

BLUESTEM MIDDLE SCHOOL GIRLS BASKETBALL HANDBOOK 2016-2017

TEAM PHILOSOPHY

It is the goal of the Bluestem School Program to field a competitive team that will uphold the goals of sportsmanship and good conduct, while teaching the fundamentals of basketball.

PLAYER EXPECTATIONS

****POSITIVELY REPRESENT THE TEAM.**

Bluestem Middle School basketball players display appropriate behavior at school. Receiving detentions and referrals are not acceptable. Players are expected to behave appropriately on the bus, at other schools and in the public, we are constantly representing Bluestem Schools and OUR community. Players who choose to behave inappropriately are subject to consequences including loss of playing time, loss of team privileges, or dismissal from the team.

****THE GOALS OF THE TEAM FIRST.**

As a Bluestem Middle School basketball player, you are expected to put your team first. Your individual goals and your team's goals do not necessarily conflict, but when they do, you accept that decisions are made for the good of the entire team. In order for our team to be successful on the court, we must develop trusting relationships with each other.

****SHOW RESPECT.**

Each player is to show respect to teammates, coaches, teachers, opposing teams and officials. Failure to do so will result in consequences including loss of playing time, loss of team privileges, or dismissal from the team.

****ATTEND ALL PRACTICES AND GAMES.**

Players are expected to attend all practices and games. Hustle at all times at practice and maintain a positive attitude.

Players must inform the coach before any missed practice or game. A note or email from a parent/guardian should be given to a coach when players have excused absences including those due to illness, family emergency, and funeral. Injured players are

expected to attend all practices and games. Unexcused absences from practices or games may result in loss of playing time. Players will give 100% effort at practice to become the best possible athlete she can.

****BE ON TIME TO PRACTICE**

On school days when practice begins at 4:10, players must come to the gym immediately and be on the court no later than 4:10. Friday practices will be posted online and given to the student-athlete. The players must be ready to begin pre-practice at the indicated start time. Player late to practice will receive extra conditioning.

****INJURIES**

Practices are designed to improve skills, promote confidence and teamwork, and to have fun. Practices are also designed to challenge players without injury. However, with competitive sports, injuries do occur. Should an injury occur it must be immediately reported to the coaching staff and an Injury Form must be filed with the Athletic Director. An injured player will have the opportunity to return to their spot when that player can prove complete recovery and ability to return to competition at their highest level. The player who filled in during injury will return to their position prior to injury with the option of using a challenging process to regain the position. Injured players are still required to attend practices and games unless they are working on rehabilitation and are cleared by the coaching staff.

****PRACTICE ATTENDANCE POLICY**

Unexcused absences from practice/games are outlined as absences where no attempt to justify an absence, the reason is not acceptable to Administration and/or Administration has reason to believe the excuse offered may not be substantially correct or true.

If you are going to miss a practice, notify Head Coach.

-Excused = Make-up time accordingly

Consequences for Unexcused Absence:

One – Miss Playing time

Two – Loss of playing time/ starting position/ extra conditioning

Three – Head coach will notify Administration to determine consequence (Unexcused Absences include: Missed practice because of inappropriate attire or not notifying Head Coach of absence. Excused Absences include: Family matters, doctor appointments or illness.)

If you are at school you will be expected to attend practice.

****SUPPORT ALL TEAMS DURING GAMES.**

No players are to leave the gym until the coach has given the entire team permission to leave. Players are expected to sit together and cheer on the other grade level team behind the bench. Players must remain in the gym for the entire duration of games. Players should refrain from activities that take their attention away from watching the game and cheering.

****BE RESPONSIBLE AND PREPARED.**

Players are responsible for having the necessary items to participate at practice and for games(uniform, shoes, socks and water bottles). Players are expected to take care of issued equipment. Each player will receive a game jersey and practice jersey, which must be returned in good condition at the end of the season. Game jerseys may only be worn during games and practice jerseys may only be worn during practice.

****ELIGIBILITY**

Bluestem School's eligibility expectation serves the best interest of the student athlete by ensuring both Bluestem High School and the student athlete place an emphasis on academics before athletics.

---The student athlete must pass five subjects from the previous semester to be eligible to participate and be in good standing with the BJHS office.

****APPAREL ON GAME DAYS.**

Players will be expected to wear dress clothes for home games and team shirt with jeans for away games. Purchase of the team shirt will be the responsibility of the player.

****AWAY GAMES.**

If a student needs to ride home with a parent, a coach must have a written note or the parent needs to sign the player out after the game.

Playing time is determined by:

Coach-ability,
Teamwork,
Your role on the Team,
Effort and Ability.

****PARENTS INVOLVEMENT**

Parents are extremely valuable to the success of the team. The role of a parent is one of the support and confidence. When a player questions the authority or decision of a coach, parents are expected to support the decision of the coach. When a player gets mixed signals from the coach and the parents, confusion results and the situation usually gets worse. The coaching staff of Bluestem Middle School Basketball encourages parents to attend games and support the team. It is important to realize that it is unethical and against KSHSAA rules for players and spectators to “coach” during a game. Doing so can result in player penalties and removal of that parent from the area. It is the belief of this coaching staff that parents can greatly contribute to the program and development of their child. Should a parent feel the need to communicate something with the coaching staff, it is important to do so in a manner that will be conducive to that goal. Please respect the wishes of the coaches and follow this procedure:

- 1st - Encourage your player to discuss any concerns with the coaching staff. (Many issues can be resolved through this manner before parental involvement is needed)
- 2nd - If issues aren't resolved with the player and coaches: Contact the Coach. (Coaches are available before and after practices. Please make arrangements to meet via a phone call or email prior to arriving at the designated time.)
- 3rd - If issues still are not resolved we will meet with the Administration, Parent, Coach and Player.

It is crucial that all rules and policies are followed by everyone.

Please sign and return this paper to your coach.

Player

Feel free to call us if you have any questions.

Julie Penner

316-742-3261

Amanda Witty

316-258-6182

Parent/ Guardian