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2009/2010 Beginning of Season Update

We would like to welcome everyone to the beginning of Fast Break Basketball's 14th Season. This season promises to be another fun-filled, action-packed season for all participants.

Fast Break Basketball would like to thank the School Administration, the Principals, Secretaries, and Custodial Staff that work with us at each of the schools, and grant us permission to utilize their facilities. We would also like to thank the Township of East Brunswick for recognizing Fast Break as the Township Basketball program, and granting us permission to use the courts.

The schools are our lifeblood, and without the relationships that we have built with each and every one of them, Fast Break could not run this program. Guidelines have been established (by the School Administration and FBBA) that must be followed if we are going to continue to be allowed to use the schools. That information is listed below.

FAST BREAK NEEDS NEW GENERATION OF LEADERSHIP

Looking ahead, there is a need for a new generation of leadership to step forward at numerous key positions, as **FBBA President Howard Alexander, Vice President Marc Leader, and Secretary Liz Biagiotti**, are retiring after this season. A number of our other key volunteers will also be retiring after this season, and FBBA must identify volunteers who are interested in filling these positions to ensure a smooth management transition between now and then if we want to remain a healthy and successful organization.

Volunteerism has been the means of support of FBBA since its inception in 1996, when the co-educational program started with 20 second-grade players. Today, FBBA has approximately 1,100 players operating in 10 East Brunswick schools, encompassing five programs:

- Recreational Grades 2-12
- Girls-Only Grades 2-10
- Buddy Ball, for children and young adults with special needs
- Travel, both coed and girls only
- AAU Spring leagues

Besides the five basketball programs, FBBA offers High School students two ways to earn **community service** credits.

Buddy Ball PAL in our **Buddy Ball Program**. This is truly a rewarding experience to work with children and young adults who have special needs. We keep an accurate account of every *community service* hour our PALS provide. When appropriate, we support our PALS with reference letters. Further information will be available on the Buddy Ball section of the website.

Official Game Scorer - we offer the opportunity to earn *Community Service credits* to those individuals who volunteer their time working at the scorer's table during our recreational games that are played during the week and weekends.

The process begins **now** with **you**. Your support is greatly needed and appreciated. A listing of the Volunteer Job Descriptions is posted on the website on the Volunteer Information link for your review. We are interested in talking with all interested parties about any and all positions. Please send an email to commissioners@fastbreakbasketball.org stating your interest, and in the subject line, please type **VOLUNTEER**.

FAST BREAK EVENTS

Refer to the Bulletin Board section on our web page (fastbreakbasketball.org) for more details.

- Fast Break Basketball Family Night at the NJ Nets – buy one ticket for the January 2nd game vs. LeBron James, Shaquille O’Neal and the Cleveland Cavaliers, and receive a complimentary ticket to the Opening Night game, Friday, October 30th vs. the Vince Carter and the Orlando Magic. Ticket information is posted on the website.
- Fast Break Basketball’s Travel Program – home games are played Sunday’s at the EBHS Sub-Gym. Games start in December. Come out and show your support.

EAST BRUNSWICK EVENTS

Town Council Elections – a special election will take place November 3rd for a Town Council position. **Matt Korten**, one of Fast Break’s Founders and 1st President, who was appointed the Town Council position back in January formerly held by Mayor David Stahl, is seeking election. To learn more about Matt, please visit his website at www.kortenforcouncil.com.

It is important for you to get out and vote, whether it is for **Matt Korten**, or a candidate of your choice. Let your voice be heard.

Playhouse 22 – after a four-year hiatus, Playhouse 22 has opened at their new home located in the East Brunswick Cultural Arts Center, 715 Cranbury Road. For show and ticket information, visit them on-line at www.playhouse22.org or call 732-254-3939.

If you are looking for an evening’s entertainment, at a reasonable price, with quality accommodations, we recommend a show at Playhouse 22. What better way to show support for your community.

FACILITY INFORMATION

- Fast Break is only authorized to use the gym and bathrooms.
- No one is allowed in the classrooms for any reason, or to be found wandering the halls.
- Use of SAAC toys or consuming their snacks, are not permitted.
- No running around or playing outside the gym area.
- No food or drink permitted in the schools for any person or reason. The only exceptions are EBHS and Churchill Jr. High School, where the players are permitted to bring in water bottles.
- Observe all children as they walk down the hall to use the bathrooms or water fountains. This will ensure they will not wander in places they are not permitted.
- If any circumstances arise in the schools, whether a Fast Break participant, observer, or another organization, please notify your Coach or Division Director immediately, so they can notify the Fast Break Board. The Board will handle all matters directly with the school/School Administration.
- If the courts need to be cleaned or lunch tables moved, please do so yourselves and notify us, so we can discuss it with the school.
- If you have to move anything off the court or away from the side of the courts, make sure to notify the teams coming in after you, so they can put it back to its original location.
- Folding chairs must be put away after use.

- Fast Break understands that parents want to watch their children play basketball, but it is important that your other children in attendance be fully supervised.
- Custodians are not there to clean up after us. They are there to open and close the schools. The custodians have been instructed to report all issues of non-compliance directly to their respective principals.
- Fast Break will not risk losing any school, and we have ensured the School Administration that we will discipline anyone and everyone that violates their rules. As Fast Break has done in the past, we will suspend and/or expel any player/family/coach from the program that does not adhere to these rules (no refunds will be given).

FAST BREAK POLICIES

- No player is permitted to wear any jewelry of any kind. This includes necklaces, bracelets, or earrings (even those that are newly pierced); you cannot put a band-aid over them.
- Basketball style sneakers must be worn.
- Your team shirt must be worn to all games - referees have the authority to not allow a child to play if they are not in the proper uniform shirt.
- Only basketball shorts or sweatpants can be worn, no blue jeans allowed.
- Good Sportsmanship - we mandate good sportsmanship at all times. People in the stands can be given a technical foul. We have had teams lose games because of the parents in the stands. Remember that your children mimic your actions.
- The referee's decision is FINAL. We also understand that mistakes are made. We have all seen mistakes made by professional referees on television, and reason would tell us that the amateur referees we use would also make mistakes. If however, a rule is interpreted incorrectly, we would like to be told by the coaches so that we can review it and have it corrected for FUTURE games.
- The Board of Trustees for Fast Break Basketball reserves the right to administer additional penalties after an in-depth review of any situation.

We hope that everyone will have a fun-filled season,

The Trustees & Directors of Fast Break Basketball