



## **WARREN COUNTY YMCA 2024 PreK-K-1<sup>st</sup> Grade Rookies Bidy Basketball**

**Dear Parents/Guardians**

**Welcome to the PreK and K-1<sup>st</sup> Grade Rookies Basketball programs at the Warren County YMCA. Thank you for registering your youth in our program! First things first, our YMCA Basketball Programs and Leagues are all about the kids. It's all about teaching them the 'fun' fundamentals of the sport of basketball. We thank you for the opportunity in allowing us to lead and teach your kids! We hope you enjoy the upcoming season.**

**For our Pre-K group, we will meet on Saturday mornings from 8:30-9:20am. Each week, your player will work on learning basketball fundamentals including dribbling, shooting, passing, basic rules and teamwork. These activities will help develop the initial skills needed for basketball. Later in the winter, depending on skill development levels, we may begin to play short quick basketball games. Parents who are willing are absolutely welcome to assist Y staff with stations and activities.**

**For our Kindergarten-1<sup>st</sup> Grade group, we will run clinic style practices for the first 2 weeks prior to Thanksgiving working on developing the same skills mentioned above. We will meet for the first 2 weeks from 9:30-10:40am. After week 2, I (Ben) will create and place players on teams for games that will start December 7<sup>th</sup> (Week 3). We will start with roughly 10 minutes of warm ups prior to games. I will let you know after week 2 (during the Thanksgiving break) which team your child will be on and will send out game schedules for the remaining dates in December and January. Games will be at either 9:30am or 10:30am (depending on how many teams we have). Staff will help coach, ref, and run the clock. Any parents who want to help on the bench and rotate players in and out are welcome to do so.**

**The program schedule (dates) for both groups are as follows: November 16, 23, December 7, 14\*, 21, January 4, and January 11<sup>th</sup>. This is slightly different than what appears on the Rookies Basketball Flyers you may have received or had seen prior to registration. The change is due to this year's Splash Bash Swim Meet not taking place inside the YMCA this year on December 21<sup>st</sup>. This was a last second schedule change, so please let me know if you have any questions. We will not have the program on the following dates for both groups: November 30 (Thanksgiving Weekend), December 28 (Christmas/New Years Weekend).**

**Picture Day\* - With the change to the schedule, I have moved this year's picture day to take place on Saturday, December 14<sup>th</sup>. Shyvel's Photography will be back to take the kids' and team photos again this year! For the PreK group, we will take pictures before practicing at 8:30am. For the K-1<sup>st</sup> Grade group, pictures will be taken prior to your child's game. Please arrive 15 minutes early so we can try and get pictures taken quickly as to have plenty of time to play. We will hand out picture order forms on December 7<sup>th</sup>.**

**T-Shirts – Players for both groups will receive shirts on December 7<sup>th</sup> prior to their scheduled practice/game time.**

**Make-up Days/Cancellations – There will be 2 make up day options at the end of the session (Jan 25 & Feb 1). These will be used only if we must cancel one of the above dates due to dangerous winter weather conditions/no power at the Y. If I feel like we won't be able to have the program, I (Ben) will cancel, otherwise it is on. If you live out of town, and don't think you can make it, but I have not cancelled, it is up to you to decide if you want to come. I will wait as long as I can before making the call. I will send you all an automatic text from our computer system that will let you know if a cancellation is happening. Please avoid bombarding the Y with calls if you have not heard from me yet. If you do not hear from me, consider the program on.**

**Finally, if you are interested in sponsoring your child's team, the cost for the basketball season is \$200. This helps offset T-Shirt, equipment, and staff/referee costs. Your logo/business or family name will be added to the back of ALL of the Winter Basketball shirts this season, as well as on the game schedule. If interested, I will need confirmation and will need your logo artwork sent to me by the end of week 2 prior to when I order shirts. As a thank you, I will also have a 2x2 banner made for you that will hang outside on the baseball field fence during all Spring, Summer and Fall sports in 2025.**

**Thank you so much for reading this letter. I hope you and your child enjoy our program! If you have any questions, call me at the Y at 309-734-3183, or email me at [ben@warrencountyyymca.org](mailto:ben@warrencountyyymca.org).**

**Thank You,**

**Ben Davis  
Youth Development Director**