



2022 – 2023 Season
Enfield Recreation Department

Program Mission & Purpose:

The Enfield Travel Basketball Program, or “ETB”, is a competitive youth basketball program for Enfield boys and girls in grades 5 – 8. The Enfield Recreation Department supports one team per division in the NCC League each season. ETB is one of the founding member towns of the NCC Travel Basketball League. The NCC is comprised of teams from Avon, Bolton, Canton, Coventry, East Granby, East Windsor, Ellington, Farmington, Glastonbury, Hebron, Mansfield, Plainville, Rockyhill, Simsbury, Somers, Stafford, Suffield, Tolland, Vernon, West Hartford and Windsor Locks.

The purpose of ETB is to provide a setting where Enfield youth can compete and prepare for future competition at the high school level. Emphasis is placed on developing players’ skills and self-confidence. Like the NCC, ETB urges all coaches in the program to lead by being a positive role model and assure all their players play significant and meaningful minutes in each and every game.

Why should my child consider playing in this program?

First, and most importantly, because they enjoy the sport of basketball. Secondly, if your child is looking for an opportunity to develop their skills against a higher level of competition in both practice and during games, they should consider the Travel program.

Tryout Dates: (Players must attend one of the two tryout dates offered)

| BOYS DIVISIONS 5/6 GRADE: 6:00 – 7:15 PM 7/8 GRADE: 7:15 – 8:30 PM | GIRLS DIVISIONS 5/6 GRADE: 6:00 – 7:15 PM 7/8 GRADE: 7:15 – 8:30 PM |
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| Friday, October 14, 2022 Monday, October 17, 2022 Wednesday, October 19, 2022 Must attend two of the three dates | Wednesday, October 12, 2022 Thursday, October 13, 2022 Tuesday, October 18, 2022 Must attend two of the three dates |

Team Selection

Each team will carry 10-12 players. During the course of the mandatory tryouts, players skills will be evaluated and scored by a panel. Players will be selected based on an evaluation of the basic skills of passing, dribbling, shooting, rebounding, and team play. In addition, versatility, game sense, attitude and hustle will be used to evaluate the players.

Once tryouts are complete, participants will be contacted via email as to their eligibility for the season. Beyond being selected for a team, parents must attend a mandatory pre-season meeting, pay the program registration fee in full and order their player’s uniform by the deadline to be eligible to participate in the season.

Practices

Teams will typically practice twice a week. Each team will have one, 90-minute, individual team practice and one, 60-minute, shared practice per week. Practices will be held at JFK Middle School. Practices not sanctioned by the Recreation Department are not allowed. Any practice held for an ETB team must be approved by the Recreation Office with a TOE Facility Request on

file. Due to facility constraints, practices cancelled due to weather or school events cannot be made up.

Player Clinics

As available, Enfield Recreation will sponsor player clinics. This information will be communicated with teams as it becomes available.

Games

The NCC provides all teams in the league sixteen (16) regular season games followed by post season play. The regular season normally starts the first weekend in December and ends February 19. The Christmas and New Year's holidays affected weekends are not normally used.

Games, home or away, will typically be played on Friday nights, Saturdays, and Sundays. Due to facility constraints, in some towns, games may be played before noon on Sunday, when necessary, this season. Additionally, it is possible for teams to play more than one game a day if needed. Parents are responsible for all transportation to and from games, home and away.

Game makeups are to be completed within 2 weeks of the original date with all games completed by February 19th. Games played the last 2 weeks of the season must be completed immediately.

While weeknight slots are acceptable, there must be mutual agreement between the two teams to play on a weeknight. Visiting team has a right to reschedule to a non-weeknight. Home team must be informed well in advance of any such change.

Tournaments/Jamborees

No additional games beyond the NCC regular schedule and playoffs are sponsored by the Recreation Department. Players and coaches may choose to participate in tournaments/jamborees if they wish with the understanding that they are not sponsored or sanctioned by the Town. Those who participate assume all responsibility for fees and liability associated with these events. Coaches may not penalize players who do not wish to participate in these outside events. The Recreation Department will not make changes to NCC scheduled games to accommodate outside tournaments/jamborees.

Playing Time

In line with the philosophy of the NCC, ETB expects that all players play significant and meaningful minutes in each and every game. **Since we understand that this statement is subjective, the expectation is about 25% of the game.** This playing time percentage is not an exact amount. Coaches will attempt to come as close as possible to meeting the percentage noted. Winning becomes more important at this level of play, but it is not to win at all costs. If the player makes the team, he/she will play in the games.

Note: A player's playing time can be affected by unauthorized absences from practices and/or games, injuries, illness, attitude, effort, and unwillingness to do as the coach has instructed (if there is a persistent problem, the coach will communicate the situation to both player and parents, as well as to the Recreation Department). Since the beginning of traveling sports,

playing time has been one of the biggest points of contention. All parents must recognize that strict adherence to the minimum playing time guidelines during a game or over the course of a season cannot be guaranteed due to player absences, the player's physical condition, player substitution patterns, player's foul situation, player injuries and other factors that the team, players and coach's encounter.

Coaches are expected to work to the best of their ability to balance the philosophy of the program, regarding playing time, with the competitive nature of this level of play.

Please note: this is not an academic based program. Coaches will not reduce playing time or restrict participation due to grades. However, to help prepare players for the possibility of being a student athlete in the future, conversations may be had as to expectations regarding academic eligibility at the high school level of competition.

Coaches

Coaches are selected by the Recreation Department through an application process. A national criminal background check is completed on every Head Coach and Assistant Coach in the program yearly.

The primary requirement in selecting coaches is their ability to work with our young players in a positive and supportive manner. Secondly, coaches are selected based on the knowledge of the game and their ability to teach the skills required to be a successful player. All coaches must be willing and able to abide by all program and conduct policies put forth by the NCC and Enfield Recreation Department.

We ask that whenever possible; players and parents first communicate concerns with the Head Coach before contacting the Recreation Department. A 24-hour grace period should be abided by whenever possible. This allows all concerned parties time to regain composure prior to discussing the issue of concern.

Uniforms

Player uniforms are required and are an additional cost beyond the program registration fee. Uniforms must be ordered by the player's family prior to the uniform deadline. Uniforms are ordered online through *Scott's Sports*. The fee for the required uniform is \$105.00. This fee includes a player jersey, shorts and shooter shirt. Uniforms must be worn at all games and should not be altered in any way. Additional player/fan gear may be purchased at the time that you order your uniform via the *Scott's Sports* ETB portal. Additionally, players should have appropriate footwear and a water bottle.

Fees

\$190.00 per player. This fee is in addition to the uniform fee. Fees may be paid in person with cash or check at the Recreation Office during regular office hours or online with a credit card through www.enfieldrec.com.

Basketballs

The 5th grade boys division and all girls' divisions utilize 28.5 basketballs. All other divisions utilize a Men's official 29.5 basketball. A limited supply of basketballs will be at all sanctioned practices and games. Players are encouraged to bring an appropriately sized basketball, for their division, with them to practice and clinics.

Game Rules

Regular High School rules will apply to game play in the league. *Note per the NCC: No pressing or half court trapping with a lead of twenty (20) points or greater throughout the game. Defenses must drop back to the 3-point line.*

COVID-19

The NCC will play based upon the guidelines established by the CIAC and DPH as well as abide by any Federal, State and Local mandates. Each town may also enforce rules they must abide by to allow play in their gyms (including limiting/not allowing spectators).

Cancellations

In case of inclement weather, the Recreation Department will make the decision if there will be a cancellation or postponement:

- A. If schools are closed, practice or games held at the schools are cancelled.
- B. Coaches are responsible for notifying their players.
- C. All cancellations or postponements will be announced on the Recreation Department recording: 860-253-6420.
- D. Announcements may also be made on "WFSB" Channel 3, Facebook, and Twitter if time permits.

Season Timeline: *subject to change.*

- Tryouts: October 12 - 19
- Team selection announcements: Friday, October 21st (via email)
- Mandatory Parents Meeting: Wednesday, October 26 at 7:00 PM
- Deadline to pay program registration fee: Sunday, October 31st at 11:59 PM
- Deadline to order player uniforms: Tuesday, November 1 at 11:59 PM
- Practices begin: Thursday, November 10
- Game schedules released: Monday, November 28
- Games begin: the weekend of December 2 - 4
- Regular season ends: the weekend of February 18/19
- Playoffs: Beginning Friday, February 24
- Season must be completed by Sunday, March 5

Player Eligibility

- Players must be enrolled in grade 8 or less. If a player "graduates" from 8th grade and reclassifies to the 8th grade in a private school, for example, he/she would be ineligible. However, an 8th grader who stays back would be eligible.
- Must live in the town they are playing for, this must be verifiable. In the instance of legally separated parents living in different towns, the town the player lives in is defined as the

town where they go to school. Players must have at least one (1) parent living in the NCC member town they are playing for.

- Once a player is accepted as eligible for a town's travel team, that player cannot play for another town's travel team within the league for the noted season.
- Players cannot be listed on two (2) or more rosters in the Enfield Travel Basketball program.
- Players must be gender appropriate to participate in the league.
- Age limitations based upon the player's age as of April 1 at the conclusion of the season:
Grade 5: 12 years old Grade 7: 14 years old
Grade 6: 13 years old Grade 8: 15 years old

All participants must try-out for and play on the team of the grade they are currently enrolled in school. Enfield Recreation does not allow participants to "play up or down" based on size, skill or ability.

Codes of Conduct

All Enfield Recreation Youth Basketball Programs have adopted Codes of Conduct for each person connected with the basketball program. These codes apply to coaches, players and parents. It is our hope that by publishing these codes, we can and will demonstrate our commitment to our young athletes. All players, parents and coaches must sign off on the Code of Conduct before the season begins. Signed copies will be kept on file at the Recreation Office.

Misconduct

- A. If a player or coach receives a technical foul at a game, it must be reported by the team's Head Coach to the Recreation Manager, via email, within 24 hours of the game where the occurrence happened. All occurrences will be reviewed with the coach and may result in a loss of playing/coaching time or other penalties up to and including dismissal from the program.
- B. If a player or coach receives 3 technical fouls in a season, his/her playing or coaching status will be reviewed by the Recreation Department before he/she is allowed to continue to play or coach in the program.
- C. If a player or coach receives 4 technical fouls during the season, he/she will be removed from the team.
- D. Any player or coach ejected from a game for spitting, obscene gestures, swearing or discrimination will be suspended until he/she is brought up for review by the Recreation Department. The ejected player or coach must leave the game site immediately.
- E. Any player/coach who, in the judgment of the officials, intentionally injures another player/coach will be suspended from play until a hearing. This includes, but is not limited to, intentional pinching, scratching, slapping, etc.
- F. School Suspension/Expulsion: Any Enfield Recreation Dept. youth basketball player who is suspended or expelled from an Enfield Public School will not be allowed to continue his/her participation in the program unless specific permission is granted from the Recreation Dept. AND the school building principal in the case of a suspension or the Enfield Board of Education in the case of an expulsion.
- G. The Recreation Department may use discretion in the disciplinary process.

No Taunting Policy/Bullying/Harassment

All Enfield Recreation Department Youth Basketball programs have adopted a no taunting policy for all youth basketball activities.

Taunting includes any actions or comments by coaches, players, or spectators which are intended to bait, anger, embarrass, ridicule, or demean others, whether or not the deeds or words are vulgar or racist. Included is conduct that berates, needles, intimidates, or threatens based on race, gender, ethnic origin or background, and conduct that attacks religious beliefs, size, economic status, speech, family, special needs, or personal matters.

This policy extends to taunting/bullying/harassment via social media, text or email during the season.

Concussions in Youth Sports

Safety is the number one priority of the Enfield Recreation Department. To help keep our participants safe and aware of the dangers of concussions, we provide information from the CDC concerning Concussions at the time of registration and again in the player's packet. For additional information, please visit www.CDC.gov/concussion or consult your physician.

Commitment to Positive Youth Development

The Enfield Recreation Department is committed to the youth of Enfield. We are constantly striving to improve the youth basketball programs for our youngest residents. If you have any comments, concerns or suggestions, we encourage you to call the Recreation Office at 860-253-6420 or email Recreationsupervisor@enfield.org.