

# HEARTS Basketball Information

## What does HEARTS sports offer?

We offer Christ-centered sports programs for our Christian, home-schooled students. Participating on a HEARTS sports team is one way that we encourage and challenge our home-schooled students to honor God in all things along with giving them the opportunity to enhance their walk with Jesus. As an Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI) member school, HEARTS athletes are eligible for the ACSI Distinguished Student award.

## When does the season start and end?

- Practices begin the first week of November with the season ending in early March for Varsity and mid February for JV or middle school.
- The first game is during the second half of November. End of season tournaments usually take place at the end of February-early March.
- There will be a season kick-off meeting along with a season-ending awards night.

## Where are the practices and games?

For the past several years practices and home games have been at Keystone High school in LaGrange. The away games can span north into the Greater Cleveland area, west into Lorain County and as far south as Mansfield. There are typically around 20-25 games for our varsity teams and can include a preseason tournament, Christmas tournament and the end of the season National Christian School Athletic Association (NCSAA) Championship tournament in Mt. Vernon, Ohio.

## How much will this cost?

For HEARTS members, the basketball fee is \$325 for high school/\$275 for middle school with an additional uniform expense for those who need a uniform. As always, we attempt to keep costs down by doing fundraising activities and ask for parent participation, more information to follow.

**You must be a HEARTS member to participate in our sports programs.** Membership options include a basic membership (\$100) which covers all sports, ACSI, social and testing for the school year or full membership which includes Friday classes and access to all HEARTS programs.

**Payment Policy: All membership and basketball fees must be paid in full prior to the first game of the season. Your child will not be able to participate if there is an outstanding balance.**

## What teams are offered and what is the level of participation?

We typically have high school boys JV and Varsity teams and a girls Varsity team. We have also had a middle school boys team and JV girls team in the past, but this is based on the number of players who register. **Your child will participate in all practices, but there is no guarantee he or she will play in games. Skill level, effort, work ethic, attitude, etc. will all factor into playing time per the coaching staff's discretion.**

## How can I help?

**Each family is expected to help by signing up for ministry assistant positions (MAP). There will be a sign-up at the start of the season, and everyone is required to help.** Parents take turns working admissions and concessions at each home game. Additional responsibilities include coordinating HEARTS lunches and bake sales, coordinating Senior Night, taking team photos, keeping statistics, running the scoreboard, making home game announcements, assisting with home game set-up, etc. Additionally, there will be fundraising and/or booster activities throughout the year. One typical fundraising event is Friday lunches and bake sales during HEARTS classes. Each family is asked to provide baked goods while the team members work the sale. At least one adult will oversee the event with responsibilities which include scheduling and the handling of all of the monies earned.

## What should I do if I am interested in joining the Basketball team?

- Send an email to the HEARTS Athletic Director ([athletics@heartsforjesuschrist.org](mailto:athletics@heartsforjesuschrist.org)) or the Basketball Manager ([sarah.davis@heartsforjesuschrist.org](mailto:sarah.davis@heartsforjesuschrist.org))
- If you are not a member of HEARTS, you will need to complete the HEARTS membership process. Begin at HEARTS web page: <https://heartsforjesuschrist.org/ContactUs/InterestedFamily>. Fill out this form and submit. Someone from HEARTS will contact you.
- Once you have notified us, look for emails and other announcements from your coaches that will get you ready for the season.
- There will be forms to complete, one of which requires a current physical. **Your child will not be eligible to participate until all the forms have been received.**