

# Mudsock Boys Basketball 2025-2026 Season Information

# meijer

As a family-owned company, Meijer aims to enrich the lives of families in the communities we serve and help ensure they are great places to live, work and play. Meijer is honored to partner with Mudsock Youth Athletics in its mission of bringing sports to local kids and support them in learning valuable life skills, building friendships, getting active and, most importantly, having fun!

# **Boys Basketball Overview and Divisions**

**Goal:** The primary goal of the league is to develop your participant's joy of basketball and improve their skills. We strive to create a team approach/spirit, improve understanding of the fundamentals and practice within healthy competition.

**Recreational League:** Kindergarten and 1st grade have single conferences. Grades 2<sup>nd</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> have two conferences, Eastern and Western. Players are assigned to a conference based on the outcome of evaluations that will take place in late September/ early October. Each conference attempts to match player skill sets to ensure competitive balance so all players have an enjoyable experience.

**Junior High League:** The junior high league is combined for 7th and 8th graders and has one conference. Teams are formed and practice begins following school team selections which are typically in early November.

Mudsock Elite (formerly Rec Plus): The Mudsock Elite program targets athletes who want to play more basketball, but don't want the commitment of a travel program. Continuing for 2025-2026, Mudsock Elite will be separate from the rec league; players who register for Mudsock Elite should NOT register for rec basketball. Tryouts for Mudsock Elite will take place September 15<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, and 19<sup>th</sup> with more details to come. Players who register for Mudsock Elite but are not placed on a team will receive a coupon code to register for winter rec basketball, should they choose to do so. The boys basketball board will be responsible for selecting teams. Games will be played on Saturdays and Sundays in the new Indy Hoops league.

**Travel League:** For those players interested, a travel league exists for grades 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>. Each grade is split by the corresponding high school [HSE or Fishers] and within each grade there may be up to 3 different teams. The evaluations will be performed by the HSE and Fishers high school coaches. The travel league will compete with nearby towns. Players selected for travel teams will not play in the recreational league. Players who try out for travel but are not selected to a team will have the option to try out for Mudsock Elite Boys Basketball or register for Winter Rec Basketball.

\*Please note, a **co-ed high school intramural option** will be offered again for the 2026 season to students of HSE and Fishers High School. Registration will open late November at myathletics.com with games running from January – mid-March.

# **Registration Fees**

Open winter registration runs from August 1st – August 31st. Registration will be accepted online at <a href="https://www.myathletics.com">www.myathletics.com</a>. Winter fees (early bird pricing) will be as follows:

\$115 for kindergarten \$160 for grades 1<sup>st</sup>- 8<sup>th</sup> \$335 Mudsock Elite (offered for 3<sup>rd</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup>)

Early bird pricing will be available during the month of August. Beginning September 1<sup>st</sup>, registration fees will increase, and divisions may begin forming waitlists at anytime.

There will be a multi-player discount available for families registering three or more children within the boys basketball league.

# **Refund Policy**

For the winter 2025-2026 season, the refund policy will be as follows: August 1 – September 15 – Refund after \$44 non-refundable fee September 16 – September 30 – 50% refund after \$44 non-refundable fee October 1 – October 15 – 25% refund after \$44 non-refundable fee After October 15 – No refund

Any additional fees incurred for registration completed after August 31st are also non-refundable.

# **FAQs**

# When is the basketball season?

- The kindergarten division runs from January through the end of February.
- 1st 6th grade runs from the beginning of November to the middle of March.
- The junior high division runs from December to March.
- Mudsock Elite will have two sessions of play Oct to Dec and Jan to March.
- The travel league runs from early October to the middle of March.

#### What is the time commitment?

- For the kindergarten division, all practices and games will be held on Saturdays (no weekday events).
- 1st 8th grade teams will practice 1 time per week and play games on Saturdays. Weekday practices are scheduled to begin and end somewhere within the 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. timeframe. Days and times depend on gym availability. Saturday games begin and end somewhere within the 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. timeframe. Practices and games will take place in Hamilton Southeastern School District Gyms.
- Mudsock Elite will practice 1-2 times per week. Games will be held primarily on Saturdays and Sundays in the Indy Hoops league.
- Travel teams will typically practice 2 times per week and play games 2 times per week.

#### Are there evaluations?

- For the recreational league, evaluations will be conducted by the boys basketball board in late September/early October for grades 2<sup>nd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> and November for Junior High.
- There will be NO evaluations for the kindergarten and 1<sup>st</sup> grade divisions.
- Mudsock Elite tryouts will take place before fall break. Players who are not placed on a team will be automatically transferred to the Rec League.
- To participate in the travel league, you must attend evaluations conducted by either Fishers or HSE high school coaches.

#### How are teams selected?

Our kindergarten and 1st grade divisions have one conference, and the league commissioners select the teams. For grades  $2^{nd} - 6^{th}$ , teams will be formed via draft for both the Eastern and Western Conferences and head coaches will select the teams. Our junior high division teams will be formed via draft and there is only one conference. Please note, for the recreational league, teams will NOT be divided based upon Fishers versus HSE high school boundaries.

# What does the recreational program fee cover?

The cost is \$115 for kindergarten and \$160 for 1<sup>st</sup> grade – junior high. This cost covers the jersey, Mudsock Youth Athletic membership dues, insurance, officials, etc. The travel league and Mudsock Elite divisions may include additional costs to cover uniforms and gym time.

# How do I register for travel program and Mudsock Elite tryouts?

Families are required to register at myathletics.com prior to tryouts. If a player is selected for one of our travel or Mudsock Elite teams, they will need to log in to their Sports Connect account and pay the program fee for the 2025-2026 season to accept the position.

# How are coaches selected?

Parent coaches and independent coaches are utilized. The grade commissioner along with the basketball board will select the recreational league coaches. Both high schools provide additional assistance for the travel programs.

# How is playing time determined?

The recreational league intends to provide equal playing time for all players. Mudsock Elite and travel programs are intended to be more competitive and playing time will vary based upon performance.

# What equipment do I need?

Basketball shorts and shoes. The league provides jerseys. You may also bring your own basketball, though some will be provided.

#### What size ball do I need?

Kindergarten – 6th grade will use 28.5 size basketballs; junior high and high school will use 29.5 size basketballs.

#### **General Rules**

The league will provide referees for all grades except kindergarten.

Kindergarten will play on 8 ft goals and 1st and 2nd grades will play on 9 ft goals. All remaining grades will utilize 10 ft goals.