

St. Johns Warriors for Christ Homeschool Basketball
“Playing with Excellence, Proclaiming His Excellencies” (1 Peter 2:9)

Mission Statement

St. Johns Warriors for Christ unites homeschool families through competitive basketball. We strive for excellence in all things to effectively glorify Christ in every area of life.
(1 Corinthians 10:31, 1 Peter 2:9, 2 Corinthians 5:20-21)

Our Goals Are

- **Evangelism:** Ensuring every participant hears and understands the Gospel and has an opportunity to become a disciple of Jesus Christ.
- **Skill Progression:** Developing effective basketball and teamwork skills.
- **Lifelong Discipline:** Cultivating a spirit of discipline in basketball and every area of life.
- **Character Development:** Building and displaying Christ-like character on and off the court.
- **Joyful Service:** Empowering every player and family to contribute to the program’s success.
- **Relationship Building:** Strengthening the homeschool community in the Lord.
- **Godly Excellence:** Striving for excellence in all things to obediently and effectively glorify God and reflect His image.

Team Member Qualifications

1. Player must be homeschooled more than 50% of their classes each year and maintain a pursuit of his or her education with three or more homeschooled subject areas, not including physical education.
 - a. Homeschooled means taught at home or someone else’s home by one or more of the student’s parents, grandparents, older sibling (18 or older), legal guardian or another homeschool parent or tutor.
 - b. Player may be taught at a central location for a particular subject, take a correspondence/online course, participate in an apprenticeship or attend tutored classes at coop programs.
 - c. Homeschooled does NOT mean college classes taken at a University or College or vocational/technical classes taken outside the home or classes taken at a private, Christian or public school.
2. Player must be a live-in dependent of one of their parents or legal guardians and have their permission to play.
3. Player must not be employed full-time, must not have graduated from High School level education or recognized as a high school graduate in any way, must not have been expelled from public or private school during the school year of the current sports season and must not be a member of a basketball team associated with a public or private school in the same season they are playing for the Warriors for Christ.
4. Players who played the previous year will be given the opportunity to sign up before new players will be added, provided they submit completed registration and payment before the given deadline date.
5. Each team shall consist of up to 15 players. Tryouts will be used, if needed.
6. Age Requirements:
 - a. Varsity players (18U) cannot be 19 before August 1, 2026.
 - b. Junior Varsity players (16U) cannot be 17 before August 1, 2026.
 - c. Junior High players (14U) cannot be 15 before August 1, 2026.
 - d. Elementary players (12U) cannot be 13 before August 1, 2026.
 - e. Elementary players (10U) must be 8 before August 1, 2026 but cannot be 11 before August 1, 2026. (Note: younger players may be considered if 10U team is short in

numbers. Priority for younger players will be first for coach's children followed by siblings of players currently on a team).

7. Players shall play on the team for their age unless approved by parents, coaches and board.

Cost and Supplies

1. The cost for the season is to offset expenses for gym rental, referee expenses, liability insurance, supplies, uniforms and banquet fees. Also included are the Regional and State Tournament fees. Varsity's fee includes the Butternut Tournament and League fee. Varsity National Tournament fee is NOT included in this cost.
2. Uniforms are the full ownership of the Warriors for Christ basketball program and must be returned promptly in good condition at the end of the season. If uniform is lost or damaged a replacement fee will be charged.
3. Admission will be charged at home games, except for the immediate family of current players, who pay a flat fee included in their registration costs.

Code of Conduct

It is the goal of the Warriors for Christ basketball program to reflect the character of the One from whom we take our name. Participating families are asked to read Ephesians 5:1-12 and Galatians 5:19-26 and to abide by them.

Actions that may be met with detention or suspension are: Immorality, impurity, coarse joking, sensuality, enmity, strife, drunkenness, carousing, abusive speech, partaking in drugs, pornography, or alcohol. Each situation will be brought before the board to determine the necessary penalty and/or suspension.

The qualities that we will be striving for are: Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control, and being imitators of God as beloved children.

Coach Responsibilities

1. Head Coach must be a born again Christian* and conduct themselves in a Christ-like manner.
2. Coach will hold regularly scheduled practices.
3. Coach will communicate all information in a timely manner.
4. Coach will pray with the team at practices and games.
5. Coach will communicate quickly and regularly with participant's parents, and notify board/president, if there are challenges with a player.
6. Coach will encourage and work with all players to improve their skills.
7. Coach agrees to allow for a background check to be conducted.
8. Coach will abide by parent's or guardian's requests to assist with disciplinary actions for their child (e.g. reduced playing time, sitting out games, etc.)
9. Elementary (12U and 10U) team coaches will focus on the development of all players which will include striving to give all team members reasonable playing time each game, except for the state tournament and one or two games leading up to the state tournament.

Team Member Responsibilities

1. Player must be a biological male (boy teams) or biological female (girl teams) and conduct themselves in a Christ-like manner.
2. Player must attend practices to play in games (Occasional excused absence may be accepted but shall be communicated with coach).

3. Player must wear team uniform and athletic shoes to participate.
4. Shirts worn under uniform shall be black.
5. Player shall pay attention to the coach's instructions and give his or her best effort.
6. Player must display proper attitude of respect towards the coach, other players, and referees.
7. Foul language will not be tolerated.
8. Player is expected to be willing to help out when needed in setting up for a game, for cleaning up after a game, and various other tasks.
9. Player is accountable to his or her parents and studies first.
10. Player must avoid appearance or conduct that detracts from team unity. No jewelry. No unnatural coloring of hair.
11. (Boy Teams) No ponytail style. No hair or facial hair that detracts from team unity or that interferes with play. No makeup or nail polish.

Parent Responsibilities

1. Parents will get their players to practices and games in a timely manner. (Players should arrive at games 30 minutes before starting time.)
2. Parents must be willing to faithfully help throughout the season as scheduled and find substitutes as needed: Coaching, collecting admissions at home games, running the game clock, working concessions, fund raising, keeping score, help to set up before a game, help to clean up after a game, helping with the banquet, uniform distribution, etc.
3. Parents will show respect towards players, coaches, referees, and other persons involved in practices and games.
4. Parents will conduct themselves in a Christ-like manner.
5. Parents should direct any concerns to the WFC Board.
6. Parents will read and make sure their player(s) reads and understands the contents of this Warriors for Christ Basketball guidelines document.

Board Member Responsibilities

1. Should be made up of at least the President, Treasurer and Secretary.
2. Board members must be a born again Christian* and conduct themselves in a Christ-like manner.
3. A board member will schedule focus moments (short team Bible studies) and speakers throughout the season
4. The board will establish the Warriors for Christ Basketball Guidelines each year.
5. The board shall carry out essential responsibilities of the program.
6. President shall oversee the Warriors for Christ program and make many executive decisions and ensure the mission and the necessary tasks of the program are being carried out efficiently and effectively.
7. President shall, as necessary, schedule and facilitate board meetings.
8. President shall conduct and retain copies of all coach's background checks.

*Born again Christian is believing and accepting that Salvation is entirely a work of God's grace and is not the work, in whole or in part, of human works, effort or religious ceremony (Ephesians 2:8-9) and that God imparts righteousness to those who put their faith and trust in Christ's sacrificial death on the cross alone for Salvation (1 Corinthians 5:21).