

PLAY HARD, HAVE FUN, RESPECT THE GAME!

# GREYHOUND



# BASKETBALL CLUB

December 12, 2010

Dear Greyhound Parent,

Recently some questions have surfaced concerning player selection, team formation and appropriate levels of play. In this letter we would like to address these questions and review the philosophy of the Greyhound Basketball Club (GBC).

The GBC is a private, non-profit organization run by volunteer coaches and an all-volunteer board of directors. The Clayton School District allows organizations such as the GBC to use district facilities at no charge when 80% of participants are Clayton residents or attend Clayton schools.

For the 2010-2011 season 83% of our total youth in grades 3<sup>rd</sup>- 8<sup>th</sup> (125 of 150 participants) are either Clayton residents or attend Clayton schools. We also try very hard to ensure that at each grade level at least 80% of the players are Clayton student-athletes.

In some grade levels however, there are not enough Clayton student-athletes to form a team or to offer different levels of competition within the grade level. In order to maximize the number of Clayton youth served, and offer appropriate levels of play for athletes seeking competitive play, we must sometimes fall short of the 80% guideline for a particular grade level.

For example, at one grade level there may be 12 interested Clayton student athletes, ranging in skill level from high A players to lower B players. This is not enough to form two separate teams, yet it is too many players for one team. By adding four non-Clayton players it is possible to field two squads. For the Clayton student athletes, this provides the appropriate level of play, and adequate playing time for all.

In some unusual cases, there may not be enough interested Clayton players to field a team, the minimum GBC roster is eight players. When this occurs, we are willing to field a team with as few as 50% Clayton players, so that those Clayton youth have a GBC team to play on.

Additionally, we may be unable to secure quality volunteer coaches to allow us

to field enough teams to accommodate all Clayton youth interested. When this occurs, we refer players to other appropriate basketball programs and encourage them to participate in GBC workouts and events.

The intent of the Board of Directors is to make the GBC the best organized, operated and respected youth basketball program in the St. Louis region. The following goals guide our decision making process:

1. To maximize the number of Clayton youth served and the development of individual players by offering appropriate levels of competitive teams.
2. To support and enhance a competitive youth sports culture in the Clayton community.
3. To deliver a freshman class of student athletes prepared to compete and contribute to the Clayton High School basketball programs.

Hopefully this letter has clarified recent decisions made by the GBC and increased your understanding of team formation and player selection. We want to maintain an open process and welcome your comments or questions.

As an organization we cannot be more excited about the opportunities this season for Clayton players at all levels throughout the GBC.

Thank you for participating in this year's Greyhound Basketball Club. Have fun and respect the game!

Sincerely,

Holly Ingraham, Tim Elliott, Steve Stone, Zac Leech, Tim Phelan  
Board of Directors  
[Greyhound Basketball Club](#)