



OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF PARKS & RECREATION

SUE McGOUGH

MEMORANDUM

To: All parents and Youth Basketball participants
From: Sue McGough
Date: December 5, 2024
Re: 2024 – 2025 season

Saturday, December 7, 2024 marks the opening day of Freehold Township Recreation youth basketball. The success of this program is a direct reflection of the commitment made by our volunteers, many of whom invest countless hours working with our town's youth. To those of you who have signed on to coach this season, thank you. We could not run this program without you!

Recreation is in dire need of an additional gym supervisor and a door monitor for youth basketball. The program runs thru the first weekend in March with no games December 21 and 28 and February 15. The individual must be 21 years of age or older and must be background checked and CPR certified. Recreation covers the expense of the CPR training and background check. If you are interested, or know someone who is interested, please contact Vera at vceravolo@twp.freehold.nj.us.

There is a state-wide referee shortage. While Rec does have a contract with a basketball officiating association, there is a very high chance that one of the refs will be inexperienced. Please remember there is a Code of Conduct in place. If your child player sees you bashing the official from the stands, there is a good chance they will have a running commentary at the official throughout the game. Let's make every effort to avoid this. Could we please start the season focused on improving individual's skills and not on blaming the refs for every missed call.

The following rules are in effect for the season:

- Upon entering the gym please be seated on the bleachers. No one should be standing in the gym doorway, standing/sitting on the stage/stage stairs, sitting on the school's mats or standing along the back wall in the baseline area.
- Food and beverage is not permitted in the gymnasium. **This is an ongoing argument and does mean that coffee in any type of cup or container, sports drinks, bagels, donuts, etc. are not acceptable.** Bottled water is permitted. PLEASE do not argue with the staff. They are doing their job and are complying with the school's policy!!
- Children must be accompanied by an adult (18 years or older) at all times. No child is

to be left unsupervised, roaming the halls, climbing on the mats, or running around the gym/stage.

- **Players** bringing a ball into the gym will be required to hold it during game play. Absolutely no side-line dribbling or passing the ball against the walls. Anyone not playing in that specific game will **not** be permitted on the court to shoot between games, during halftime or timeouts.

Lastly, a parent will be needed at practice to monitor the door. The custodian will let the first team in for the 6:30 slot and then a parent from the practicing team will let the subsequent teams into the school. Doors cannot be propped open. We have been advised that propping the door open will result in lost gym time at that school.

All the best for a fun-filled season!