

We are excited to announce that the Great Falls Basketball program is ready to Hit the Courts!!!

Not Registered? please go to [www.gfhoops.com](http://www.gfhoops.com) and register today for grades K-12.

This year will look a little different but the Board has been hard at work since August completely focused on making this season happen for our kids. We hope that you will join us in being flexible and open to new ideas that allow our kids to play as soon as possible. The following provides our current plan that is obviously subject to change if federal, state or local authorities modify existing regulations and/or guidance.

### **Season Schedule**

Reminder-this year there are NO evaluations for House players in any grade. Teams will be formed based on prior year coach's evaluations.

The season will begin with games the weekend of Fri/Sat/Sun December 4/5/6, in private facilities where we have rented gym space since County courts are currently closed.

During December there will be no practices. Games will be at these facilities:

HoopsPlus - 45496 Ruritan Circle, Sterling, VA 20164

nZone - 14550 Lee Road Chantilly, VA 20151

Beginning Monday, January 4th, we expect to be back in our regular space, at local elementary schools and Langley HS, for both practices and games. Regular Season Games will continue through Feb 20/21. Playoffs will begin the weekend of Feb 27/28 and conclude with Championship games Mar 6/7. There will be no regular season doubleheaders this year.

Please be aware that your grade's game schedule will be completely different in December than it is in Jan/Feb as the space that is available to us in December is completely different than our Jan/Feb space. Again, we ask for your patience and flexibility this year when we all need to step a little outside of our comfort zones in order to do what is necessary to give our children this opportunity to play and connect with friends.

### **Select Players**

This year only, Select players will be permitted to play House. The reason for this is that we are beginning our House season Dec 4<sup>th</sup> and it is unknown whether or not Fairfax County Youth Basketball League (FCYBL) will be sponsoring a season with the same number of teams that it has in the past.

### **Parent Info**

Thank you to all who have already volunteered.

- All practices will be ONE TEAM only in the gym. No guest players and no scrimmages with other teams are permitted during a practice.
- Only 1 Head Coach and 1 Assistant Coach can attend a practice and/or a game.
- Grade Group Coordinators ("GGC") will hold their training meeting in the next week, your House League Director will contact you with specifics.
- Coaches for grades 3-12 will notified by their House League Directors by Nov 15<sup>th</sup>.
- All first-year coaches should mark their calendars for Wednesday, Nov 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm for Information Meeting via Zoom.
- Coaches will conduct drafts between Nov 20<sup>th</sup> and Dec 1<sup>st</sup>. The Draft will also serve as the Coach's meeting.
- All teams will need a Parent Team Manager this year. Once you are assigned to a team, please let your coach know if you are able to fill this role.
- Parents should be notified of their team assignment by your child's coach by Dec 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- December Game blocks will be posted on the [www.gfhoops.com](http://www.gfhoops.com) website by on or before Nov 20<sup>th</sup>.

## **Covid-19 Safety Protocols**

Of course, this year we are very focused on the safety of our participants. To that end, the Board has adopted the following rules in accordance with CDC, VHSL and Fairfax County guidance and will continue to update this as guidance dictates.

1. Participants must complete the GFHoops, COVID-19 Checklist before attending any practice or any game CHECKLIST
2. Masks must be worn by all participants and parents/guardians/siblings escorting a participant to/from the car and court and maintain social distancing of 6 feet from other participants in-transit
3. Participants must wear masks when on the sideline. Participants may wear a mask when in action on the court but are not required to do so.
4. Dedicated doors will be designated for Entrance only and Exit only, where possible.
5. Participants will not be permitted to enter the gym for their game until the designated game time. Participants must immediately depart the facility at completion of their game.
6. No post game handshakes. In addition, fist bumps, hugs and high fives are not permitted.
7. Coaches and desk officials will be required to wear masks.
8. Participants should bring water as there are no water fountains available for use. Water should NOT be shared.
9. The home coach should bring the game ball and give to referee before the game for sanitizing.
10. Participants should bring their own hand sanitizer for personal use.
11. When we are in rented facilities, participants will be required to adhere to their additional protocols which may include completion of waivers, on site temperature checks, completion of health screening questions etc.
12. Any player who test positive for COVID must immediately notify GFHoops, as we are required to report this information to the County so that contact tracing can be completed.

## **Spectators**

With regards to spectators, rules vary by facility.

- Hoops Plus does not allow spectators, parents can escort their child to the court but then must depart the facility.
- -nZone will permit one mask-wearing spectator for each player to stay and observe the game from a socially distant vantage point.
- FCPS local school gyms – No spectators are permitted for practice. While it is not currently final, we expect that one parent representative per team will be permitted in elementary school gyms for games. We are expected to follow VHSL rules and those rules state that spectators must be at least 6 ft from the court and none of our usual elementary school gyms have sufficient sideline space to allow us to comply with that guideline on the sideline that spectators normally occupy.

## **Thank you!!**

We greatly appreciate your patience, flexibility and support while we all work together to get back onto the courts this season. We can't wait to get started. See you out on the courts in a few short weeks!!