

## **Raptor Boys Basketball Tryouts 2023-24**



The Gallatin High School Boys basketball program values the following foundation pillars, which will strengthen the development of successful team culture: **Positive Team Attitude, Passion to Compete, Prepare to be Our Best, and Persevering through Adversity.** While these important attributes will shape our program's culture, we will also work to fulfill a specific mission in our school/community by modeling our Team Core Values both on and off the court: **Family, Character, Preparation, and Work Ethic.**

**Boys Basketball Tryouts will be held November 20-22, 2023.** During this year's tryout period, it's very important for both players and parents to understand the selection of our team rosters will be a very competitive process. There will be multiple different individual/team factors and skill sets considered (criteria listed below). Unfortunately, not every player who participates in tryouts will be guaranteed a team roster spot. Our coaching staff is planning to select approximately 40 players this year, which will fill four separate team rosters (*Varsity, JV, Soph, Fresh*). All players who attend the tryout period will have the opportunity to be fairly evaluated by our coaches, and no final decisions will be made before tryouts begin.

### **SELECTION OF PLAYERS FOR EACH TEAM:**

Players will be selected for teams based on the following criteria (in no particular order):

- Positive Attitude
- Character/Coachability
- Work Ethic
- Teamwork Qualities
- Offensive Skill
- Defensive Skill
- Basketball IQ and Court Awareness
- Athletic Ability
- Leadership Skills
- Overall Potential

Selecting players for a team is subjective. Our coaches will select the players that best fit into each specific team roster. Players who do not make a team are lacking some of the qualities, skills, and criteria listed above.

Selection of the teams (cuts) can start any time after the first day of tryouts and continue for up to three days. Any longer tryout is strictly on an individual basis, due to unusual circumstances. **Late tryouts can only be granted through the Activities Director.**

**Team Selection:** players will be placed on multiple teams based upon their skill set, experience, attitude, and physical/athletic ability, etc... Final decisions on the members of each team and the placement of players on specific teams will be at the discretion of the entire coaching staff. The Head Coach (Michael Claxton) will oversee the entire tryout process, with valuable input from the coaching staff.

### **FRESHMAN TEAM: Coach Jace Fasting**

- Freshman players may play at any level.
- We will have one freshman team consisting of approximately 10 players. The coaches will determine the final number year to year, depending on each specific group of players. The focus of our freshman level is to create an environment where student-athletes get exposure to basketball, and at the same time work to develop and prepare for the next level. We will also focus on skill development and competition. Not all players will receive equal playing time. High school basketball is highly competitive and a player must achieve a level of proficiency in order to play.

### **SOPHOMORE TEAM: Coach Justin Reynolds**

- Sophomore players can only be at the sophomore level or above. This season we may also move up qualified Freshman.
- We currently will have one sophomore team consisting of approximately 10 players. At this level we are preparing players for the JV/Varsity level. During this particular season, we hope players will really start to develop and understand what it takes to compete on a higher level. The players' abilities at this level are variable and we will try to give all players an opportunity to play in games, however not all players will receive equal playing time during competition. The factors for playing time are based on everyday effort, practice performance, improvement, and game performance. High school basketball is highly competitive and players at this level must display proper fundamentals, consistency, and proficiency in order to play.

### **JV/VARSITY TEAMS: Head Coach - Michael Claxton**

#### **JV Head Coach/Varsity Assistant: Mike Leach**

- There may be Freshman or Sophomore players moved up to this level
- Juniors can only be placed on the JV or Varsity
- Our Junior Varsity and Varsity teams practice together, and we will have approximately 18 players. The coaches will determine the final number year to year, depending on each specific group of players. There is no guarantee of playing time. At the JV level we are trying to develop players for future Varsity teams, and to create an incredibly competitive playing environment. JV players will typically get considerable playing time on the JV level; however playing time will not be equal. Some players may split time between JV and Varsity. Each JV/Varsity player in AA Basketball is granted 5 quarters per night, therefore on any given game day, some JV players may play a combination of quarters with both the JV and Varsity teams (swing player). The Varsity level is very competitive and we are trying to achieve at the highest level possible. We are working to play at the top of the Eastern AA Conference, but we're also committed to playing State Championship level basketball every year. We will continually work to improve throughout the season, and will strive to play at our highest level at the end of the season during tournament play! Playing time will not be equal on the Varsity level and there is no guarantee of playing time experience in every game.

## **Tryout Schedule 2023-24**

### **MONDAY - NOVEMBER 20**

- 10th-12th Grade: 3:45-6:00 PM (BLUE/BLACK GYMS)
- 9th Grade: 6:15-8:30 PM (BLUE/BLACK GYMS)

### **TUESDAY - NOVEMBER 21**

- 10th-12th Grade: 3:45-6:00 PM (RAPTOR GYM)
- 9th Grade: 6:15-8:30 PM (RAPTOR GYM)

### **WEDNESDAY - NOVEMBER 22**

- JV/Varsity: 8:00-10:00 AM (RAPTOR GYM)
- Freshman/Sophomore: 10:00-12:00 PM (RAPTOR GYM)

\* FOLLOWING TUESDAY'S TRYOUT, PLAYERS WILL BE ASSIGNED TO EITHER THE JV/VARSITY SESSION OR THE FRESHMAN/SOPHOMORE SESSION ON WEDNESDAY \*