

Tristate Steam Men's Basketball 2013

Participation Policies

The Tristate Steam basketball coaching staff believes that being selected to participate in our program is a privilege for our athletes. Therefore, in addition to signing and returning the **Participation Agreement**, we ask you read through other expectations for the 2013 season:

Mission Statement

At Tristate Steam our mission is to give players an opportunity to develop and increase skills as well as gain exposure by playing against top teams and top players in elite tournaments and shootouts. By doing this, our goal is to help our players acquire opportunities to play college level basketball and hopefully achieve scholarships to do so. We will teach concepts of team play, as well as individual skills. Through positive teamwork and a drive to win and improve, our players will be successful!

Tuition

- **Tuition Fees:** \$800 Season tuition includes practice sessions that will be held twice a week (dates/times to be announced) and tournament entries (dates/times to be announced).
- **Uniforms:** will be a separate fee and will be official NBA style uniforms. Tristate Steam team colors are Royal Blue, White and Black.

Absences

- **Commitment:** It is the expectation of the coaching staff that if an athlete has been selected and has agreed to participate in our program, that athlete has also agreed to be at every required practice. We understand that things can happen unexpectedly and out of one's control. However, we ask all our athletes to please be conscientious of the commitment that the coaching staff has made to develop this program by also demonstrating dedication to team required events.
- **Communication:** All athletes MUST notify their coach in advance if they know they are going to miss a practice or game. Athletes must let a coach know via email tristatesteam@yahoo.com at least one day in advance if they will miss a practice. Athletes must let a coach know via email at least one week in advance if they will miss a game. In the event that an athlete must miss a practice or game unexpectedly, please notify another player or coach from the team as soon as possible.

Playing Time Policy

- **Playing time is at the discretion of the coaches only!** The first goal of our coaching staff is to build a successful and competitive team. We believe that the most important component in achieving this goal is showing our players that we are invested in their best interests as competitive athletes. We believe this begins by showing each athlete the value of being a member of a club basketball TEAM. We will focus on helping each player believe they are an integral part of the program by developing their skills in practices. However, **there is no guarantee that every athlete will see equal time on the playing floor during games.** Parents need to let the coaches make decisions and adjustments in games where deemed necessary for the good of the team as a whole.
- **The coaches will NOT discuss playing time or coaching strategy with the parents!** We are appreciative of parents' roles in the support of our program. However, decision making about playing time and coaching strategy is not one of those roles. Concerns with playing time will only be discussed between the coaching staff and their athletes. Concerns with coaching strategy will only be discussed between the coaching staff. Neither matter will be discussed with parents.

Practice Policy

- **If you're early, you're on time.** If you're on time you're late! Please be at the practice facility no later than 15 minutes before the practice is scheduled to start. Warm ups for practice will begin 10 minutes before the practice is scheduled to start. Therefore, each athlete is responsible for taking care of all pre-practice routines prior to our practice warm up. *The inability to arrive at practice on time will be reflected in playing time.*
- **We operate closed practices.** We ask that parents and spectators refrain from being in the gym and talking to players or coaches during that time.

Sportsmanship

- **Please do not coach from the stands.** You may not agree with a decision that was made during the course of a game, but please remember that the coaches are doing their best. The coaching staff has worked hard to develop an athletic philosophy and strategy that will give each participant the most successful experience possible. We understand that parents do not always agree or may not be familiar with the concepts or game plan that the coaches are teaching. However, please trust that the coaching staff is acting in the best interest of each member of our team, and respect the decisions that are being made on the floor.
- **Respect:** All participants and parents are expected to treat all players, parents, and coaches with respect whether that individual is on the other team or one of our own. *Team developed consequences will apply in the event that a player is practicing unsportsmanlike behavior.*

Travel Procedures

- **Transportation:** Transportation to and from any team events will be the responsibility of each athlete. We encourage you to carpool with other players and parents if possible. Coaches will not be expected provide transportation to or from any team event.
- **Overnight Tournaments:** In order to make the overall experience the most enjoyable for all, athletes will be expected to adhere to a trip itinerary and curfew when traveling to overnight tournaments.

Participation Agreement

These signatures indicate that both the athlete and parent/guardian have read the information in the **Tristate Steam's Men's Basketball Participation Policies**. These signatures also indicate that both the athlete and parent/guardian agree to adhere to the policies set forth by the coaching staff and understand the consequences that may result if the policies are not supported.

Athlete Name (Print)

Athlete Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date