

Grafton Hoops Philosophy

Grafton Hoops Club Program exposes and offers kids a higher level of competition while developing fundamental basketball skills. Player development is stressed inside the framework of a structured and disciplined system, and team-oriented play is emphasized. Practice time and advanced training are provided to enhance the skills of each player with the goal and vision of having players ready to play at the high school level.

Team Composition

All teams entering the Grafton Youth Program whereas multiple grade level teams will exist will be constructed evenly to produce depth in our overall talent pool. This composition begins with the class of 2028 and every new team thereafter.

Playing Time

For the 3rd-4th grade teams all kids will play in every game and every attempt will be made to play each kid during each half of every game. It is impossible to make the playing time exactly equal but the goal would be to strive toward this goal.

For 5th and 6th grade teams all kids will play in every game. It is unlikely that playing time will be equal.

For 7th and 8th grade teams playing time will not be equal. It will be based on the effort, attitude, and talent that players exhibit.

*Overall youth coaching philosophy is that every kid should play in every game 3rd-8th grades

Discipline

1. Any technical fouls will lead to a 1 game suspension, in addition to sitting the remainder of the current game. Players will still come to/stay for game.
2. Showing up a referee – (talking back, hand gestures, walking towards them) (one warning from staff) second offense, out the rest of the game.
3. Putting down teammates (one warning from staff) – kicked out of practice/game and suspended for the next half.
4. Disrespecting a coach will result in suspension until both the coach and the player come to an understanding.
5. Players are to be on time for all practices and games. Tardiness may affect playing time in games.
6. Cell Phone use is an “absolute no” during practice.
7. When a coach is instructing, all players should hold the ball and listen.
8. When you come out of a game, you give every player sitting on the bench a high five, no “head down sulking” attitude.

9. All players, regardless of ability and/or playing time are equal members of the team. Each and every player will treat all teammates with acceptance, respect, and friendship.

If any of these rules are broken the coach will enforce them with a conversation with the kid/parents, reduction in playing time, or suspension for a game (or any of the above).

Coaching

Our coaches understand it is privilege to coach your kids. They will coach your kids in a tough, but fair manner. They will never demean, swear at, or physically discipline the kids in any manner (additional running, etc. during or immediately following practice/games, is NOT physical discipline). If this occurs a meeting should be requested with the coach and the director of the program to discuss the issue. If it is a repeat issue, the coach will be replaced.

Try-outs

The goal of the program is to not cut any kids. If more than 12 kids try out at any grade level we will attempt to create a second team that will make up a second grade specific Grafton Hoops Basketball team. If there are not enough kids for a second team we will consider enlarging the team for practice purposes so that we don't have to cut any kids.

Playing up

Generally, no child will play on any team other than their grade-specific team. Exception: If there are less than 12 3rd grade boys trying out, a 2nd grade boy may play on the 3rd grade team. However, no 2nd grade boy will take a roster spot in place of a 3rd grade boy. The following year, said 2nd grade boy will play with his grade specific team. In rare cases (and at the discretion of the Grafton High School varsity coach) a 6th or 7th grade boy may be given the option to play up.