



**BASKETBALL Team Contract/Handbook
2024-2025**



Being a member of the Bearcat Basketball Program is a privilege and should be treated as such. It is necessary to realize that we represent several groups. As representatives of Scottsbluff Middle School and the community we live in, it is important to portray a positive image. Being a member of the Bearcat Basketball Program does not start and end on the court; each individual is a direct reflection of the program at all times. Because of this, we must be willing to take responsibility for our actions and accept any consequences. We will shoulder our responsibilities and face adversity head on while keeping the best interest of the team in mind.

Expectation

As members of the Bearcat Basketball Program, we expect to be champions. We will achieve this expectation by always working, thinking, and acting like champions. We will strive to work as hard as we can each and every day. We will think carefully, so our decisions bring positive results. We will act in a way that we can be proud of, so that we are respected by others. By doing these things, we will become champions.

Practice Guidelines

Players need to be at practice. Practice time is essential for improvement as individuals, but more importantly as a team. Players are expected to show up on time for all practices. Unexcused absences from practice will result in disciplinary action which may include missing game time or removal from the team. Detention is not an excuse, missing for a detention is unexcused. Three unexcused absences could result in removal from the team.

If a player is injured, he must be at practice unless the coach has given the player permission to receive treatment for the injury. Since practice time is limited, we need to make sure that the time is well spent. Be prepared each day. Your work ethic at practice will reflect how you play in the games.

Practices will be held every morning from 6:00 a.m. to 7:30 a.m. at the middle school gym, except for game days and other unforeseen circumstances. Parents will be notified prior to any change in practice days and times. If practice is after school it will be over at 5:00 every night. ALL PARENTS NEED TO BE AT THE MIDDLE SCHOOL AT 5:00 TO PICK UP THEIR CHILD. PARENTS NEED TO BE WAITING FOR THEIR CHILD IN THE PARKING LOT WHEN THEY RETURN FROM GAMES. IF A PARENT IS NOT ABLE TO PICK THEIR CHILD UP ON TIME THEY MUST ARRANGE FOR SOMEONE ELSE TO DO SO.

Dress Code

Players will dress up for all games. This is one way that we can present a positive image for our program. When dressing up, players will wear dress pants, dress shoes, and a nice shirt or sweater.

Traveling

When traveling to games, players must show up on time. We will leave at the set time. After we have played our games, the benches, buses and locker rooms that we use will look as good as, or better than, the way we found them. Players need to ride the team buses to and from all away games unless they have received permission prior to leaving for the game. Players will conduct themselves in a positive manner when on the bus.

Conduct During Games

If there is a game going on before your game, you need to be sitting with the team, supporting our players. This is not a time to be misbehaving. This is a good time to start getting mentally prepared to play. Warm-up time before your game is a time to get physically prepared to play. Make sure that you are ready to go as soon as the ball is tossed up. We take pride in outworking our opponent every second of the game. At the end of quarters, or if a timeout is called, players need to hustle to the bench. This time is limited, and we need to get the most out of it. Players on the bench need to be actively involved in the game. This will help ensure that they are ready when called upon. During timeouts and between quarters, all players need to be in the huddle and looking at the coach who is speaking.

Sportsmanship

Players need to treat all fans, players, coaches, and referees with respect. We take pride in good sportsmanship.

When a referee makes a call, we will not react; we will hand the ball to the referee and get ready to play.

Questioning or arguing with a referee is unacceptable. Displaying bad sportsmanship or receiving a technical foul will result in disciplinary action which may include sitting for the remainder of the game.

Academic Conduct

We will follow the school policy regarding academics, attendance, and misconduct as stated in the handbook.

Players are expected to stay off the ineligible list.

Activity Pass

All student athletes are required to purchase an activity pass from the office. Passes must be purchased by the end of the first week of practice.

Forms

All players must fill out forms 1 and 2 of the mandatory drug testing policy. This must be done prior to each season even if they participated in a sport earlier.

* All interpretations and final decisions will be made by the coaching staff. Situations that are not covered in this handbook may occur; in these instances, the coaches will make decisions in the best interest of the team.

**“Discipline yourself and others won’t need to”
– John Wooden**

Your signature on the accompanied declaration page acknowledges that you have read, understand and agree to comply with the expectations described in this contract. If you fail to follow the contract, you could be suspended from the team or may even be dismissed.

Name: _____ **Player’s Signature:** _____

Parent’s Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Coaches Signature: _____