



**BERWICK
AREA
YMCA**

2020 YOUTH BASKETBALL

**PARENT
HANDBOOK**

WELCOME TO YOUTH BASKETBALL!

Dear Parents and Players,

The Berwick Area YMCA welcomes you to our 2020 Youth Basketball Program! A goal of our YMCA is for all youth sports participants, both parents and children of all abilities, to have an enjoyable sporting experience. Skill development is the main component of all YMCA Youth Sports. Keeping a healthy perspective of competition is a part of every season, and each child will play an equal amount of time in every game (as close as possible based on the team roster). Of course, a FUN and friendly environment is characteristic of all YMCA programs.

Because of the current health crisis in our community, we have made a few changes to keep everyone as safe as possible. This is the your Parent Handbook. Please take a few minutes and read the information inside this handbook. This material will answer many of your questions, but if it doesn't, please don't hesitate to ask us. We are eager to help!

Youth Sports programs are possible by the dedication of volunteers. Many volunteers put in several hours of work the make the YMCA programs a success. Thank you to all of the YMCA volunteers who invest time and energy into the lives of young people today. If you are interested in volunteer opportunities, please contact us.

Families are very important to the Berwick Area YMCA! Unfortunately, we must limit parents as spectators this year to comply with health and safety guidelines established by our state and the CDC. We hope this is only temporary! Please take an interest in your child by participating with him/her during practices and games. Also, time spent with your child at home in sport skills development builds confidence and parent-child relationships. Thank you for your participation. We look forward to serving you and your child in our program. If you have any comments or questions, please email us at sports@berwickymca.org.

Sincerely,

Logan Czajkowski

Youth Sports Coordinator

BERWICK AREA YMCA PARENT'S CODE OF ETHICS

- I will encourage good sportsmanship by demonstrating positive support for all players, coaches, and officials at every game, practice, or other youth sports event.
- I will place the emotional and physical well-being of my child ahead of a personal desire to win.
- I will support the implementation of the YMCA's four character development values, caring, honesty, respect and responsibility.
- I will support coaches and officials working with my child, in order to encourage a positive and enjoyable experience for all.
- I will demand a sports environment for my child that is free from drugs, tobacco, and alcohol, and will refrain from their use at all YMCA youth sports events.
- I will remember that the game is for youth – not for adults.
- I will do the very best to make the youth sports experience fun for my child.
- I will help my child enjoy the youth sports experience by doing whatever I can, such as being a respectful fan, assisting with coaching, or providing transportation.
- I will teach my child to treat other players, coaches, fans, officials with respect regardless of race, sex, creed, or ability.
- I hereby pledge to provide positive support, care, and encouragement for my child participating in youth sports by following this Parents' Code of Ethics.



COVID SAFE PROCEDURES

Our priority is to provide Youth Sports programming in a safe and effective manner. Program modifications have been put in place for the safety of our all. The YMCA takes into account guidance from the CDC, government authorities, Y-USA, and recognized sporting bodies.

Staff, parents and participants should not attend practices or games if they answer YES to any of the following questions:

- Have you or anyone in your household traveled out of the country or to a domestic hot spot in the last 14 days?
- Have you or anyone in your household had a fever or taken fever-reducing medicine in the last 72 hours?
- Have you experienced any cold or flu-like symptoms within the last 72 hours (to include loss of taste/smell, cough, sore throat, respiratory illness, difficulty breathing)?
- Have you or anyone in your household had close contact with or cared for anyone confirmed COVID-19 in the last 14 days?
- Have you or anyone in your household had close contact* or live with anyone who has been told to self-quarantine in the last 14 days?
- Medical professionals treating COVID-19 patients should shower and change clothes prior to coming into our facilities.

In addition to the above, the following policies have been established and must be observed at all times during the season. Again, we hope this is only temporary and appreciate your patience as we work through these unprecedented circumstances.

- Each participant is allowed one parent at practice or games. Social distancing is required. The bleachers are clearly marked with seating arranged to maintain distance. Please observe all social distancing markers. Masks are required for all spectators.
- Participants will be reminded of proper hygiene techniques at the start of each game/practice. Masks are required for all participants/coaches when entering the Y and while on the bench. Masks may be removed for play.
- Food and drinks are not permitted in the gymnasium. Participants may bring their own, labelled water bottles, sharing not permitted. Water fountains may only be used to refill bottles.
- Temperature checks are required for all staff, volunteers and participants upon program entry.
- All participants and coaches must use hand sanitizer upon entry to the gym, each time they come out of the game and before leaving. Participants, staff and volunteers may bring their own sanitizer. The YMCA will also be providing sanitizer.
- No hand shaking, high-fives, fist bumps.
- Bleachers and equipment will be disinfected between games.
- All participants will enter by the YMCA Main Entrance and depart through the gym doors at the end of games/practice to limit interaction.

PROGRAM DETAILS

- Practices will be held Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday evenings. Games will take place Saturdays. Players will receive a detailed schedule once teams have been assigned.
- Please complete all information on the registration form.
- Participants will be grouped by age in three divisions by grades:
 - K—1
 - 2 -3
 - 4 -5
- Games will be played with four, eight minute quarters. Practices will be 45 minutes in length. Every effort will be made to insure each participant receives equal playing time.
- Each player will be given their own basketball to shoot around with during practices and games. If participants have their own basketball, they may bring it. YMCA equipment will be sanitized prior to the next practice.
- During games each player will be given their own colored pinnie to be used. They will be placed in the wash bin after each use to be thoroughly cleaned and sanitized. No participant will use the same pinnie again until it has been washed and sanitized.
- Prior to the start of the season players will be placed onto a team of no more than 5 players. Parents will receive a phone call from the program coordinator to inform them of their team assignment and first practice time. Rosters, schedules and coaches information will be provided at the first practice.
- While we will try to accommodate requests for specific practice or game times, we cannot guarantee that we can accommodate requests. This policy is especially true this year due to the safety modifications we have put in place.
- All participants must have closed-toe footwear to play.
- If for any reason a game or practice should need to be cancelled or postponed, this change will be posted on The Berwick Area YMCA Facebook Page. Please check the Facebook page for schedule postings and other program news as well.
- The safety protocols we have established for this season are for the benefit of all. Please don't ask us to compromise safety by disregarding our policies and procedures. It would be unfortunate for all, but the YMCA reserves the right to deny participation for refusal to follow YMCA safety policies or protocols.