

2024-2025 Santa Fe Lady Basketball Program

Welcome to the 2024–2025 Santa Fe Lady Basketball program. As a coaching staff, we are excited to get this year started and working with our student-athletes. This handbook will acquaint you with the rules and expectations of our basketball program.

Along with rules and expectations, this handbook also includes general insight to our program philosophy. We will be built on: Discipline, Intensity, Fundamentals, and Doing things the correct way.

Along with your parents, please read the following pages. **When you are finished sign the appropriate space along with your parent/guardian and return to the basketball coaches.** If you have any questions or concerns, please reach us by phone or email. We ask that you limit messages and calls to before 8:00 PM.

Rodrick Johnson

Head Coach

(409) 354-3705

Rodrick.johnson@sfsid.org

Santa Fe High School

Basketball Office

(409) 927-3145

Danielle Harrison

Junior Varsity Coach/ Varsity Assistant

(832) 876-3352

Danielle.harrison@sfsid.org

Kasey Howard

Freshman Coach/ Varsity Assistant

979-472-9197

Kasey.howard@sfsid.org

Program Philosophy

Defense

1. Talk! Talk! Talk!
2. Team Defense (Help! Help! Help!)
3. Deny the wings
4. Arm's length apart when guarding man with ball
5. NOT TAKING A CHARGE IS UNACCEPTABLE
6. Every loose ball belongs to us
7. Anticipate! Anticipate! Anticipate!
8. Force ball to sideline and baseline
9. FIGHT for rebounds
10. Five people go to the boards
11. 2 people back to eliminate easy buckets
12. FRONT the post with BACKSIDE help
13. **GREAT DEFENSE = EASY OFFENSE**

Offense

1. Get as many easy baskets as possible
2. You should NEVER take a bad shot
3. Be fundamentally sound (screens, passing, dribbling, shooting)
4. Get your teammate open
5. Selfishness is not allowed
6. Master the mid-range jumper

Respect

Players in the basketball program will be respectful to the following people:

1. Administrators
2. Teachers
3. Coaches
4. Parents
5. Themselves

Santa Fe Lady's Basketball Guidelines

The coaching staff is pleased that you chose to try out for a position in the basketball program. If you are successful in making the team, you must understand that it is a privilege to play high school basketball. Along with this privilege also comes responsibility of your time management, behavior, and ability to follow program expectations. These next few pages will give you a better idea of our rules and expectations. If you have any questions, feel free to call or email.

Teams

Varsity: The top 10-12 players from any grade.

Junior Varsity (JV): The next 10-12 players from the 9th – 11th grade.

Freshmen: 10-12 players from the 9th grade only.

Varsity players are not guaranteed to play in each game. We try to play all players on the sub-varsity teams, unless student-athletes do not follow the basketball program rules and guidelines.

Varsity level: We will put the players on the court that will give us an advantage of helping the team win.

JV level: Players will get in the game but playing time will not be equal. This team in a step below the varsity, players must be prepared in case they need to be moved up to the varsity.

Freshmen/Sophomore level: Playing time will not be equal, but every player will get more of an opportunity to be out on the court. Every player will play.

During the season, if a player is concerned about his playing time, the player should have a discussion with his coach. We will give you an honest feedback of what you need to work on and what parts of your game you need to focus on. This will help us discuss ways to improve your game and what you can do to help the team and program to be successful. Playing time can be mentioned, but not the main topic of discussion. Every parent is invited to attend practices to watch the progress of their child. Playing time in games is earned in practice.

Practice

After school practice for the JV/Varsity is mandatory, practice time will be 2:55- 4:30 unless otherwise notified of different times or dates (Due to football responsibilities of my coaches we will practice later in the evenings until football season is completed). After school practices for the freshmen will begin on Monday October 31st. If any practice must be missed it is a requirement of the student-athlete to either see their coach in person or call, please do not text, or email this information unless it is a reminder of the absence. Sending another player or student to notify us DOES NOT count as notification and will be considered a missed practice.

ALL absences are subject to make up conditioning at the coaches' discretion. Make up conditioning will be done on the first available day back. Multiple unexcused absences will also result in suspension and/or dismissal from the basketball program.

1. If you are absent the day before the game and notify your coach, you will play but not start.
2. If you are absent the day before a game and DO NOT notify your coach, you may suit up, but you will not play in that game.

Holidays and games

Holidays: Because basketball season falls during Thanksgiving and Christmas breaks, parents and players must understand that their attendance during these holidays is necessary and still mandatory. You will be given a practice schedule before the season for all practices over the holidays in order to make the proper arrangements.

Games: If a player misses a game, she will then sit the following game. This does not include extenuating circumstances such as injury, death in the family, and/or anything else that may be discussed beforehand. Going out of town, will not be included in the extenuating circumstances.

Lettering Policy

To earn a Varsity letter a player must,

1. Complete the basketball season in good standing.
 - This includes grades, practice habits, attendance, and overall adherence of the program rules.
2. Play a minimum of 7 Varsity basketball games.
 - With this, there could be circumstances that will be handed by the coaches' discretion.

Game and Practice Equipment

Each player will be given a locker with a combination. This is where you will keep your practice gear, personal belongings, and anything else of importance. You will pay for any practice or game gear that is lost or stolen. **USE YOUR LOCKER AND LOCK IT!!**

Practice: Each player will be issued a practice uniform (shorts and jersey). We will wash all practice gear at the end of the day. **DO NOT** take your practice gear home. If you take it home, and you don't have it for practice the following day, you will have a consequence. Players are expected to dress out every day during the athletic period.

Game: Each player will be issued a game uniform (Shorts, jersey, shooting shirt). **DO NOT** take your game uniform home. We will collect and wash game uniforms after team competition. Depending on the level of team, players will be issued travel bags and travel sweats. Players are responsible for these items during the season and they will be collected at the end. If travel bags and sweats are lost or stolen, then students are responsible for paying for the missing items. Jewelry, hats, or other non-issued clothing is **NOT ALLOWED** to be worn while representing the Santa Fe Lady's Basketball program.

Traveling and Riding the Bus

We ask that student-athletes travel to and from contests with the team. All Phones will be collected on the bus while traveling to games, phones will be returned after athletic competition. We do know that emergency situations can occur. Per our Athletic Department Policy:

“Student-athletes will travel to and from athletic contests with the team. Student-athletes may ride home with parents/guardians/or designated family members, provided they have filled out and had the principal sign the Student Travel Release form 24 hours in advance. This form may be found on the school's web site at www.SFISD.org. In addition to the travel release, the individual(s) taking charge of the student-athlete must sign out with the coach in charge of supervision and have someone in charge of their equipment.”

Classroom and Player Behavior

Players should be reminded that not only do that represent the Santa Fe Lady's Basketball Program, they also represent Santa Fe High School, Santa Fe ISD, and your family. Inappropriate behavior will not be tolerated. Players may be warned, punished, or dismissed from the program for continuing issues in this area. Technical fouls during a game, for unsportsmanlike conduct will not be tolerated. If a player receives a technical foul for such conduct, the player will sit the bench the rest of the game and sit the bench for the next full game. If the behavior continues, then there will be a coach and parent meeting to discuss program expectations.

Discipline

To make sure players are held accountable for their actions and behaviors, coaches will use their discretion when giving athletes discipline. The following is a list of possible discipline consequences:

- Verbal Warning
- Written Warning
- Reminders (Running)
- Parent Meeting
- Behavior Contract
- Game suspensions
- Removed from the basketball program

Some steps may be skipped pending the action of the student athlete, Head coach's decision for all actions involving discipline and dismissal. Students can be removed from program at Head coaches discretion at any point of season if student-athlete are not meeting the required behaviors of the program.

Grades

Players will be reminded that they are students first and athletes second. Academic progress will be monitored on a weekly basis. Missing assignments and failing classes will result in extra consequences or running for the player and/or team. During the season, failing a class will result in the player becoming ineligible and missing games. Continual ineligible players will be dropped from the program. Coaches will communicate with players, parents, and teachers. It is encouraged that you check your players Skyward home access.

Injuries/ Sick Call

Players and parents are asked to communicate with our athletic trainers when dealing with injuries. Please consult with the trainer before taking the player to the doctor. If injured or needing to see the trainer, please visit them at the field house before school at 6:30 am or after school 3:00 pm. Do not say you cannot practice without prior consultation with the trainer. Student athlete are still required to attend all practices and or events pending injury student-athlete suffered. If student is sick, communication must be made immediately, all communications should be made to coaches, not other students or student athletes.

Locker Room

Keep the locker room clean. This is our home away from home and we should take pride in it. Players are responsible for making sure that trash and other items are not left on the floor. Practice gear and shoes should be locked in your locker. A messy locker room results in team consequences. Individual belongings continuously left out will result in individual consequences. **LOCK YOUR LOCKER. DO NOT** leave it cracked or opened.

Tryouts

Tryouts will be available for all student's grade level 9-12th grade. Students are encouraged to play sports but will also be evaluated during the tryouts period. We will evaluate the following,

- ***Drills, skills, and coordination***
- ***Game-simulated play***
- ***Endurance***
- ***Attitude and effort***

Cuts can be made based of the following standards and grading system from the coaches evaluations.

Cutting Policy

Players in the period are trying out from the first day of school. If we feel at any time that you are behind skill wise and/or not showing effort and dedication to be a part of this program, we will talk to your player. We will discuss what they need to improve on and that they are on a bubble of making a team. This will give your player a sense of where they are and what we are thinking as a coaching staff. Cuts may be made at any time during the season. Normal times our coaching staff make cuts:

1. After the 1st 9 weeks report card.
2. After open try outs.
3. After all players return from other sports.
4. After the 1st semester if athlete continues to be ineligible.

There are also times that cuts will be made late once the season starts. This is because we must see what players come from other sports and then evaluate their talent to see if they can make a team. All players that are cut, will be given an opportunity to come back the following year. This means to go out and work on your individual skills and overall game to come back a better player.

Fundraisers

All players and managers are expected to participate in all fundraisers. These funds will be added to the program activity account, which helps offset the cost of team meals and travel. The basketball program will have 1 fall semester and 1 spring semester fundraiser.

Quitting a sport

Per the athletic department student handbook:

There may be times when an athlete decides it is necessary to quit a sport or drop out for personal reasons. If a student decides to follow through with this decision, the following procedures shall take place.

- * Think the whole situation through before making a final decision. Consult teammates, friends, and parents for advice and guidance.
- * Consult your respective coach. A conference may be recommended/required involving the stakeholders in the decision.
- * Return all school issued equipment.
- * If an athlete wants to return to the sport, he/she must get the approval of the respective coach.

The decision to return will be left to the discretion of the coach and the Athletic Director.

*** If an athlete decides to quit a sport that is in-season, he/she will not move to the next sport until the completion of the sport season that the athlete is quitting ends.**

(example- an athlete plays Football and quits before the last day of the season and wants to go to the basketball class; that athlete will not be allowed to transfer to basketball until football season is over.)

Parent Expectations

- Be supportive of your son and the Santa Fe Men's Basketball program with teaching commitment, discipline, following rules and expectations, and team play.
- Be positive with your son and the coaching staff.
- Volunteer: Booster club, concession stand, banquet, and other duties. It takes a tribe to make a successful program.
- Attend as many games as possible.
- Playing time will not be discussed.
- Coaches will not discuss other players, besides your own.
- Coaches are not to be approached after games for criticism.

- Read and understand UIL and booster club rules and policies.
- Please do your best to schedule doctor's appointments before or after athletic period and practice times. Athletes should not miss on game days due to appointments.
- If you have any major concerns or issues with any of the coaching staff, please call or email Coach Johnson. I will respond to you within 24 hours of your contact.

Without supportive parents like yourself, our student-athletes would not be the successful young men they are today. We appreciate your continued support as a coaching staff and basketball program.

Bullying/Hazing

Bullying and hazing will not be tolerated in the men's basketball program. If there is an allegation of bullying or hazing, the player in question will be suspended during a thorough investigation by coaching staff and administrators. If an athlete is found guilty, they will be removed from the team and basketball program.

Santa Fe Lady's Basketball

Player/Guardian Acknowledgement

2024-2025

I have read the basketball handbook and understand all rules and expectations to be a part of the program.

Players Name (Printed): _____

Players Signature: _____

Date: _____

I have read the basketball handbook and understand all rules and expectations for my son to be a part of the program.

Guardian Name (Printed): _____

Guardian Signature: _____

Date: _____

Parents please inform us how you prefer to be contacted.

Email

Text

Phone Calls

Remind 101