

Niwot Boys Basketball

2019 – 2020 Parent/Player Handbook

www.niwotbasketball.com

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Varsity Head Coach: Clay Wittrock

Varsity Assistant: Charles Trowbridge

Junior Varsity Head Coach: Mike Gossett

C-Team Coach: Joe Kear

D-Team Coach: Jeremy Johnson

St. Vrain Valley School District Athletics Mission Statement

"To establish Educational Based Athletic Programs, where athletes are present, engaged, connected and provided opportunities for not only academic success but opportunities for moral, social, emotional and civic growth."

"Success is peace of mind which is a direct result of self-satisfaction in knowing you did your best to become the best you are capable of becoming."

- John Wooden

Message from Coach Wittrock:

Basketball offers an amazing opportunity to set rigorous yet reachable goals where young men learn how to push their individual limits, develop leadership, and create memories that teach as well as guide current and future successes. A basketball team and program's job one is the development of student athletes, to not only excel on the court, but in the classroom, in the workplace, and in life. There comes a day when everyone puts away the shoes and ball for the last time, but the lessons learned and the experiences gained are forever.

For the program and the teams within that program to achieve, it takes the commitment of all involved.

Keys to Success

A successful program will be built in our commitment to the following:

- Trust – Building trust is a process that creates a strong foundation. Be accountable.
- Preparation – Positive outcomes start with proper and thorough preparation.
- Hard work – You do the hard work, not to make things easier, but so you can handle hard work.
- Passion – Love what you do and for the right reasons, you'll inspire others.
- Dedication – Believe in the process and put the team before yourself.
- Persistence – Embrace struggle. More is learned from battling adversity than in a single victory.

General Expectations

- ✓ Always conduct yourself with class and good sportsmanship both on the court and in the classroom. Every person in the program is a key representative of the school, the program, and their family.
- ✓ Learn fundamental skills and basketball IQ to develop into basketball player, not just someone who can only run plays.
- ✓ Be flexible and exhibit a growth mindset – set and meet high expectations to prepare and compete the right way.
- ✓ Winning is never the goal. Winning is the result of achieving team and individual goals.
- ✓ Never settle. Doing something because it is comfortable is denying yourself the opportunity to find your true potential.

Player Expectations

1. Be coachable.
2. Be a great teammate.
3. Know your role, be the best in your role.
4. Celebrate the success of others.
5. Be early. On time is late.
6. Control your emotions. NEXT PLAY!
7. Pick up after yourself in every setting. Successful players never miss the little things.
8. Be thoughtful and respectful in all settings.

District Code of Conduct and Training Rules

1. Participation in interscholastic athletics as a part of the school's education program is a privilege and not a right for high school students. To be eligible for participation, students must meet the standards of the St. Vrain Valley School District and the criteria which have been established by the Colorado High School Activities Association for its member schools.
2. The district has established district-wide training rules for students participating in extracurricular activities, that define in writing, the rules of conduct, penalties for violations, academic and attendance rules, appeal procedures and a contract/acknowledgment form.

Attendance

Attendance at practice is crucial to achieving individual, team and program success. Being part of the basketball program is a commitment that starts with being physically and mentally present.

1. Players must be prepared. This means practice gear and appropriate footwear must be worn to every practice.
2. Players are expected to arrive 15 minutes before their scheduled practice, dressed and laced up ready to work.
3. The practice schedule is prepared and communicated to all players far in advance. Every effort needs to be made to schedule outside appointments at times that do not conflict with practices or games.
4. Players are responsible for notifying a coach if they will miss practice. This is not the responsibility of parents.
5. In the case of an emergency, please notify a coach as soon as is reasonably possible. These situations are unfortunate, but they do occur. We want to be able to support the player and family any way we can.
6. In some cases, extended absence from practice, even with prior notice may result in reduced playing time in games. This is not meant as punishment. It is recognizing that individual and team preparation suffers when a player has not put in sufficient practice time.
7. Being late to practice or missing practice without prior notice will result in a consequence, ranging from additional conditioning to missed game time or full game suspension.
8. Ongoing attendance issues can result in dismissal from the team.

Lines of Communication

- We follow the 24-hour rule of communication. In the event there is a desire to meet with coaches, whether this is a player or parent, please provide the coach 24-hour notice. This rule will be strictly adhered to following a game, including texts and emails.
- When a player has a concern or issue this is the process or "chain of command" that will be followed:
Step 1: Player meets with appropriate Coach (in any communication it must start with the player).
Step 2: If issue is unresolved, player and parent(s) make an appointment to meet with the Coach.
Step 3: If issue is still unresolved, player and parent(s) will meet with the Coach and Athletic Director.
Step 4: If issue remains, player and parent(s) will meet with Coach, AD, and the Principal.

Parent Expectations

- **Model good sportsmanship at all competitions by how you interact with other parents, athletes, coaches and officials.**
- **Encourage and allow your student athlete to learn his independence through experience, communication with other players, and communication with coaches.**
- **Be a support for your child and the program. Criticism of coaches and other players does not promote growth in your student athlete.**
- **Let players play and coaches coach. Directly before, during and even immediately after a practice or game is not the time to provide technical or strategic instructions to your student athlete.**
- **Recognize and remember that support of the growth and learning of your student athlete is the goal, and while it is hard, let the student athlete work through difficult lessons.**

Academic Eligibility

Players are held to the eligibility policies set forth by St. Vrain Valley School District and the Colorado High School Athletics Association (CHSAA). Additionally, there is an individual and team accountability to academic success of all players on the team. Each week, for every D and F on the grade report, the team will be subject to extra conditioning. To further reinforce the program commitment to academic excellence, each individual carrying a D and/or F on the grade report will have extra conditioning.

A player may be required to attend a study session or activity outside of normal class time to better a grade or as part of the class curriculum. Communication is key in this situation to both support the student's academic growth and account for commitment to the team.

Playing Time

D-Team, C-Team, Junior Varsity: For each game, a player who has met eligibility, conduct, player expectations, and practice attendance requirements will receive playing time. Amount of playing time each player receives is not guaranteed.

Varsity: For each game, a player who has met eligibility, conduct, player expectations, and practice attendance requirements will dress. While the goal is to provide each varsity player experience, the number of games and amount playing time will be determined by game situations and coach's decision.

Players committed to team and program success focus on how to make each minute they play in the game count; not count how many minutes they played in the game.

Players requesting a meeting with a coach about playing time will be asked to reflect on the above statement prior to any meeting. The subsequent meeting will focus on performance and development, not playing time.

Varsity Lettering Requirements

1. Play in half of the quarters of regular season varsity games.
2. Be part of the State Tournament roster.
3. Coaches discretion for unique circumstances (i.e. injury, illness, etc).

Player Well-Being

Player well-being, both physically and mentally, is a key concern in the Boys Basketball program. We want both players and parents to know when it comes to player well-being, the lines of communication are always open. Anything that you feel coaches should know that will support a player helps to create a positive, a supportive, and still competitive learning experience.

Contact Information

Head Coach: Clay Wittrock

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Junior Varsity Head Coach:

Mike Gossett

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Varsity Asst. Charles Trowbridge

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C-Team Head Coach:

Joe Kear

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D-Team Coach: Jeremy Johnson

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720-315-5019



**Niwot Boys Basketball
2019-2020 Player/Parent Contract**

(Must be completed and returned)

I, _____ (player), and _____
(parent/guardian), have read the 2019-2020 Niwot Boys Basketball Player/Parent Handbook. By signing below, we acknowledge that we understand its contents and agree to the terms of the handbook. We understand the guidelines for player behavior, conduct, attendance, playing time, etc. We recognize that violation of program, district, or CHSAA rules can result in consequences and/or suspension or, in certain cases, dismissal from the team. We will do our best to work together to provide a positive experience. We are aware of the commitment it takes to be a part of the Niwot Boys Basketball Program and are aware that all decisions are made for the betterment of the team.

It is a privilege to play basketball at Niwot High School, NOT a right!

Player _____

Date _____

Parent/Guardian _____

Date _____

GO COUGARS!