attention we will deal with it accordingly.

1. Assume nothing is private! (You write it, you own it)
2. The audience is vast: Parents, players, classmates, teachers, administrators, college coaches, employers, family members...anyone could potentially be in your audience.
3. NEVER POST PICTURES FROM THE LOCKER ROOM!
4. Complaining will not solve the issue. Talk to teammates or coaches directly.
5. Do not talk negatively about opponents – do not trash talk!
6. If you retweet something, you agree with it.
7. Your tweet is like a “press conference”. Don’t tweet something you wouldn’t say in public.

Players' Guidelines

Below and on the following pages are listed some general and specific guidelines for the upcoming season. This will give you an idea of our expectations and will eliminate any possible problems.

1. Your manners, academic attempts and achievements, attendance, behavior, dress, etc...should be at your best at all times, not just on the basketball floor.
2. Your total behavior reflects your attitude toward your fellow teammates. Basketball is a **TEAM** game, both on and off the court. Encourage and support your teammates at all times.
3. DRESS...you are expected to dress neat and clean on game days and for games.
 - a. Away games...all student-athletes are expected to dress up or wear the team issued travel suit. The coaches and captains will decide on attire for away games.

- b. Home games...the captains and coaches will decide how the team will dress. All student-athletes are expected to follow the dress set forth by the captains and coaches.
- 4. To have a successful program, the following curfew hours are recommended. Parental support is essential. Parents, please feel free to impose stricter curfews.

a. Weeknights and Sundays	10:00 p.m.
b. Night before a game	10:00 p.m.
c. Friday or Saturday Nights	12:00 a.m.
- 5. Trips: **Player will ride the bus to a game and back from the game.** The only exception will be if you are going somewhere with your parents. This should be rare. Parents must see the coach and a written note should be given to the coach a day before the trip. If you're simply going back to Rogers, you will ride the bus.
 - a. ***Players are to be here 15 minutes before the bus leaves otherwise you they will be counted late.*** Keep noise down on the bus.
 - b. Take care of other people's property. Leave bus and locker rooms clean.
- 6. **Smoking – Drugs – Alcoholic Beverages** – Will follow State High School League Rules.
 - a. **Team Rules may be more punitive.** Each case will be dealt with on an individual basis.
 - b. For your sake, don't get yourselves **in** or **around** or **near** a situation where you could in any way be involved. When in doubt...get out!!!
 - c. Becoming part of the program is a privilege. You have earned the opportunity to compete in our program. You are not the same as others and you will be held to higher standards in the classroom, in school and in the community. You are a basketball player; therefore you are not able to do some of the things other students do. **If you think more of dating, smoking, drinking, not studying, etc... then your services are not needed.** You have a responsibility to yourself, your teammates and your coaches...and they to you.
- 7. Keep your practice uniforms, and lockers clean. Take your equipment home to wash on weekends. You are expected to wear the standard practice uniform to practice at all times.

8. Any player who receives a high school league violation during his high school career (during or outside of season) will be **ineligible** to be a captain.
9. Uniforms are not to be handed out and worn by others.
10. All Uniforms are to be kept at home and brought to school only on game days. DO NOT leave your uniform in the locker room.
11. All players are expected to be in class each and everyday and on time. Absences and tardies must be excused. Unexcused absences and tardies are subject to disciplinary action. This could include but not limited to: extra conditioning, loss of playing time, etc...

Expectations of Coaches

1. Lead by example. The coaching staff will model all of the expectations we demand of the players.
2. Build self-esteem. We will praise and discipline the players with the same respect that we would use on our own children.
3. Teach community service. More important than winning is to help the players mature and grow into responsible citizens.
4. Make decisions predicated on what is best for the team. Basketball is a team sport and we must put the success of the team ahead of individual wants and desires.
5. Support other school programs. We will work cooperatively with other programs to improve the overall experience at Rogers High School.
6. Assist the players now and after graduation. Our relationship with the players doesn't end when the season does.

Initiations & Hazing

In order to encourage respect for dignity of the individual student and due to health and safety considerations, absolutely **NO** initiations or hazing activities are to be conducted. Students involved in initiations and / or hazing may be subject to disciplinary action. We are a team and we will treat all individuals with the utmost respect. Do not do anything that would put yourself and / or teammates in jeopardy.

Practice Guidelines

1. A schedule of practice times is provided in your handbook. We will do our best to follow the schedule but it is subject to change. We will communicate with players about any necessary changes. Our calendar is also posted on our website (www.rogersroyalshoops.org).
2. You are expected in the gym dressed and ready to go at the scheduled start of practice.
3. **Attendance at practice is mandatory.** If you can't be there, **you must talk to the coaches personally** or it will be unexcused. If you are not in school **you are expected** to call your coach and let them know the nature of your absence.
 - a. Excused absences include family emergencies, religious obligations, and school obligations. **Any other reasons must be cleared through the coaching staff prior to being absent.** Even excused absences may effect your playing time and standing on the team. ***Family vacations are not excused*** and will result in loss of game/playing time.
 - b. Tardiness is **unacceptable** and will not be tolerated.
 - c. A player **must participate** in practice in order to play in games.
4. Any injuries must be taken care of before practice begins. See the coach and/or trainer.
 - a. **Once you see a doctor, you must have a signed release from the doctor before you can practice or play.**
 - i. Before you see a doctor please consult with our trainer first.
 - b. **Arrange appointments around practice times.**
5. If you're not directly involved in a drill or scrimmage, watch the action. **Encourage, Praise, and Learn by Watching!!**
6. **No** cell phones are allowed in the locker rooms!!!
7. Practices **are closed** to outside personnel.

Game Guidelines

1. Each and every member of the basketball team is a part of the game.
 - a. Those on the player's bench will always know what we are doing both on offense and defense and know what our opponents are doing on offense and defense.
 - b. When a player comes out of the game , he will sit next to the coach.
2. All players will get up off the bench and join the huddle during full time-outs.
3. During 30-second time-outs, only the five players in the game will huddle with the coach.
4. **All players** on the bench will encourage and praise their teammates during the game.
5. Substitutes entering the game will hand a towel to the player they are entering the game for. Communicate with one another at all times.
6. The varsity team will watch the preliminary game and will go to the locker room to get dressed no later than mid-way through the second half of the preliminary game. ***Players are to stay off of cell phones during the preliminary game.***
7. Players will wait in the locker room after the game for the coaches' comments.
8. Players are not allowed to drink pop on game days!! Players are encouraged not to drink pop at all during the season. The sugar, caffeine and carbonation make it very difficult for your body to absorb the necessary nutrients needed to supply the body with strength and endurance.
9. Captains and coaches will decide on game dress for home games.
10. After school on days of games, players should go home, eat a good pre-game meal, and rest up before coming back to school for the game.
11. **All players are expected to participate in all team activities.** This includes: team meals, outings, etc...

Discipline Policies

Student athletes are responsible for following all rules and regulations of the MSHSL and Rogers High School. In addition, the coaches have decided that the following discipline policy will be followed when team rules have been violated.

1. **UNEXCUSED ABSENCE FROM PRACTICE (Skipping practice)**
 - a. First Offense – 1/2 game suspension
 - b. Second Offense – 1 game suspension
 - c. Third Offense – Dropped from squad

2. **UNEXCUSED LATE FOR PRACTICE**
 - a. First Offense – Team will run
 - b. Second Offense – Team will run / meeting with coaches
 - c. Third Offense – Team will run and 1/2 game suspension

3. **BREAKING CURFEW**
 - a. First Offense – Warning / Meeting with coaches
 - b. Second Offense – Running after practice
 - c. Third Offense – Running and 1/2 game suspension

4. **TECHNICAL FOUL IN A GAME** – come out of game to cool off. If this becomes an issue. Rules may become more punitive.

5. **IMPROPER ATTIRE ON GAME DAY**
 - a. First Offense – Running after next practice
 - b. Second Offense – Running / 1/2 game suspension

6. **LATE FOR BUS/GAME**
 - a. Starter won't start and non-starters will run the next day in practice.

CONTRACT FOR ROGERS ROYALS BASKETBALL PLAYERS AND PARENTS

I, _____, want to play high school basketball for Rogers High School. I have read the team handbook and promise to follow the rules of the MSHSL, ISD 728, Rogers High School, and the Rogers Boys' Basketball Program. I further agree to follow and abide by any and all additional rules laid out by the coaching staff during the season.

AS A PARENT OF THE ABOVE NAMED PLAYER I HAVE READ THE TEAM HANDBOOK AND I PROMISE TO DO THE FOLLOWING:

1. Influence my child to abide by the contract they have signed.
2. Be an example of good sportsmanship at games by making positive comments about players, keeping criticism of the officiating to a minimum and treating fans of our opponents with respect.
3. Be patient and respectful of coaches in dealing with playing time and strategy.
4. Teach my child to deal with the coaches directly regarding any issues that may develop individually or with the team.
5. To make sure my child is striving to be the best they can be both on and off of the court.
6. To make sure my child is at practice and games on time and is picked up on time.
7. Support my child, his teammates, his coaches, and his school in a first class manner at all times.
8. To respect all decisions made by the coaching staff.

WE, THE COACHES, PROMISE TO DO THE FOLLOWING

1. Treat each player like we would want our child to be treated.
2. Be examples of good sportsmanship, character, and citizenship.
3. Teach your son the skills needed to become the best player he can be.
4. To develop a «TEAM» and the benefits of learning and becoming one.
5. Put on the floor the best possible team at all times.
6. Develop a championship caliber team and program.

We know that being part of this Basketball Program will require sacrifices, discipline, and commitment if we are going to be successful. This will be required of the players, their families and the coaches. We are working to achieve an extraordinary team with extraordinary successes which demands extraordinary efforts on all parts...in the classroom, at home, on and off the floor. In return for this dedication we have an opportunity to create an experience that can affect our lives forever.

Players will constantly be evaluated on their demonstration of individual skills, team skills, coachability, hustle, mental and physical preparedness. Loyalty to the team, unselfishness, and the desire to improve themselves and their team is

important everyday. Our goal is to field a team that consistently demands more of themselves, than is demanded by their coaches.

We will play to **WIN**. Playing time and game substitutions will be made with that solely in mind. Playing time is not equal and is earned through practice and performance. It is possible to win, have success, and also have a lot of fun and enjoyment along the way.

The players of this program are **EXPECTED** to work harder, have more discipline, hustle, enthusiasm, teamwork and dedication than any other team in this state. This goes for in the classroom, in their families, with their friends, in the community, and finally, on the basketball floor. This is not a goal...**THIS IS AN EXPECTATION.**

I understand that if I make one of the Rogers High School Boys' Basketball Teams, I will abide by these expectations, as well as the rules and guidelines in the team handbook.

_____ Student – Athlete

Date _____

I understand that my child if part of one of the Rogers High School Boys' Basketball Teams will abide by these expectations, as well as the rules and guidelines in the team handbook. I agree to give them all the possible help to support them, their coaches and their team.

_____ Parents

Date _____

*As coaches we promise to provide the best possible experience for your child we can. Focusing not only on the finer points of the game of basketball but developing the best possible student-athlete we can in the classroom, in the community and on the basketball floor. This is your **child's TEAM** and we will never be bigger than that team.*

Joe Belka Addison Tackmann Paul Broberg Bert Sepulveda Dustin Sluzewicz