

ST. PIUS X BASKETBALL

The purpose of the St. Pius X basketball program is to provide every St. Pius student in the 1st-8th grades the opportunity to participate on an organized team. All teams will be established under the direction of the Boys and Girls Basketball Directors.

GUIDELINES AND PROCEDURES (REVISIONS APPROVED 10/1/19)

The following is a list of guidelines and procedures which govern the St. Pius X basketball program. Exception to any guideline or procedure must be granted by the Basketball Directors and the President of the Athletic Association. Players, parents and coaches must adhere to the following guidelines:

1. Eligibility

- (a) All participants in the basketball program must be currently enrolled students at St. Pius X grade school or home schooled parishioners and not enrolled in any other school. The family of the child or children must currently be a member of the Parish. No student may participate on more than one St. Pius X basketball team with the exception of the 6th grade “A” team players.
- (b) Each student must participate within the grade that he/she is currently enrolled. If the student cannot play in his/her respective grade division due to age limitations, the Basketball Directors will attempt to develop an acceptable solution. Additionally, the Basketball Directors may allow students to play up one grade level if necessary to help fill the roster of a team that has less than eight players.
- (c) We allow every student to participate in leagues and tournaments outside of our program, but outside practices, leagues and tournaments should not take priority over the school team’s contests.
- (d) In accordance with the St. Pius X Parent/Student Handbook, if a player is suspended from school they will also be suspended from athletics for the same duration. Likewise, students placed in academic probation or disciplinary probation will also be limited from participation as set forth in the handbook.

2. Establishment of Teams

The establishment of teams in the 1st-6th grades will be handled as follows:

- (a) Coaches for each team will be selected by the Basketball Directors. Parents of players are permitted to coach their son or daughter on non-“A” teams.
- (b) To assist in balancing rosters when teams are initially formed, an evaluation day may be held as determined by the Basketball Directors for boys and girls prior to the start of the basketball season. The selection of players onto teams will follow the evaluation session, if there is one, and be done in a manner established by the Basketball Directors.
- (c) The Basketball Directors will determine if a redraft is necessary from year to year, giving consideration to whether there is a significant gain or loss of players in a certain grade level.
- (d) In addition to the standard 6th grade teams as established above, 6th grade “A” teams shall also be established. Only players who play on a standard 6th grade team shall be eligible to play on the 6th grade “A” team. The 6th grade “A” teams shall play in the Northern Kentucky Middle School Basketball League (NKMSBL). The establishment of 6th grade “A” teams, including the selection of coaches, shall otherwise be governed in accordance with Part 2(f) through Part 2(j) of these Guidelines.

- (e) In the event of a student transferring to St. Pius after teams have been selected, that student will be added to the appropriate team as determined by the Basketball Directors.

The establishment of teams in the 7th - 8th grades will be handled as follows:

- (f) All students enrolled in the 7th and 8th grades at St. Pius X grade school will be invited to tryout for the “A” team in their respective grades. The selection of players to the “A” teams will be made by the coaches of those teams. The goal is for each “A” team to consist of a minimum of 8 players and a maximum of 10 players, but this is able to be modified at the discretion of the coaches and Basketball Directors.
- (g) Every student who chooses not to tryout for the “A” team or who does tryout but does not make the “A” team will be assigned to a “B” team. Every effort will be made to enter every “B” team in a league.
- (h) In the event of a student transferring into St. Pius after teams have been selected, that student will be added to the appropriate team, including potentially the “A” team, as determined by the Basketball Directors.
- (i) All coaches for the 6th 7th and 8th grade “A” teams will be selected by the Basketball Directors and approved by the Athletic Association Executive Committee.
- (j) The goal is to not have parents coach “A” teams, but we recognize that there may be circumstances where having a parent coach is the best or only option, and it is allowed provided the Basketball Director and Athletic Association Executive Committee approve. In the event that a parent or relative of a prospective player is selected by the Basketball Directors to coach an “A” team, that parent or relative shall not have any input as to the identity of players who are selected to play on that team. If a parent or relative will coach an “A” team, then the identities of players who make that team shall be determined by a three-person committee appointed by the Basketball Director. The members of said committee shall govern all aspects of the tryout and player selection process and maintain objectivity during the tryout and selection process.

Any other issues related to the establishment of teams and rosters that are not addressed in these Guidelines will be handled at the discretion of the Basketball Directors with the approval of the Athletic Association Executive Committee.

3. Playing Time

All players on St. Pius X teams in the 1st - 8th grades must participate in at least 1.5 quarters of play per game. The only exceptions to this rule are:

- (a) Teams that have more than 10 players on the roster are required to play each player a minimum of 1.0 quarter per game.
- (b) 6th, 7th and 8th grade “A” teams will not have a playing time requirement for players in the Northern Kentucky Middle School Basketball League (NKMSBL). During the Catholic school league games (7th Grade Boys at St. Henry High School, 8th Grade Boys at Covington Catholic High School, and 7th and 8th Grade Girls at Notre Dame Academy), all players must play a minimum of 1.0 quarter. For all tournament games, including the two league tournaments, coaches may play players at their discretion.
- (c) Players that do not attend practice or are routinely late without communicating in advance to their coach may have their playing time restricted to less than the normal minimum.

Coaches that fail to adhere to these rules will be relieved of their coaching responsibilities. We encourage coaches to actively look for opportunities for more playing time for all of their players.

4. Uniforms

All players in the 1st - 8th grades will be provided full game uniforms. These include a reversible green/white jersey and basketball shorts. The following guidelines apply to distribution, collection, exchanges and lost/damaged/unreturned uniforms:

- (a) Uniform Coordinator – The President of the Athletic Association and the Basketball Directors will annually appoint a basketball Uniform Coordinator and make this person’s name and contact information known to all basketball coaches.
- (b) Uniform Distribution – Basketball uniforms will be distributed to the coaches according to the sizes requested on each player’s basketball registration form. From an inventory and team standpoint, it is imperative that each player wear the number assigned to him/her. Number changes must be communicated to the Uniform Coordinator or maintained by the individual coach.
- (c) Uniform Collection – Players must return their uniform to their head coach at the conclusion of the season in good, clean condition. Coaches must return all basketball uniforms as a complete set to the Uniform Coordinator on the collection date established by the Uniform Coordinator. Uniforms not returned by April 1 will be considered purchased by the player and his/her family, and they will be invoiced accordingly.
- (d) Uniform Exchanges – Players needing a larger/smaller jersey or short must contact the Uniform Coordinator. Players must not exchange jerseys or shorts with another player without prior approval.
- (e) Lost/Damaged/Unreturned Uniforms – The cost for lost, damaged or unreturned uniforms is: \$35 – jersey, \$20 – shorts, \$30 – warm-up (if provided).

Additionally, the Athletic Association will supply all players in the 7th grade with a shooting shirt to be worn for their 7th and 8th grades. These shirts will become the property of the player at the end of their basketball playing time at St. Pius X and do not have to be returned. If the shooting shirt becomes lost, damaged, destroyed, or otherwise ruined, or if the player needs a different size shooting shirt, it is the responsibility of the player to pay for any additional shooting shirt. If a player does not play basketball in the 7th grade, but chooses to play in the 8th grade, the Athletic Association will supply them with a shooting shirt at that time.

5. Tournaments

Entry into any tournament by a St. Pius X basketball team, including those not paid for by the St. Pius X Athletic Association as specified in the paragraph below, must be approved by the Basketball Director. This approval should be done in writing at least two weeks in advance of the tournament to allow for proper communication and planning to the team.

The St. Pius X Athletic Association will pay the tournament entry fee for teams to participate in outside (non-league and non-St. Pius) tournaments under the following guidelines:

1st & 2nd grades	None
3rd & 4th grades	One (1) outside tournament per team, the cost of which is not to exceed \$100
5th & 6th grades	Two (2) outside tournaments per team, the combined costs of which are not to exceed \$250
7th & 8th grades	Three (3) outside tournaments per team, the combined costs of which are not to exceed \$350

Teams exceeding their limit in outside tournaments will be responsible for covering all costs, including entry fees.

6. Registration Fee & Volunteer Requirements

A registration fee is required for each participant in the St. Pius X basketball program. The registration fee will be collected prior to the beginning of the basketball season and the fee amount will be determined annually by the St. Pius X Athletic Association. The parents of all participants are also required to work at least 3 hours at the St. Pius/David Moorhead Tournament.

7. Behavior

Players, coaches and parents are expected to conduct themselves in a manner that represents the Catholic values of St. Pius X Church. Each player, coach, and parent will be required to sign a St. Pius X School Athletic Association Code of Conduct each year. Individuals that fail to abide by these Guidelines or the Code of Conduct may be restricted from further participation or attendance at basketball practices or games.

8. Responsibilities of Student Athletes

- (a) Attend and be on time for all practices and games.
- (b) Make academic obligations a priority over participation in athletics. Always strive for academic excellence. Complete homework assignments before attending practices or games.
- (c) Be supportive, never critical, of your teammates. Always strive to display good sportsmanship and fair play.
- (d) Respect your coaches, teammates, opposing players and coaches, game officials and spectators at all times. Disrespectful or abusive behavior on the part of any participant will not be tolerated.
- (e) Make a sincere effort to improve your skills by following the coach's instruction and practicing on your own.
- (f) Pay attention and do not cause distractions while your coach is instructing during practices and games.
- (g) If any player receives a technical foul for misconduct during a game then they must sit for the rest of that game and they will be suspended for the next game. Any player who receives another technical foul in the season will need to meet with the Basketball Director and Athletic Association President to determine if the player can continue to participate on the team and what further punishment is warranted. All technical fouls received by players should be reported by the coach to the Basketball Director immediately following a game.

9. Responsibilities of Parents

- (a) Make every effort to ensure that your child is on time for all practices and games. Pick him/her up at the scheduled end of practice – do not force a coach to have to wait with your child after practice. Communicate with the coach ahead of time if your son/daughter will have to miss or be late to a practice or game.
- (b) Make sure that your son/daughter has completed all homework assignments before attending practices and/or games.
- (c) Accept responsibility for uniforms and equipment that your son/daughter brings home. These items should be cared for according to directions on the uniform and returned at the end of basketball season in good, clean condition.
- (d) Support the athletic program by attending games whenever possible and by volunteering your time to help whenever possible, especially at the St. Pius/David Moorhead Tournament. Encourage and show support for all the players on your son's/daughter's team.
- (e) Respect your son's/daughter's teammates, coaches, opposing players and coaches, game officials, league officials and spectators at all times. Disrespectful or abusive behavior on the part of any parent will not be tolerated.

10. Responsibilities of Coaches

- (a) Abide by all policies and rules set forth by the Basketball Directors, including participation in any training required by the Diocese or Parish.
- (b) Be responsible for all players' and parents' conduct during practices and games.
- (c) Be on time for all practices and games. Provide plenty of advance notice to players and parents of practice times and game times.
- (d) Encourage, never discourage, players; be consistent in enforcing team policies.
- (e) Be organized for all practices and games.

- (f) Respect your players, parents, opposing players and coaches, game officials, league officials and spectators at all times. Disrespectful and unsportsmanlike behavior on the part of any coach will not be tolerated.
- (g) Have good, open lines of communication with your players and parents.
- (h) The Basketball Directors and Athletic Association President shall have the discretion to suspend or remove any coach or to decline to allow any person to coach.
- (i) Any coach who receives a Technical foul must notify their Basketball Director after the game. The Basketball Director will then gather the facts from other coaches, referees, and league director. The Basketball Director and Athletic Association President will determine if a suspension is warranted.
- (j) All coaches must be registered and up to date in Virtus. In addition to being Virtus compliant, all coaches must attend the “Play Like a Champion” seminar.

11. Problems/Disputes

With the large number of students participating in the St. Pius X basketball program, the Athletic Association recognizes that problems or disputes will arise. The Basketball Directors strongly recommend that every effort be made to work these problems out on an individual basis. If a parent or player has a disagreement with a coach, they should speak with the coach in a calm and respectful manner in an effort to resolve the issue. Likewise, if a coach has a problem with a parent, participant, opposing coach, game official or league organizer, he/she should speak directly to them in a calm and respectful manner to resolve the issue. If a reasonable attempt to solve the problem on this basis has failed, the person is urged to contact the appropriate boys or girls Basketball Director. Every effort will be made to mediate/resolve the matter within the guidelines of the basketball program.

12. Other Issues

Any issues not addressed by these Guidelines will be handled at the discretion of the Basketball Directors with approval of the Athletic Association Executive Committee.