



Off-Court

- Grades – “Student” Athletes – We are Students first, Athletes 2nd.
- School Basketball/Pal Basketball – This is 1st Priority. We will work Knights around Pal Ball until their seasons conclude.
- Respect teachers
 - Don’t embarrass yourself, don’t embarrass your school, don’t embarrass the program
- Drugs and alcohol – Zero Tolerance Rule

Pre-Season (camp/tryout) (Players Selected to 1 team only)***”floater” rule

- Cut Policy – We do have a cut policy within our Knights Program. It is impossible for us to field a basketball team of 35 kids. We will keep 10-20 this year (grades 3-8, two teams if possible). Our least favorite thing to do as a coaches is to cut a player but it has to be done because of lack of bench space, lack of skill , and lack of reps (**Competitive Program!!!**)
- Grades, Citizenship, Work ethic, Dedication to team, Respect (Other than skill, these are a few credentials that go along with being a “Knight”).

Practice Sessions

- The gym doors will be open during our practice sessions. Please do not let this turn into a distraction for our players/coaches. Practice times and practice gyms will vary. Each Coach has a Master Practice Schedule. Some of these times may be subject to change and each coach is advised to communicate at a high level (In practice is where we determine who could possibly “float”, coaches discretion).

Pre-Game

- Be there – be at practice. If not, someone may take your spot. We want our kids to learn to love to practice. As a coach, I enjoy practice more than games a lot of times, this is our chance to prepare and develop our young basketball players. Please communicate with your coach on nights where your kid has an emergency or sickness, etc., where he can not be there.

- We respect the basketball floor in everything we do. We don't spit on it, we don't hit it, we don't curse on it. We respect it and ALL of the people on it...
- Dress in full practice apparel. Let's not bring attention to ourselves... we play as a team, we dress as a team... Haircuts – Off the ears, out of the eyes (Coach's Discretion).
- Dress the way you play (Look Sharp walking into a gym, Look the same if possible.) – we will demonstrate class and respect... We will prepare a game plan, and execute it. We will demonstrate class before we step on the floor in our appearance. We will also leave the same way we came... with class.

During the game

- Being on Knights basketball team is a privilege... not a right (bags, shooting shirt, Practice jersey, etc.). Our coaches can play FIVE players at a time. It is not the coach's job to please parents or players with playing time. This is not a sport or a team that is about equal playing time. As a coaching staff, we will put the best product at that time on the floor. A lot goes into "earning playing time" (talent, position, work ethic, practice, production, attitude, team unity, mental toughness, etc.).
- We will demonstrate class on the floor. We will maintain **composure** (whether we're up 20 or down 20)... and maybe even get that pivotal call late in the game. Officials are human too.
- Stand and support – EVERYTIME a player substitutes out of the game, the entire bench will stand and applaud that player. If you aren't standing and supporting, you are clearly not tuned in... or clearly not offering your support.
- EVERY player has a role. To be on a Knights bench is a privilege (Gold or Blue)... not a right. If you are one of those 8-10 players, you have a direct part in performance... whether it's on the court, or supporting and being a motivating force on the sidelines.
- We do not substitute for mistakes. We do however substitute for lack of effort or focus. If you make the **same mistake over and over again**, you should probably improve your skills/focus in order to be on a floor consistently.
- Recognize the pass – We ALWAYS give credit to the man that gives you the assist. We want to our kids to learn to play a very unselfish game.
- Recognize the charge – The best play in basketball... you create a turnover, the other team's best player is one foul closer to fouling out, and we create momentum. The entire bench will STAND and recognize the best play in basketball. Someone gives up his body for the team, we get out of our chairs and show respect.

- Players, DO NOT dispute an official. If you do, whether by words OR body language, you are demonstrating that you have lost focus.
- Players will not receive a TECHNICAL. If you do, you will be supporting your teammates from the sidelines. The coaching staff will make an executive decision on how long you sit. It could be 1, 2, 3, or 4 quarters depending on the severity of the technical (Coach's Discretion)
- Huddle – we quickly huddle before every first free throw attempt. Here, you will be instructed by the point guard on what defensive or offensive set to execute the next possession. In order to do this, all five players must sprint to the foul line or paint to receive the set.
- Timeouts – Timeouts provide a coach time to instruct the team. Everyone is huddled around the coach and the five people in the game. ALL EYES are on the coach giving instructions. If eyes wander to mom and dad, girlfriend, (etc.) this shows a **lack of focus**.

Parents during the game

- Encourage your team! (“Be a good teammate”)
 - Let officials officiate - Let players play - Let coaches coach - Show Class in the Stands!
- Be there! – It means the world to your son and our staff. We appreciate your support and will not have a successful season without it.

Parents Post-Game

- Please do not approach our coach with a concern after a game (win or loss). Please use the proper chain of command (Player, Director, Coach). Our Director can then set up a meeting with all involved (Coach, Player, Parent) at the appropriate time, and our coach will be in a much better position to field your concern.

Contact Information

Craig Husting (Knights Director) 573-230-7104 – knightsbasketball@hotmail.com

Please Utilize our Knights Website (All Info Needed, updates, cancellations, coaching contacts, upcoming events, etc.)! **Go To:** www.knights-basketball.com

- We are looking forward to a great season! Thanks for your support!

Coach Buffington and Staff

Mission Statement:

Knights basketball was established in 2006 as a way to give 7th and 8th grade student athletes a head start on high school basketball. Today, the Knights program extends all the way down to the 3rd grade level. The Knights program exists not only to teach the fundamentals of basketball, including teamwork and sportsmanship, but also to impart life lessons that have value beyond the basketball court. For example, the Knights program attempts to foster cooperation, respect, responsibility, leadership and fairness among all the players. Most importantly, the Knights program will reinforce Catholic values taught in parish schools for each participant.

Coaching Staff 2017-2018:

Director – Craig Husting

3rd Eddie Blanton

4th Darus Brondel (Gold)
Brad Schrimpf (Blue)

5th Joe Rothweiler (Gold)
Deion Hughes (Blue)

6th TJ Ralston (Gold)
Seth Caywood (Blue)

7th Ben Cooper (Gold)
Floyd Davis (Blue)

8th Luke Bernskoetter (Gold)
Brad Shimmens (Blue)