

# WELCOME!



Welcome to Beaver Dam Positively Hoops. This handbook has been prepared as a means of providing information to all Positively Hoops parents. We hope the Handbook will be useful to your family as we get underway for the 2011 – 2012 season. Also, don't forget to check the website constantly for further information:

[www.bdpositivelyhoops.com](http://www.bdpositivelyhoops.com)

**WHO WE ARE:**

Positively Hoops (“PH”) is a competitive, traveling tournament basketball club for boys and girls, Grades 3 – 8. PH was formed ten years ago with a few teams. Last year, we had over 160 kids participate as PH members! There are traveling teams in all grades, with some grades having multiple teams.

A Board of Directors oversees the organization. The Board of Directors is made up of 1) elected officers; 2) boys and girls head varsity coaches; and 3) boys’ and girls’ coordinator. The officers are elected yearly at the Parent’s end of year meeting in April. The Board of Directors is ruled by the Positively Hoops By-Laws. These By-Laws are on the PH website and available for viewing at any time.

The main goals of PH are as follows:

1. Provide opportunities for Beaver Dam youth to play basketball and to foster a greater appreciation for the sport;
2. Instill through basketball the interactions between players, coaches and the involvement in competitive play; and
3. To enhance positive and lasting life skills.

**REGISTRATION:**

All players must be registered to play for PH before being allowed to participate in any PH sponsored activities (including practices, tournaments, clinics/camps, open gym, etc.) Registration will take place at your child’s tryouts which are scheduled for the fall. Please take the time to accurately fill out your information as this will be the information coaches and the Board will use to contact you with important information. Registration forms are available on our website.

Payment:

Payment is due at the time of signup. PH works hard to keep the registration fees well below those of other club teams by hosting home tournaments. Parents should understand that tournament volunteer hours are mandatory for all families.

The payment schedule for the 2011 – 2012 season is as follows:

Child #1.....\$110.00  
 Child #2, 3, etc.....\$10.00 discount per athlete

It is important to note that all fees are due at the time of Registration. While we want to give all children the opportunity to play, if payments are not received by this time, and no other arrangements have been made, your child will not be allowed to participate in any PH sponsored events including clinics, camps, practices, tournaments, open gyms. etc. It is important to receive this registration right away in the season so our coaches can begin planning tournament schedules and reserving spots at tournaments.

### Uniforms:

All PH members are required to have a PH uniform. Uniforms are purchased during the registration period and several samples are brought to registration to allow the children to pick what size best fits. Children will have an opportunity to pick their numbers, based on number availability. Parents are responsible for any uniform costs. Uniform costs are in addition to any registration fees. Uniforms will be distributed prior to your child's first tournament.

### Spirit Wear:

PH offers a variety of spirit wear to order for athletes and their families. Order forms and some samples will be available at registration. There is typically only one order so make sure to get your orders in at the required due date. Orders will be distributed to coaches to hand out once they are received.

### Team Selections:

Your child will be evaluated during the tryout times by coaching staff and Board members. The ideal amount of children on a team is 10-12. However, PH wishes to make every effort to find a place for all children on a team. Every grade, player, and coach is unique and therefore, there is not set rules on how to handle teams with greater than 12 players. Coaches, along with Board input, will view children at tryouts to determine how best to handle larger teams. Some teams may have a rotating bench while others may be split into separate (not necessarily equal) teams.

There may be times when we have enough children tryout to form 2-3 teams. That is GREAT! Teams will likely not be split equally with regard to talent/skill. This will allow teams to compete at tournaments designed for your child's skill level and allow coaches to conduct practices based on this skill level.

### Playing Time:

We go to tournaments to compete. There are no guarantees of playing time. PH is ultimately a competitive traveling tournament team and our goal is to give everyone a positive basketball experience. The traveling teams are not based on an equal playing time format. The objective is for all team members to play in tournaments, with the intent for all to share in playing time, but predicated on the game, it is determined at the coach's discretion. Playing time will be evaluated not only on skill/talent but on practice attendance, work effort, attitude at both practice and tournaments, and over all spirit. **In summary, fair playing time does not mean equal playing time.** If you have concerns or questions about your child's playing time, please talk to your coach about it; they are there to help.

### Practices:

Practices will begin shortly after the registration process is complete. If you are selected to be on a PH team, your coach will contact you to give you information about your practices. It is important for your child to attend practices. It is important you have

your child to practice early to scheduled start time to make sure your child is ready to practice. If your child cannot attend practice, you need to contact your coach ahead of time to let them know. Your coach works very hard to schedule gym times and put together drills. Many times, drills, stations and scrimmages are based on how many players are at practice. Children who repeatedly miss practices may not have the same success as those who attend regularly. Please make an effort to have your child there and on time.

#### Home Tournaments:

PH hosts 2-3 large tournaments during the season, one in the fall and the others in the spring. Parents are required to volunteer during both tournaments for a total of 6 hours, plus two additional hours for each additional child. Our tournament directors work many hours organizing and scheduling the tournaments. Please attend any signups that the tournament directors have so that we can get you scheduled for your desired times and dates. Please note that each team will only play on one of the two days of the tournament. Tournament brackets are not released until a few days prior to the tournament but you should be able to pick a day ahead of time when your child isn't playing based on the date your child is scheduled to play. We have every hope that you will not have to miss a game, but if you are signed up for a timeslot and have not made other arrangements, you are still required to fill this timeslot. Persons who do not show up for their required shift will be charged a fee of \$100.00. Children will not be allowed to participate at any PH sponsored events including tournaments, practices, camps/clinics, open gyms, etc until this balance is settled. We need your help to make our tournaments a success and we count on you to make this happen! There are many ways you can sign up to volunteer including setup/cleanup, runners, concessions, and door tickets. Look for emails from your coaches or the tournament directors on when and how to sign up. Those who sign up earlier rather than last minute have a better chance to get the times, dates, and duties they prefer.

Volunteer time is mandatory. Those who do not sign up to volunteer will be assessed a fee of \$100.00. Your child's position on a team with PH may also be jeopardized as a result of this.

Food donations: Each child will be required to donate a food item, as determined by the tournament directors for the spring and fall tournaments. Please make sure to have your donation to the designated place at the time noted.

#### **PARENT REQUIREMENTS/RESPONSIBILITIES**

Ultimately, the success of your child and the program lies in the hands of the parents. The following are items important for parents to help their child and the organization succeed:

- Read and sign the Player Code of Conduct.
- Treat the coaches, refs, players, and players' families with respect.

- We encourage your feedback, your child's coach is there to help. Please do not hesitate talking to your child's coach about ideas, concerns, where your child is at or how he/she can improve and grow.
- Have your son/daughter at practices and tournaments on time and regularly. Pick up your child on time from practice.
- Communicate with your coach with health issues regarding your child. Keep your child home from practice/tournament if they are sick. Everyone touches the basketball and it is a fast way to spread germs!
- Mandatory volunteer sign ups for tournaments.
- Pay your fees on time.
- Please cheer for your child, but try to keep from yelling instructions to them during games. Encouragement is welcome but please leave coaching to the coaches.

### **COACHES:**

Coaches are the heart and soul of the organization. Our coaches are volunteers and they put in many hours over the year, not only attending practices and tournaments, but in planning gym times, facilitating information to families and working many hours outside of practices developing drills and planning the practices. Our coaches are, without a doubt, one of the biggest reasons for the success of our program. **Your primary contact is your coach.** Please take the time to introduce yourself to your coach and see if you can help them. Coaches appreciate feedback and it is important to communicate with your coaches about your questions or concerns. It is preferable that you communicate to your coach face-to-face, rather than through email so that information and ideas can be exchanged freely.

### **COMMUNICATION:**

Your coach is your primary contact for all questions and concerns and we encourage all parents to try to work concerns out with your coach through open and honest communication. Rest assured that decisions will be made in the best interest of your child and PH.

It is advised to not discuss a player's playing time, position or conduct during/ or immediately following a game. Unless it is a safety concern, please wait 24 – 48 hours to give your emotions a chance to settle. If you feel that your concern is not being addressed properly with the coach, we would encourage you to speak to either the Boys Coordinator or Girls Coordinator to address your issue. Finally, if you are still unable to resolve your issue, please feel free to contact a Board member and request to be put on the agenda for the monthly meeting to discuss your concern.

**CAMPS, CLINICS AND SUMMER CALENDARS:**

PH offers numerous out-of-season opportunities for kids to continue playing basketball. Watch for summer calendars to come out in early June. PH often has open gyms in the summer. This is typically free to all PH kids and a great opportunity to participate in an organized open gym. This will help kids get some extra ball handling and shooting in before the season starts up. PH also tries to schedule a camp/clinic over the summer with top name clinic directors. These are often available for a low fee and we encourage your child to participate in these great opportunities. Lastly, we have a 10,000 shot club which encourages kids to get out and shoot over the summer. Those who make the goal of shooting and logging 10,000 shots are invited in August to pick up a tee-shirt indicating their success.