

**HAMPDEN PARKS & REC
WILBRAHAM PARKS & REC**

**2025 - 2026
SUBURBAN
BASKETBALL**

**INFORMATION
and
REGISTRATION
PACKET**

Registration for Suburban Basketball runs Aug. 26 – Sept. 8

- ★ **Wilbraham Residents and Wilbraham School Choice students must register at the Wilbraham Recreation Dept.**
- ★ **Hampden Residents must register at the Hampden Recreation Department**

2025-2026 SUBURBAN BASKETBALL REGISTRATION

Wilbraham Residents: \$175 Registration Aug. 26 – Sept. 8, (\$10 late fee after 9/8)

NAME: _____ D.O.B. ____/____/____ AGE: _____ GR: _____

ADDRESS: _____ HOME PHONE: _____

PARENT NAME: _____ CELL: _____

PARENT NAME: _____ CELL: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS #1 _____ EMAIL ADDRESS #2 _____

Coaches communicate primarily through email, please check yours daily

► **PLEASE INDICATE BY CIRCLING THE FOLLOWING - IF YES, PLEASE INDICATE WHO**

WILL PARENT COACH? YES / NO MOM OR DAD? OTHER? NAME: _____

WILL PARENT ASST.COACH? YES/NO MOM OR DAD? OTHER? NAME: _____

LIST ANY SPECIAL COACHING EXPERIENCE: _____

► **PLEASE NOTE: Suburban Basketball is a competitive program which requires tryouts. Tryouts may result in some children being eliminated from this competitive program.**

► **REFUND OPTIONS: CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX AT THE TIME OF REGISTRATION:**

- ☐ **If my child does not make the Suburban team I would like him/her automatically enrolled in the recreational program. The difference in program cost will be mailed to me.**
- ☐ **If my child does not make the Suburban team I do not want my child automatically enrolled in the recreational program. I would like my registration fee returned.**

PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING CAREFULLY:

WAIVER: I, the undersigned parent and/or guardian of _____, a minor, on the date of _____, do hereby consent to my child's participation in voluntary recreational programs of the Town of Wilbraham. I agree not to sue and also agree to forever release the Town of Wilbraham, and the H.W. School District their servants, officers, officials, employees, agents and ("the releasees") assisting or participating in voluntary recreational programs of the Town of Wilbraham from any and all claims, rights of action and causes of action that may arise in the past, or may arise in the future, directly or indirectly, from personal injuries to my child or property damage resulting from my child's participation in the Town of Wilbraham voluntary recreational programs.

I also promise, to indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the releasees against any and all legal claims and proceedings of any description that may have been asserted in the past, or may be asserted in the future, directly or indirectly, arising from personal injuries to my child or property damage resulting from my child's participation in the Town of Wilbraham voluntary recreational programs. I further affirm that I have read this Consent and Release Form and that I understand the contents of this form. I understand that my child's participation in these programs is voluntary and that my child and I are free to choose not to participate in said programs. By signing this form, I affirm that I have decided to allow my child to participate in the Town of Wilbraham's athletic recreational programs with full knowledge that the releasees will not be liable to anyone for personal injuries and property damage my child or I may suffer in voluntary Town of Wilbraham recreational programs.

- **REFUND POLICY:** If you notify the WPRD prior to the end of the registration period, you will receive a refund minus a \$5.00 administrative charge. Because the decision to maintain a program is based on the enrollment, no refunds will be given once registration has ended.
- **RELEASE:** For promotional purposes photos/videos may be taken of my child and put on the WPRD or other websites or in printed material. I understand it is my responsibility to notify the WPRD in writing prior to the start of the season as well as coach and photographer if my child is **not** to be photographed.
- **LATE FEES:** Late fees are implemented to encourage registration is done by the designated date so our Dept. can order supplies, for teams and assign coaches, etc. in order to get the program running on time.
- **Parent is responsible for informing coach(es) about relevant allergies/restrictions***

I have read, understand and agree to all of the above information.

SIGNATURE OF EITHER PARENT OR GUARDIAN REQUIRED

DATE: _____

DATE: _____ TOTAL PAID: _____ CHECK # _____ CREDIT CARD _____

Wilbraham Parks & Recreation Programs
Adult Code of Conduct Contract

I hereby pledge to provide positive support, care and encouragement for my child and other children participating within this program by following this Code of Ethics to help establish a positive experience for all players, coaches, and families involved.

- I will encourage and demonstrate by example the importance of good sportsmanship and positive support for all players, coaches, and officials at practices and games.
- I will place the emotional and physical well being of my child over my personal desire to win.
- I will assist in a drug, tobacco and alcohol-free environment.
- I will assist in teaching my child that rules are important and must be followed.
- I will support coaches and officials working with my child, in order to encourage a positive and enjoyable experience for all.
- I understand that verbal and physical abuse including profanity and foul language is not to be tolerated against anyone in this organization.
- I understand that racial epithets or negative innuendo related to a person/players race, religion or ethnicity will not be tolerated.
- I will respect all officials, coaches and volunteers.
- I will not approach a coach, before, during or after a game, and I will wait 24 hours before speaking with a coach.
- I will not create conflict by slander, malicious rumors or threats, nor will I entice others to do so either verbally or through social media

****IMPORTANT NOTICE****

I understand that both my son or daughter and I will be fully committed (attending practices and games) and supportive of the Wilbraham Program.

It is the expectation of this Commission that both parent and coach should always act in a manner exemplifying the very attributes that are instilled in the participants by various programs of the Wilbraham Parks & Recreation Department. We expect parents to treat others as you know they should be treated and as you wish them to treat you.

At no time should a parent or coach confront each other before, during or after a contest or practice. Furthermore any such contact in the presence of children will call for immediate sanction by the Commission.

Any concern(s) between parent and coach should follow the guidelines established by the agreement where:

1. Concerns are brought to the attention of the Director of the Wilbraham Parks and Recreation.
2. Parties will be allowed to speak with the Director.
3. Should the Director and Party(s) reach an impasse, this matter shall than be presented to the Commission.
4. Each Party shall be given an opportunity to present the matter before the Commission.
5. Once each Party has presented, the Commission shall within a specified time announce its decision

The Commission strongly discourages the use of any social media to broadcast thought and judgments which may bring hurt upon any/all involved. Broadcasting disparaging remarks and opinions (directly or indirectly) about a coach, parent or athlete are strongly discouraged by the Commission.

It is the hope that the execution of this document will discourage any/ all behavior which may be detrimental to the children and citizens of the Town of Wilbraham.

By signing below, I understand that if I violate any of these Codes of Ethics it will affect my/our participation in any activity for not less than the balance of the current season, or as determined by the Wilbraham Recreation Department and/or Commission.

Your signature constitutes acknowledgement by both spouses/guardians/step parents of agreement to abide by the rules and regulations stated above.

Signature: _____

Print Name: _____ Date: _____

Player Name(s)_____ Grade: _____

2025 – 2026 SUBURBAN BASKETBALL TRYOUT SCHEDULE

IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

- Players are **REQUIRED** to attend **BOTH** tryouts scheduled for their appropriate grade. Any extenuating circumstances must be approved on a case by case basis by the WPRD in advance of the first tryout date.
- Parents will **NOT** be allowed into the gym for the tryouts at any gym.
- There will potentially be two to three teams in each grade division, an A team and potentially two B teams.
- If a player is selected for a suburban team and decides not to play for any reason a refund will not be issued.
- Suburban basketball is for players in grades 5 – 8. Fourth graders (4th) can tryout but must submit a request and reason for wanting to play up to Parks & Recreation Director, Bryan Litz, blitz@wilbraham-ma.gov prior to tryouts. No guarantee 4th graders will be allowed to tryout, 4th graders playing suburban requires league and recreation department approval.
- Suburban players will be required to submit a \$50.00 uniform/volunteer deposit and a signed parent code of conduct form once players are notified.
- The \$50.00 uniform deposit will only be deposited if uniform is NOT returned at end of the season OR if family does NOT volunteer at least 30 mins of time to concession at the WPRD run Turkey Day Jamboree. Wilbraham Suburban Teams/Players are NOT charged to play in jamboree as they are required to volunteer at event.

GIRLS

Must attend BOTH tryouts

5/6 Boys:

- Sunday, September 28, 5:00 - 7:00PM; Minnechaug Regional HS Gym
- Monday, September 29, 6:00 – 7:30PM; Wilbraham Monson Academy

7/8 Boys:

- Sunday, September 28, 7:00 – 9:00PM; Minnechaug Regional HS Gym
- Monday, September 29, 7:30 – 9:00PM; Wilbraham Monson Academy

IF REQUIRED A THIRD TRYOUT MAY BE HELD!

BOYS

Must attend BOTH tryouts

5/6 Girls:

- Sunday, October 5, 5:00 - 7:00PM; Minnechaug Regional HS Gym
- Monday, October 6, 6:00 – 7:30PM; AIC (back gym)

7/8 Girls:

- Sunday, October 5, 7:00 - 9:00PM; Minnechaug Regional HS Gym
- Monday, October 6, 7:30 – 9:00PM; AIC (back gym)

IF REQUIRED A THIRD TRYOUT MAY BE HELD!

NOTE: Suburban Basketball is a competitive program which requires tryouts. Tryouts result in some children being eliminated and as a result will be unable to play in this competitive league. These children will be automatically registered in the recreational program if parent has checked the appropriate box on the registration form. Otherwise, a refund will be issued and the child will not be placed in the recreational program.

SUBURBAN BASKETBALL LETTER TO PARENTS

It is that time of the year again when the WPRD and Hampden Parks & Recreation turns its attention towards the approaching winter months and the programs associated with them. This letter will hopefully answer any questions relating to the Suburban Basketball program and tryout process, while also relaying the Recreation Commission and Department's expectations from the parents and children.

This season Wilbraham and Hampden players can tryout for the suburban teams.

In previous years the Falcons placed several teams in the Suburban Basketball Leagues. For the 2024 – 2025 season we will at a minimum place four "A" teams in the Suburban Basketball Leagues, the breakdown is as follows:

- One "A" 5/6 Boys
- One "A" 7/8 Boys
- One "A" 5/6 Girls
- One "A" 7/8 Girls

Having "B" teams will be determined by our tryout numbers and the player's skill set. We will only have "B" teams if we feel they can adequately compete. The determination on "B" teams will be made immediately following tryouts.

Each team will consist of a maximum of ten players (extenuating circumstances may lead to a particular team carrying 11, such as injuries), and will be determined by a tryout process utilizing independent evaluators. The evaluators will spend two days analyzing all the potential players, then submit one evaluation sheet listing the top ten players recommended for the "A" team, and the next ten to twenty players recommended for the "B" teams, along with five or so alternatives. The evaluator's sheet is used to determine the twenty to thirty players who make the suburban basketball program. The Recreation Departments utilize the evaluators "A" and "B" team breakdown to find a potential coach for both teams. Determining a coach involves the following considerations:

1. Is there someone without a child in the program who is willing to coach, and that the Recreation Departments feel would be more suitable than a parent with a potential team player?
2. Is there an appropriate parent who has volunteered from the first ten that the Recreation Departments may approve of to coach the "A" team?
3. Is there an appropriate parent(s) who has volunteered from the second ten to twenty that the Recreation Departments may approve of to coach the "B" team?
4. If the three aforementioned criteria are not met, then the Recreation Departments will use its discretion to determine what is best for the program as a whole.

Once the evaluators have chosen the twenty to thirty players and coaches have been selected, the process of dividing up the "A" and "B" teams begins. If needed, the following week the twenty to thirty players will practice together. The coaches, utilizing the evaluator's recommendations, will determine which players they feel belong on the appropriate teams.

Suburban Basketball is a competitive league that does not require things such as equal playing time, mercy rules, or other items normally associated with a Recreational Basketball program.

The Wilbraham/Hampden Recreation Departments have certain stipulations regarding the Suburban Basketball Program:

1. Coaches must play every child each half, for an appropriate amount of time. This might be two minutes during certain games, and ten minutes during other games. It is at the coach's discretion.
2. Due to lack of gym time and space, practices and games will vary drastically from week to week, and involve a major commitment during not only the week but weekends also. Are parent and child willing to make this commitment?
3. Throughout the season, the Recreation Departments expect parents, players, siblings, relatives, etc. to behave in an appropriate manner. Therefore we require that anyone who makes the team and their parents to sign a Code of Conduct. If the Code of Conduct is not followed, the Recreation Departments may remove the child from the team or request that the parent no longer attend games home or away.
4. We expect the coaches to make a commitment to the program; therefore we require the same from the players. Because of the highly competitive nature of Suburban, combined with limited practice time, attendance at practices and games is a must. Meaning that CYO, Soccer, Piano, Dart Leagues, or any other activity will **HAVE** to take a back seat to Suburban. If practices or games are missed, it is at the coach's discretion whether or not your son or daughter will play the next game, sit out a half, or be asked to leave the team. Are you also willing to commit to this? If another activity takes precedence, maybe the Recreational League is more appropriate. Obviously things like doctor's appointments, illness, etc. are not included in the above statement. Please use your judgment.
5. Last but not least, please call your coaches if your son or daughter is going to miss a practice. You would expect the coach to call if they are going to cancel practice, please have some common courtesy.

Please Note:

As previously mentioned, suburban basketball is a competitive league for which player evaluations are necessary. "Making a team" is dependent on an individual's basketball skills as well as the number and experience of other players trying out. Please remember that the evaluators are volunteers chosen because of their basketball experience and that they do their best to ensure that players are appropriately placed. If your child is not chosen to play suburban basketball this year, they have the option of honing their skills in the recreational league which does not involve a tryout process and ensures a team for everyone!

Via email, the Wilbraham Parks and Recreation Department and Hampden Recreation will do its best to notify the placement of each player within two weeks of the final evaluation. Please clearly state the email you desire the evaluation results to go to on the registration form. Suburban players will be required to submit a \$50.00 uniform/volunteer deposit and a signed parent code of conduct form once players are notified.

Our goal at the Recreation Departments is to create a positive basketball environment that teaches young athletes the importance of discipline, team work and basketball skills, for all athletes interested in competing at the suburban and/or recreational level. We appreciate your efforts in helping us achieve that goal.

Thank You,

Bryan Litz
Parks & Recreation Director

Dan Blanchard
Hampden Parks & Rec Director