



## ***2007-2008 HANDBOOK***

### **Boys Directors**

Mike Hancock  
Sean Forbes  
Dean Egr

### **Advisory Committee**

Tim Shanahan  
Jason Glock  
Marc Kaminski  
Craig Moline  
Mike Weiss  
Kevin Scheef  
Linda Walker

### **Girls Directors**

Cory O'Brien

## **ORGANIZATIONAL GOAL**

Our combined objective is to provide an opportunity for Wahoo's youth interested in improving their fundamental and team basketball skills. Wahoops design is to provide progressively competitive opportunities as athletes advance in grade levels 5-8.

## **HANDBOOK INTENT**

To provide parents and players with information regarding Wahoops policies and procedures.

## **WAHOOPS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Individuals represented in the handbook are considered valuable assets of our program and will be asked to assist the Directors with decisions pertaining to many areas of the organization's operations, including the selection and evaluation of coaches and players.

The committee will work cooperatively with the Tournament Committee when planning our annual tournament. Committee members will also be asked to assist with the formulation of Wahoops policy.

## **PLAYER ELIGIBILITY**

Any youth wishing to participate in the Wahoops program must first adhere to the following eligibility:

- 1) Registration fees for participation in the program must be paid prior to the first practice. The fees are as follows:
  - 5<sup>th</sup> Grade \$50.00
  - 6<sup>th</sup> Grade \$60.00
  - 7<sup>th</sup> Grade \$70.00
  - 8<sup>th</sup> Grade \$80.00

\*The uniform deposit is not included with fee.

- 2) If a 5<sup>th</sup> or 6<sup>th</sup> grade boy or girl, the individual must participate in an organized league. The player must also attend a tryout (or series of tryouts) to determine placement on the appropriate skill level team. NO CUTS WILL OCCUR IN THE 5<sup>TH</sup> GRADE. It must be the intent of all 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders to attend either Wahoo Public High School or Bishop Neumann High School.
- 3) If a 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> grade boy or girl, the individual must participate in either the Wahoo Middle School or Bishop Neumann Junior High basketball program. The player must attend a tryout (or series of tryouts) to determine placement on one of the two competitive teams, based upon the level of skills demonstrated during the tryout.
- 4) Roster changes may occur subsequent to the initial placement based upon player performance in games and practices at the coaches or advisory committee's discretion.
- 5) All players must be enrolled in the 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, or 8<sup>th</sup> grade to be considered eligible for participation in the program.
- 6) There will be a limit of two teams per grade for both boys and girls at grade levels 6, 7 & 8. A maximum of 20 participants in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade will be highly encouraged. All player cuts will be decided upon by a selection committee. In grades 7 and 8, the A team rosters will be limited to 8 players participating in each game. In each grade, players may be moved from one squad to another squad, A to B or B to A, under the discretion of the coaches. The size of the roster will be left to the discretion of the selection committee. The breakdown of each team will be done at the discretion of the Advisory Committee. Any exceptions to this policy are at the discretion of the Advisory Committee.
- 7) If a player participates in another basketball organization (other than Wahoops), his first priority for games and practices must be with Wahoops. A player may not play for another team in

the same tournament that his or her Wahoops team is entered into.

#### 8) EXCEPTIONS:

- a. Individuals moving to Wahoo after the completion of an organized league or junior high seasons will be considered eligible for participation.
- b. Injuries, which prohibit a player from taking part in either an organizational league or junior high season, will not hinder a player's eligibility. If a player is injured during the tryout, special consideration may be made on the player's behalf.

## **TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE**

Each year, our organization and its coaches, receive a variety of entry applications for tournaments. Many tournament dates conflict with others, so the Directors and coaches will cooperatively decide which tournaments will be attended based upon the following limitations for both boys and girls:

5<sup>th</sup> Grade – 3 Total Tournaments (includes Wahoops Tournament)

6<sup>th</sup> Grade – 4 Total Tournaments (includes Wahoops Tournament)

7<sup>th</sup> Grade – 5 Total Tournaments (includes Wahoops Tournament)

8<sup>th</sup> Grade – 6 Total Tournaments (includes Wahoops Tournament)

The 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> Grade Girls will be allowed to play in a league due to the lack of available tournaments, as most conflict with the late junior high season.

The 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Boys and Girls will be allowed to travel and play in one tournament where overnight lodging is necessary. However, Wahoops will not pay lodging expenses.

## **TOURNAMENT PHILOSOPHY**

Our goal for any Wahoops team participating in a tournament will be for the team to be competitive and win as many games as possible.

In the 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Division, coaches will be expected to play all players as equally as possible.

In the 6<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> Grade Divisions, coaches will be asked, but are not required, to play all players. Playing time will depend on the situation at hand.

Players, who do not regularly attend practice, fail to produce an acceptable excuse for missing a practice or game or do not exhibit proper sportsmanship and/or respect for others may face a suspension from participation, at his/her coach's discretion.

## **PRACTICES**

Once teams are selected, coaches will be responsible for scheduling practices. Available gymnasiums are:

Wahoo High School  
Wahoo Elementary School  
Bishop Neumann High School  
St. Wenceslaus Elementary  
Wahoo Civic Center  
St. John's Elementary in Weston  
High Velocity in Wahoo

Coaches are encouraged to keep practices to 90 minutes in length if there is a team coming in after you, and coaches are asked to schedule their practice time wisely, as many teams need access to

only a few gyms. If a team is using a gym that is free, then they may go two hours in length. Communication is the key to the success of scheduling practices and gym usage.

Coaches will be allowed three contacts per week; this may include two practices and one tournament or three practices.

The months of January and February will be devoted primarily, to the introduction and practicing of fundamentals. The month of March and first week of April will be devoted to tournaments.

## **COACHES**

Our coaches are volunteers and should be commended for the extraordinary amount of time and energy they give for the betterment of our kids and the program.

We ask that our coaches conduct themselves in a professional manner and that they exhibit good sportsmanship throughout the season. This includes conduct during practices, games and all other events centered around Wahoops.

Coaches will be evaluated and are encouraged to ask for assistance from the Directors or the Advisory Committee. Past players are also encouraged to contribute any input they may have.

## **UNIFORMS**

All players will be required to pay a \$25.00 security deposit on all uniform materials. If, at season's end, all uniforms are not returned to each team's coach, those athletes not returning uniforms will not have their deposit refund destroyed. *The \$25.00 security deposit check for the uniform materials will be destroyed, not returned, after a uniform is returned to the coach concluding the Wahoops season.*

Coaches will be required to return ALL materials (i.e. basketballs, uniforms, etc.) to Marc Kaminski by May 1, so the equipment may be inventoried and replaced, if necessary.

Only players on 8<sup>th</sup> Grade teams will be allowed to keep their warm-up tops at no additional cost to the players.

## **CONCLUSION**

While this handbook is designed to outline areas of specific concern, the Directors and Advisory Committee encourage new ideas and questions from parents and players. Any situations not outlined in this handbook that may occur will be handled on a case-by-case basis by the coach, Advisory Committee, and/or Directors.

It should not be forgotten the original goal of the Wahoops Program, at its inception 20 years ago, was to create an opportunity to promote the sport of basketball within our schools and community. The idea was to interest kids in learning and improving their skills as basketball players.

The Wahoops Program itself has been very successful and if it is to continue along its path, we all must be original in our thoughts and ideas and work cooperatively to achieve new goals and success.

**NO ONE INDIVIDUAL SHOULD CONSIDER THEMSELVES  
LARGER THAN THE WAHOOPS PROGRAM ITSELF!!!!**