

ELITE



Basketball

2012 Spring AAU

Information Packet

ABOUT ELITE BASKETBALL



Elite Basketball provides opportunities for all players from Eastern Massachusetts who are young athletes, ages 8-17, and promotes opportunities for our area youth to develop and grow their character, leadership, mental and physical fitness capabilities. As a member of the New England Athletic Amateur Union (NEAAU), we subscribe to the mission and vision of the Amateur Athletic Union (AAU): "To offer amateur sports programs through a volunteer base for all people to have the physical, mental, and moral development of amateur athletes and to promote good sportsmanship and good citizenship. To offer amateur athletes volunteer opportunities to develop to their highest level through a national and local network of sporting events. Through participation in AAU, we achieve our dreams as athletes and as valued citizens of our communities."

Our mission is three fold. One, we will have the best teachers of the game coaching all of our teams in order to promote the education on all aspects of the game of basketball. Two, we will produce highly competitive teams that can play at both the national and regional levels. And third, we will give our players the opportunity for exposure to prep school and college coaches, allowing them to play basketball at the highest level their ability gives them. Currently our program is one of the most popular AAU programs in all of New England. Our program currently consists of players (ages 8-17) from Middlesex County, North Shore and the Merrimack Valley. At the high school level we offer our players the opportunity to participate in some of the top regional college/prep school exposure tournaments in New England and also offers our players first class recruitment advisory services. Some of the exposure events that our players participate in include: NERR College Showcase, BASKETBULL Hoop Mountain Invitational, Gym Rat Challenge, Rumble in the Bronx, Hall of Fame Invitational, Elite 75 Showcases and other exposure events.

EXPERIENCE **ELITE** BASKETBALL



2011 PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS INCLUDE

12U (6th Grade) State Champions and National Qualifiers

17U (11th Grade) State Champions and National Qualifiers

13U (7th Grade) National Qualifiers

EXPERIENCE **THE ELITE** DIFFERENCE



"1" PROGRAM IN EASTERN MASS



3+ hours of practice time per week, this consisting of team practices and highly accelerated skills/drills sessions led by local high level coaches, these being **Coach Sean Connolly (St. Johns Prep)**, **Coach John Dullea (St. Johns Prep)**, **Coach Tim Griffin (Waldorf HS)** and many others!

A full tournament schedule, consisting of 7-8 Weekend AAU tournaments (20-25 games) against competition that will help advance your game and bring it to a higher level.

The ability to participate in one of Massachusetts most well respected AAU programs, currently consisting of players (ages 9-17) from the North Shore, Middlesex County and Merrimack Valley.

Access to the most experienced coaches in the region, consisting of both college and high school level coaches. Our coaches include **Coach Brian Tobin (Wheelock College)**, **Coach John Dullea (St. Johns Prep)**, **Coach Tim Griffin (Waldorf HS)**, **Coach Dave Latimer (Pingree School)** and many others!

Discounts to attend seasonal camps operated by New England Elite Hoop Training, a basketball training organization that "sets the standard for player development services.

SELECT AND REGIONAL TEAMS

Select, Regional and Local Level Teams

National Select Level Teams

Players chosen for our National Select Level teams will compete in a national tournament schedule that will consist of the overall highest quality tournaments offered each season. ONLY ONE team will be offered at this level per Spring season. Some of the tournaments offered for these teams will include: NEAAU Super-Regionals, Massachusetts State Tournaments, Hoop Mountain Invitational, NERR College Showcase/Junior Elite events, BASKETBULL Hall of Fame Spring Classic, Gym Rat Challenge and other " elite level" tournaments. Only the most serious and committed basketball players should consider placement on a National-Select team. Players who participate may have the option of extending their season into the Summer if teams qualify for National Tournament play.

Tentative National-Select Team Schedules Include

NEAAU Super Regionals – Foxboro MA

Massachusetts State Tournament – Locations TBD

BASKETBULL Hall of Fame Showcase – Springfield MA

***BASKETBULL New England Championships** – Wesleyan CT

***NERR College Showcase** – Hartford CT

***Gym-Rat Challenge** – Albany NY

Hoop Mountain Invitational – Foxboro MA

(*) – Indicates only high school level teams will attend highlighted tournament. Middle School teams will supplement with high level regional tournaments (all in Massachusetts or Southern New Hampshire) operated by programs such as Rhode Island Hawks, MIBC, Kingston Thunder and other regionally popular programs.

Regional Level Teams

Players chosen for our Regional teams will compete in a competitive tournament schedule consisting of many strongest regional tournaments held throughout Massachusetts and Southern New Hampshire. Regional teams will be offered at the 10U-17U levels and will practice out of locations in North Shore, Middlesex County and the Merrimack Valley. Regional teams will compete in 7-8 weekend tournaments, typically playing between 20-25 games.

****Local teams (these being B/C level) will be offered through affiliated programs.**

PROGRAM INFORMATION

TRYOUTS - Mass Elite Basketball holds tryouts twice a year, in the Spring and Fall, and players already on teams must try out each time. There is NO guarantee that a player on a team would make the team at the next season's tryouts. Tryouts for each age group are run by the "A" or "National Select" team coach or our Director of Coaching/Skills Enhancement, and include drills in ball-handling, shooting, defense, running as well as scrimmages. The player skills, effort, behavior, and attitude are important factors that coaches consider in making their selections for the team. The "A" or "National Select" team is the most competitive team in each age group. The "B" or "Competitive team" is the second team in each age group, and some birth years depending on tryout turnout may have a "C" team. For players who do not make a team at tryouts we will assign players to one of our developmental programs, these being Elite Futures AAU Basketball for 3rd-4th graders and Lightning AAU Basketball for 5th-11th graders.

Mass Elite Basketball teams are for the above-average to exceptional player who will make their AAU team the highest priority over other sports. In the Spring season we only offer teams to players who wish to make Mass Elite Basketball their top athletic priority.

COMMITMENT LEVEL - Participation on an Elite Basketball AAU club team demands a big time commitment from players and families. We expect for each athlete that family, religious, and school-related events will get the priority, and we request that such events be communicated to the coaches well in advance so that practices, tournaments, etc., can be planned accordingly, given that the team may be missing your child that day. While we encourage our club members to participate in other sports such as soccer, lacrosse, cross country, track, baseball, etc. to develop their overall athletic abilities and capacity, our AAU program is an elite, higher level program and parents and athletes must really be careful not to be overcommitted to multiple teams, leagues, etc.

COSTS - With many years of operating experience, Elite Basketball has established standard budgets for each season for A and B teams. Each player-family will be required to make the financial commitment to support the program. Fees will consist of uniforms, gym time, tournaments, leagues, coaching expenses, including travel reimbursements, supplies such as first aid items and training equipment. Individual player expenses generally are \$650-\$750 per season for our National Select level teams and \$450-\$550 for our Competitive level teams.

PROGRAM INFORMATION CONTINUED

PROFESSIONAL COACHING MODEL - Elite Basketball offers a Professional Coaching Model for the hundreds of players in our program. All coaches selected to serve as Head Coaches of "A level" National Select teams have significant levels of coaching experience at the college and high school levels. "B Level" Competitive teams consist of Associate Head Coaches who are all overseen by our National Select coaching staff.

ORGANIZATIONAL LEADERSHIP - Elite Basketball is comprised of a Basketball Operations Department who serves as the chief administrators of the basketball program. The basketball administration consists of a Director of Basketball Operations, Assistant Director of Basketball Operations, High School Boys AAU Director, Middle School Boys AAU Director and a Director of Coaching/Skills Enhancement. An Advisory Board is also assembled to meet regularly with our Basketball Administration, this consisting of local college, high school and travel basketball coaches.

PROGRAM CURRICULUM/ENVIRONMENT - Our Organizational Leaderships will work with all coaches to ensure that there is consistent instruction that builds a foundation of skills, drills, and team play in our middle school program that transitions players into the High School Program. Coaches will also provide an environment that demonstrates good sportsmanship, respect for the game, referees, coaches and teammates and emphasizes development of life skills through competitive sports. Coaches' expectations for players will be according to the "Mass Elite Creed" ***PLAY HARD, PLAY SMART, PLAY TOGETHER***

EVALUATION SESSIONS

National Select Tryouts

Middle School - 01/21 @ Barrows School in Reading, 01/29 @ Barrows School

High School – 02/19 @ Barrows School

Regional and Local Team Tryouts

Middle School - 01/14 @ Barrows School in Reading, 01/15 @ Essex Aggie in Danvers, 01/21 @ Barrows School, 01/22 @ Barrows School, 01/29 @ Essex Aggie

High School – 02/12 @ Essex Aggie in Danvers, 02/26 @ Barrows School in Reading

WHY ELITE BASKETBALL?

Players overall improvement will be entirely based on how hard they are willing to work. All that we promise is that we will deliver very best coaching for your sons with the highest level of instruction. Players in our program will improve if they work hard and also will have a smile on their face while playing a game that they enjoy. Our program will be more organized than all other local AAU programs. We have heard of the "horror stories", consisting of schedules changing, coaches not attending games/practice and poor communication between the programs administrators and families. These "organizational failures" will not happen within the ELITE Basketball program.

We pledge to not subsidize our programs. Our program does not charge our middle school teams lots of money to support our high school teams playing in major tournaments throughout the country.

Elite Basketball pledges to offer programs of the overall highest quality at the most affordable rates for all families from Eastern Massachusetts.

Questions and Answers

Spring 2012 – Elite AAU Basketball

What does the Spring AAU session consist of?

The Spring AAU session will consist of teams participating in 7-8 weekend tournaments, 2 weekly team practice/skills sessions and also the opportunity to attend offered clinic and speed/drills sessions which are offered throughout the season by ELITE Academy. The season will begin in Mid-March and will be concluding by Early-June. Throughout the Spring session players will play in weekend AAU tournaments games against some of the most competitive teams regionally and will receive an average 3+ hours of on court skills training each week from our experienced and dedicated coaching staff.

What are the costs of Elite AAU Basketball programs?

Mass Elite AAU Basketball offers families a “strong bang for their buck” . Unlike other programs who charge upwards of \$800-\$1000 per session, we continually price our program so that is financially affordable for all families. Player tuition for the Spring AAU session has been placed at \$575.00, this not including the “new uniform charge” . Additional fee’ s may apply for players selected onto a National-Select level team, although these additional fee’ s will typically be between \$50-\$150.

What is the application process for the Spring AAU session?

All potential applicants for our Spring AAU teams must fill out an Evaluation Registration Form to be eligible to attend a two day try-out procedure and must also pay a \$35 (non-refundable) evaluation fee. Those who pre-register in the month of December for our evaluations online only need to pay a \$25 evaluation fee. Not all players who attend evaluations are selected for placement onto a team. Players not selected for placement onto a team will be referred to developmental programs that we have a close working relationship.

How many teams are offered at each age group?

Teams of 10-11 players will be selected at each age level. Players selected for teams will be placed onto one of the following teams: SELECT, REGIONAL or LOCAL. Select level teams will only be offered at the 11U-17U levels, 10U teams will only be offered at the Regional and Local levels.

Can you play for Mass Elite if you play multiple sports in the Spring season?

YES! In past seasons many players have played either Baseball, Lacrosse or Soccer in addition to our program and have managed the schedule well. Once selected onto a Spring AAU team, please identify possible conflicts so that we can attempt to plan around player’ s schedules.

Player Registration

Date: _____ **Season:** (please circle) - Spring, Summer, Fall

Participant Name: _____ **Date of Birth:** _____

Age: _____ **Grade:** _____ **Height:** _____

School Attending: _____ **Home Address:** _____

Contact Phone#(s): _____ **Email(s):** _____

Signature of Parent/Guardian Date

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Please mail completed form with your form of payment (Check All That Apply)*:

Evaluation Fee (\$25.00)

Spring Season Fee (\$550.00)

Reversible Practice Jersey (\$25.00)

** All fees and deposits are non-refundable. Reversible practice jerseys are optional.*

*** Fee may be higher for players selected for National Select team. Additional fee ranges from \$50-\$150 and will be collected at first team practice session.*

****All players will be selected for placement onto a team, either being a Mass Elite team or a developmental team offered through Elite Futures Basketball or Lightning Basketball.*

Payment Information: () Cash / () Check #: Amount:

Checks Payable to: ELITE AAU Basketball

Mail To Address: 35 Main Street, Topsfield, MA, 01983