



WITTENBERG-BIRNAMWOOD School District

400 West Grand Avenue, Wittenberg, WI 54499

Nick Mechelke, Girls Basketball Coach

715-253-2213 (phone)

www.wittbirn.k12.wi.us

Nov 1st, 2023

To: Parents of Girls' Middle School Basketball Players

From: Nick Mechelke

Re: Upcoming Basketball Season Info

Dear Parents,

It is with great excitement and anticipation for the upcoming basketball season that I hope this letter finds you. The purpose of this letter is to give you the information you need so you are up to speed with all things related to your daughter's middle school basketball season. Please see below:

- Practice and game schedule will be handed out on the first day of practice. The first day of Practice will be **January 2nd, 2024!**
- **TBD** will be coaching the 7th grade team and Alexis Voss will be coaching the 8th grade team.
- Birnamwood students will take the bus down immediately after school to Wittenberg Middle School on practice days.
- Students should come every day with good fitted basketball shoes, dry socks, shorts, and their school provided practice jersey. They will also want to bring their own water bottle.
- Leave times for games are listed on the attached schedule and are listed as the leave time from Birnamwood. The bus will then pick up the Wittenberg students on the way to away games.
- At games, students must sign out with their coaches before they are permitted to ride home with their parents.
- Uniforms: Take great care of them! Washing instructions are on them but here they are as well: MACHINE WASH COLD WITH SIMILAR COLORS, DO NOT BLEACH, DO NOT ADD SOFTENERS, TUMBLE DRY LOW, DO NOT IRON. The tops and shorts cost us \$45 apiece for a total of \$90 per uniform. Middle school sport uniforms are on a 10 year rotation in our district. If they are returned in an unacceptable condition you will be responsible for the cost of the jersey and/or shorts damaged.
- Practice attendance is mandatory. If your daughter will be absent for any period of practice due to an excused reason, please let their coach know beforehand.

I look forward to watching our middle school girls grow, learn and participate through the game of basketball. If you have any questions regarding the upcoming season please do not hesitate to contact me at 715-253-2213 or by email at nmechelke@wittbirn.k12.wi.us.

Sincerely,
Nick Mechelke

Middle School Basketball Expectations

Involving yourself in team sports should be a fun and rewarding time, a time to learn and grow, but it is also a time to develop problem solving skills, demonstrate mature decision making skills, and responsibility. To help you develop those skills, expectations have been clearly outlined below.

The following are expectations set forth in order for you and the program to be successful this season. If you cannot meet these expectations, there will be consequences. These consequences will be administered by the coach at their discretion.

The consequences are: 1) a verbal reprimand, 2) dismissal from practice, 3) suspension from meets, and 4) dropped from the team. Make sure to read all expectations before you sign.

Practice Rules

Regular attendance is critical for success! Attendance is **mandatory** at every scheduled practice and team function. If you are at school, you are at practice! If you are injured, you are expected to be at practice. ***The athlete must be in attendance for a half day in order to practice that day.*** When scheduling appointments, try to schedule around practice times. If you decide to go home after school, do not tell a friend, but tell your coach or have the office call your coach (if they are not in the same building as you are). Each athlete is expected to have practice clothes and proper shoes on during each practice. Please openly communicate with your coach!

Injury

If you become injured through the sport or other activities, a doctor's note explaining what the injury is, the severity of the injury, and approximate time out will be expected in order to sit out of practice and athletic events. You will be expected to attend all practices and home events even when you are injured. Coaches will use their discretion under specific circumstances.

Locker Room Conduct

Each athlete should pick up after themselves, both at home and away. There will be no fooling around in the locker room. You are responsible for your uniform, and will be held financially responsible for damages. Your conduct at other schools is a reflection of the school and your parents. Be aware of your behaviors and set high expectations for yourself both physically and behaviorally!

Game Day

You are representing your school so dress appropriately. Please dress in Charger attire. ***The athlete must be in attendance a full day at school in order to participate in an event.*** The only exception to this is a family emergency approved by the principal or a doctor or dental appointment, approved ahead of time.

Transportation

All athletes are expected to ride the bus to and from the event. If you do not ride the bus home, the athlete's parent must sign their child out. Coach will have a sign out sheet available. **ALL players are required to stay for each 7th and 8th grade game.**

School Conduct

All athletes will be expected to maintain passing grades along with proper behavior. See also Middle School Handbook. In the case of a failing grade, the athlete must prove they are passing to gain eligibility within two weeks. **If an athlete is declared academically ineligible the athlete has 20 school days to regain eligibility or the athlete will be dismissed for the remainder of the season.** This will be handled by the office. They are still expected to attend all practices and home meets. Any athlete displaying inappropriate behavior will not be allowed to participate for a minimum of one meet (coach's discretion). Any athlete identified as having been involved with alcohol, drugs, or tobacco will automatically be suspended for a fourth of the season.

**WITTENBERG-BIRNAMWOOD MIDDLE SCHOOL
COACH'S EXPECTATIONS**

We, as parent(s)/guardian(s) and athlete, have carefully read the WITTENBERG-BIRNAMWOOD MIDDLE SCHOOL COACH'S EXPECTATIONS and, by our signatures, agree to abide by the expectations as stated.

Participant's Name Printed

Grade

Sport

Participant's signature

Date

Parent's/Guardian's Name Printed