

Parks & Recreation Basketball & Cheerleading Frequently Asked Questions

TEAM FORMATION:

Can I request for my child to be placed on a specific team, with a certain coach or with a friend?

- In non-competitive sports programs (Start Smart, Micro-Mites and Rookie League & Cheerleading Programs) the emphasis is on developing coordination and motor skills as well as introducing the fundamentals. Score is not kept in these programs. Because of this non-competitive format, random team formation works well, and the league is able to accommodate same-team requests **most of the time**. To request this, please note your request on your child's registration form. It is also a good idea to call or email Aaron to make him aware of your request. You can reach Aaron at astover@vwcparksrec.com / (859)873-5948.
- In our competitive leagues (PeeWee Girls & Boys, JV Boys, Varsity Boys and High School) the goal is to create balanced leagues through the draft process. In this case, same team requests, even for carpool reasons, are not granted except in the case of emergencies. *Any requests due to emergency must be submitted separately in writing prior to each league's draft.*

I have more than one child registered in the same division. Can they be placed on the same team?

- Siblings are always placed on the same team, unless parents request otherwise. *Please make a note on your children's registration forms that they have a sibling in the same division as well as the sibling's name. This is especially important if they have different last names. For online registrations, please send an email to astover@vwcparksrec.com so he knows you are registering siblings.*

My child played last year. Will he or she go back to the same team?

- All leagues re-draft every year.

Skill Assessments FOR THE FOLLOWING LEAGUES will take place between November 15- November 17 (additional details will be sent):

PeeWee Boys

PeeWee Girls

JV Boys

Varsity Boys

High School League

My son or daughter will not be able to attend the skill assessment. What should we do?

- Skill Assessments are imperative to the parity in our leagues, so we ask that participants make every effort to be at the assessment. If your child cannot attend his or her assessment, please contact Aaron to schedule a time to visit Falling Springs Center for your player to be independently evaluated by Parks & Rec staff.

How do you form teams in the competitive basketball leagues?

- A draft and practice draw are facilitated the week after skill assessments by Parks and Recreation staff and the coaches for each league. The coaches discuss each player, their strengths and weaknesses as demonstrated at the skill assessment and their previous playing experience. The coaches then collectively decide on a rating for each player. Once all players are rated, they are then divided by school grade and skill rating, shuffled and then distributed blindly to coaches by skill level. The important thing to note is that **COACHES DO NOT KNOW WHOM THEY WILL GET, AND THEY MAY NOT REQUEST PLAYERS**. The draft is set up this way so that we can get as much parity in the league as possible and so there can be no question about the fairness or integrity of the draft process.

Draft Schedule is TBA.

How do I find out what team my child is on?

- For Micro-Mites & Youth Cheerleading: The league coordinator will let you know the first day of the program when teams will be formed & when you will hear from a coach.
- For Rookie League: Coaches will meet on Thursday, October 14 to get their teams and pick practice times. You can expect to hear from a coach by Monday night, Oct. 22. Parks & Recreation will also post team assignments online at www.vwcparksrec.com on Tuesday, Oct 23.
- For competitive Leagues: Coaches are asked to contact their players within 2 days of the completion the league draft (these dates are listed above). If you haven't heard from a coach by the 3rd day following your child's draft, please visit the Department's website at www.vwcparksrec.com. Team assignments will be listed there, along with the date, time and location for each team's initial team meeting and the contact information for your child's coach.

ELIGIBILITY:

Can I register my child to play basketball if we don't live in Woodford County?

- Yes. You do not have to be a Woodford County Resident to participate.

Can I register my child to play basketball if he/she plays for their school team?

- Middle School girls may play Rec League basketball because their season is over before the rec league begins.
- Middle School & High School players who make their school teams may not participate in the WC Parks & Recreation Basketball League per KHSAA rules.

My child wants to play basketball but he's never played before. Can I register him in a lower division so she can learn the sport first?

- Our divisions are by grade only (except for Micro-Mites 4 year olds). Since our leagues are recreation-based we have beginners in every division, so we do not allow players to play "down". The draft ensures that we have experienced and beginning level players on each team.

My child played last season and was one of the best players in the division. I'm afraid that if he stays in the same division again he'll get bored. Is there any way he can play in the next division up even though he's too young?

- Physical skills are only a small part of the game...there are also emotional and social aspects to be considered when playing team sports, so we encourage all children to play in their appropriate divisions.
- Keep in mind that by moving your child up, he or she will not be playing with his or her classmates, which is half the fun of youth sports.
- With that said, we do allow children to play up one grade. For example, if your son is in the 4th grade he may play in the JV Boys division with the 5th and 6th graders. However, if he is in the 3rd grade he would be required to remain in the 3rd & 4th grade PeeWee League.

COACHING:

I'd really like to coach, but I don't have much experience, so I'm not sure I know enough to coach a team. Can you provide me with some coaching materials?

- Yes! All competitive league basketball and cheerleading coaches are required to go through a coach's education course. As part of this course, coaches receive access to invaluable information and tools to aid them as a coach. If you are interested in coaching a team in the competitive leagues you should contact Aaron 873-5948 or astover@vwcparksrec.com.
- Micro-Mites, Rookie League & Youth Cheerleading are not required to go through training, but resources can be provided to assist you. If you are interested in coaching a Micro-Mites or Rookie League team or helping with Youth Cheerleading, please contact Aaron at the number or email listed above.
- You should make a notation on your child's registration form or email Aaron if you are interested in coaching a team. You may also complete our online [Volunteer Interest Form](#).

GENERAL INFORMATION:

What do I do if I have a question that wasn't answered here?

- Feel free to contact the Parks & Recreation Department at (859)873-5948 or via email at astover@vwcparksrec.com. Our offices hours are Monday-Thursday 9 AM to 6 PM and Fridays from 9 AM to 5 PM.