



Frequently Asked Questions - Coach Youth Basketball Winter 2026

1. Key Dates (subject to change)

- 12/16: Registration for Winter CLOSSES and our waitlist opens
- 12/17: AHPD starts building teams and practice schedules
- 12/18: Deadline for submitting [REQUIRED Practice Preferences Form](#)
- 12/23: Practice schedule assignments sent to you via email
- 12/30: Deadline for confirming your practice schedule
- 1/2-1/6: Rosters and practice schedules sent to you and team via email
- 1/7: Mandatory Coaches Meeting 7:15pm @ Pioneer
- 1/9: Deadline for sending Introduction email to team
- 1/9: Game schedules go live [Arlington Heights Park District - QuickScores.com](#)
- 1/12: First week of practices
- 1/17: First weekend of games
- 3/7: Last weekend of games

2. Key Practice and Game Locations

- ARC - [660 N Ridge Ave, Arlington Heights, IL 60004](#)
- Camelot - [1005 E Suffield Dr, Arlington Heights, IL 60004](#)
- Pioneer - [500 S Fernandez Ave, Arlington Heights, IL 60005](#)
- Poe School - [2800 N Highland Ave, Arlington Heights, IL 60004](#)
- Westgate School - [500 S Dwyer Ave, Arlington Heights, IL 60005](#)

3. How do I arrange my practice schedule?

ALL coaches regardless of commitment level must complete this [REQUIRED Practice Preferences Form](#) -- including returning Fall coaches. This form allows you to request a practice schedule and co-coach partnership that works best for you. Failure to complete this form before December 18th forfeits your ability to make said requests. Please do not send your preferences via email.

4. How are practice schedules determined?

When creating a practice schedule we take your preferences on day and time plus your geographic location strongly into consideration. NOTE: Recreation Park and Frontier Park are not available for scheduling this season. Given the limited gym space we ask for flexibility and understanding in regards to practice location.

5. How often do we practice?

Each team is given one 1-hour time slot per week to practice. Keep in mind, as coach, you are fully within your right to cancel practice if need be, but make-up practices are very difficult to accommodate given the limited gym space.

6. How are teams decided?

We look to place participants on a team with others from their school and do our best to honor friendship requests as well. A coach's child will automatically be assigned to the same team. Rosters are typically rolled over Fall to Winter, but not year over year.

7. Who is the head coach vs. assistant coach?

We do not assign head coach or assistant coach positions directly. Please work with your co-coach(es) to determine roles among the group as you see fit.

8. When and where are the games?

The game schedule will go live at Arlington Heights Park District - QuickScores.com no later than January 9. This is the general formula for game times (subject to change):

1st Grade Boys/Girls play in the morning slots Saturdays and Sundays 9am-12pm.

2nd Grade Boys/Girls play in the mid-day slots Saturdays and Sundays 11am-2pm.

3rd Grade Boys play at Poe in the morning slots on Saturdays and Sundays 9am-12pm, or at Camelot or Pioneer in the afternoon slots 1pm-3pm.

4th Grade and up play in the afternoon slots Saturdays and Sundays at Camelot, Pioneer or Poe 1pm-4pm.

9. How do we get our player jerseys?

Jerseys will be provided at the coaches meeting for all new winter players. Returning Fall players do not get a new jersey. Coaches are responsible to hand out jerseys at the first practice. All jersey's not picked up at the coaches meeting will be available for pickup at Pioneer during business hours.

10. What if 2 players have the same jersey number?

1st and 2nd grade do not track fouls, so jersey numbers do not need to be unique. Should a child insist on have a unique number, they are welcome to swap their unworn jersey for a new one at Pioneer during business hours.

11. What if I need a different jersey size?

ARC, Camelot and Pioneer will have extra jerseys in varying sizes for players to swap if needed.

12. Is there any equipment provided for coaches?

Multiple equipment bags will be stationed at each gym for use during practice. Each team will also be issued colored wrist bands for your team to keep throughout the season (1st and 2nd grade only).

13. What is covered in the Coaches Meeting?

We review general topics such as rules per division, program philosophy, expectations, logistics, tips for coaching and more. We will also hand out Coaches t-shirts, team jerseys, and criminal background check forms.

Wednesday, January 7th @ 7:15pm. Pioneer Community Center.

14. Can my team practice together at Open Gym?

Yes and No. You can meetup as a team at open gyms, but get no special privileges. Players and coaches will be treated the same as anyone else attending open gym. This includes paying for entry (as needed), no designated baskets or courts, etc.

If you have any additional questions or concerns please contact:
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