

**St Patrick's Youth Organization
Intramural Basketball Program
2018 Season
League Coaches Information**

- While our program is smaller than in past years, it is still quite large with over 800 players registered. There are 78 teams and 12 separate venues to be managed. Everyone involved, parents, players, and coaches, are expected to be cooperative and helpful in making this a successful season.
- **This season the League (grades 4 through 12) will play a 10-game season followed by a single elimination tournament, and All-Star game.**
- **The final playoff games will be held on various dates beginning on Monday, March 12th, and concluding on Wednesday, March 28th. As this may conflict with the start of the season for Lacrosse, soccer, and baseball, please make sure your players and their parents are aware of the full playoff calendar. We will not reschedule any games to accommodate conflicts with other sports.**
- We will use the same All-Star selection process as in previous seasons.
- All regularly scheduled games, League as well as instructional divisions, will be played at St. Patrick's. Public school venues will be used for League division practices. They may also be used to make up for weather or other cancellations of scheduled games.
- We have reserved week night practice times at Dogwood Elementary, St. James Elementary (new gym), Smithtown Elementary (red gym), Accomsett Elementary (new gym), Accomsett Middle School (new gym), Mt. Pleasant Elementary, Smithtown West HS (auxiliary gym), Great Hollow Middle School, Nesaquake Middle School, Mills Pond Elementary School, Canning Hall, and the St. Patrick gym for use by the 4th through 12th grade programs. Note that several of these venues will be unavailable until March 1st as they are reserved for CYO use. Each division should schedule two teams at a time in each practice slot. All gyms are large enough to accommodate this requirement. **Please note that practices cancelled for any reason will be rescheduled only if there is availability to do so.**
- **Given the limited gym space, we may be forced to schedule some week day games at 5 PM.**
- **At the conclusion of all games, coaches must print their last name on the score sheet** maintained by the official scorer. Scores will be communicated to the Youth Office, who will maintain the division standings.
- At the end of the season there will be a single elimination tournament. Playoff seeding will be determined by regular season record, and trophies will be awarded for the 1st and 2nd place teams only. Medals will be given teams that fail to place 1st or 2nd in the playoffs.
- All players in the 4th through 11th grades must be evaluated as described in the player evaluation guidelines.

- Please inform your player's parents that the division schedule will be available on the *Sports Illustrated Play* website prior to the end of December.
- We will not make any changes to the rosters as prepared except in cases of verifiable hardship (transportation, supervision, etc.) or significant personality clashes. If a change is necessary, it must be reported to, and consented to, by your division coordinator and the Youth Office.
- **The Youth Office will be mailing two documents directly to all coaches; the Volunteer Code of Conduct for Service ("Code") in the Parish Community of St. Patrick and a Statement of Release ("Release"). Additionally, all individuals who work with children in a parish or diocesan supported program are required by the diocese to attend a "Virtus" program. This program was designed by the Diocese and is offered monthly in all parishes. All St. Patrick coaches are required to complete this course in addition to signing and returning the Code and Release prior to the start of the season. Coaches who have previously submitted these forms do not have to resubmit them. Coaches who have previously attended the "Virtus" program need not attend another.**
- **Shirts will be available beginning December 16th at the all coaches meeting. The meeting begins at 9:30 AM in the gym. The meeting will last approximately 30 minutes. Please make every effort to attend. Any changes to the rules for this season will be described by John Cooley and Pete Taurasi, our senior referees.**
- **Your rosters will be available on the St. Patrick's Youth website (stpatsyouth.com) beginning Wednesday, December 18th. An email will be sent to all players and coaches at the time that the rosters are released. You should have been advised as to the log on procedure. If you have any difficulty please contact Marie in the Youth Office for assistance (631-360-0185 between 9 AM and 3 PM Monday – Friday, spyouth2@optonline.net).**
- Game balls will be maintained by the Youth Office staff. A ball for each game will be available at the concession stand and should be returned to the stand attendant after the final game of a session is over. Players should bring their own balls to practices and games for pregame warm-ups. **Make sure they have written their name, or some other identifying mark on their ball.**
- There has been considerable discussion about the size of teams in both the League and the Clinic. We try to limit teams to 10 players. However, we are not always able to do so. We are limited by the number of coaches who volunteer, the available gym time and the need to add or subtract teams in increments of two to avoid the need to schedule around bye weeks. Please be certain to let your player's parents know this to avoid complaints about something we control as best we can.
- The Youth Office will provide a Section XI, or IAABO certified referee and an official scorekeeper for each game.
- Scorebooks will be available at the time the shirts are picked up, if you desire one.
- **The referees are in charge at all games. They are to be accorded the utmost respect by everyone – players, coaches, parents and siblings.**

- **Please advise your player's parents that any and all complaints, suggestions and kudos should be directed to the Youth Office. With respect to complaints and suggestions, they must be in writing and attributed to the writer. The Youth Office will not respond to anonymous complaints in whatever form made.**
- **We are guests in all venues, including St. Patrick's. We expect all coaches and parents to respect the facilities and to monitor the behavior of their children at all times. This is particularly true with respect to teams waiting to play and those that have just finished. It is never acceptable to allow running or dribbling in the halls of any venue. Parents are expected to control their children in the gym as well. It is not okay to dribble, pass or bounce balls off the wall at any time.**
- **Parents and coaches are expected to behave like an adult at all times – it is great to cheer and encourage, it is terrible to complain, criticize, or get mad.**
- **Please be certain to stress the Parish's sports parking policy to your coaches, and they in turn to their player's parents. All sports parking is to be on the east side of the church property. No one may park on the west side of the church or the rectory. All sports' parking is to be at the rear of the school. There is an entrance to the gym from that parking area.**
- **The program will be played under CYO rules modified for our needs.**