



Hartford Boys Basketball 2026-2027

Philosophy:

The goal of the Hartford Boys Basketball program is to have the type of program the entire student body and community can be proud of both on and off the court. The expectation is to build our program with student athletes who exhibit good character, self-esteem, self-discipline, positive attitude, and academic achievement. The coaches in the program daily will teach great work habits, leadership skills, teamwork, and commitment to strive to reach our highest potential.

Playing Time:

- Playing time is earned and will never be guaranteed. The coach will determine the amount of playing time each individual player receives. The players skill level, ability, work ethic, behavior and attitude are the deciding factors in practice when a coach determines the amount of playing time each player will receive in each contest.
- The Hartford High School Varsity, JV A, and JV B Basketball Coaches will strive to play as many players as possible during each contest. However, its not guaranteed that all players will play in every contest.
- If a player has an issue such as playing time or with a coach, the player should meet with that coach privately and discuss it first. Likewise, if a parent has a problem with the coach and feels he/she must discuss it with the coach, they can contact the coach either by phone or by email to arrange a meeting and discuss the issue. The player will be present in the meeting too.
- As coaches, we do not expect parents to confront a coach during or after the game. The parent or coach may be emotional at that time. As a result, many people could be hurt/embarrassed by such a confrontation including your son. Please give it 24 hours as it's a rule we have before contacting the coach.

Practice Attendance:

- Practices are mandatory unless specified otherwise by the coach of the individual team. The missing of a practice will result in disciplinary action depending on the circumstance. Not attending practice because "I didn't feel like going today" is considered an unexcused practice.
- If a player misses practice because they stayed home from school because of health-related issues, that's considered an "excused" practice.
- If an athlete misses practice, please contact their respective coach ASAP.
- The sooner a coach is notified that a player will not be at practice, the coach can adjust their practice agenda.



- In summary, the goal is to have everyone in practice daily so we can improve and work towards our game plan for the next opponent. If players aren't in practice, they miss information and reps to be fully prepared.

Excused Absences for Family Events:

If a player has a conflict with a family event and a game, the player must bring this up with the coach at the start of the season. The coach and player will discuss and decide the consequences of missing a game. If a player misses a game, they will sit out the first half of the next game. If its multiple games, they will sit out the first half of each game.

Excused Absences for Family Emergencies:

If a player has a family emergency that requires them to be with their family and miss practice the day before a game. The consequence is that they would not start the next game. It would not affect their minutes of playing in the game. Coaches use practice to prepare others for the next opponent. Players that miss practice or practices will miss out on the information and will not be prepared as well as those that attended practice.

Missing School:

If a player is absent from school unexcused or is tardy unexcused, they will not be able to practice that day or participate in a game if there is a game that day.

Team Bus After Games:

Some coaches require kids to take the bus home after games. I do not require this. If a player wants to go home with their parents or another parent after the game, it is ok. If they are going home with another parent? That parent will need to speak to the respective coach before leaving the gym. I just ask you to let us know. However, under no circumstance is a player to ride home with a friend/classmate after a game. It must be with an adult.

Hartford Coaching Staff Information:

Mike Gaudette-Varsity Head Coach

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