

2024-25 Riverside Brookfield Junior Bulldog Boys Basketball Tryout Information

“Championship Effort is the Only Effort Accepted Here”

Riverside Brookfield Junior Bulldogs Basketball is a traveling boys basketball program for players in 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, and 8th grades that participates in highly competitive leagues and tournaments throughout the Chicagoland Area.

Tryout Dates for All Grades 4th thru 8th: Monday, September 30th and Wednesday, October 2nd, 2024

Tryout Times for All Grades 4th thru 8th: 8:00pm-9:30pm(Meet @ RBHS Fieldhouse by 7:45 to check in)

Tryout Dates and Times For 3rd Grade: Tuesday, October 1st and Thursday, October 3rd, 2024
6:30-8:00pm at Riverside Brookfield High School (East Gym)

Please pre-register for tryouts online at www.riversidebrookfieldbasketball.com prior to the first tryout. All players must be pre-registered to tryout!

Players that are selected to each team will receive:

- Quality coaching with input from coaches on the Riverside Brookfield High School coaching staff
- Instruction in fundamentals, skill development, and team play
- We will keep 10 players (or less) per team to ensure quality playing time for all.
- The goal is to have at least two teams of 10 players on each grade level.
- Reversible game uniform, Bulldog t-shirt, Free Admission to SELECT RB Varsity Basketball Home Games
- Periodical skills workouts conducted by two Illinois Basketball Coach Hall of Fame coaches and local workout coaching staff
- Cost to participate is \$530 per player

Practice:

- Practice 2 nights per week (most weeks) at either Riverside Brookfield High School or other local schools (Komarek, Brook Park, S.E. Gross, Riverside Presbyterian Church, St. Louise, St. Barbs) thru the end of February/first week of March.
- Practices usually begin somewhere between 7:00pm and 8:00pm and last for 90 minutes--depending on location

Games:

- 8th grade team will play roughly 50 games, 7th grade--45 games, 6th grade--40 games, 5th grade--35 games, 4th grade--30 games, 3rd Grade--25 Games
- Games played from early Nov thru the end of Feb/early March
- On 3rd-6th grade levels, players will play at least 1 ½ quarters a game to ensure proper development.

Any questions regarding the program or for more information contact Junior Bulldogs Basketball Director, Mike Reingruber at 708-442- 8506 or reingruber@rbhs208.net or go to www.riversidebrookfieldbulldogbasketball.com

Varsity Conference Championships:

2024 2023 2022 2020 2019 2018 2016
2015 2014 2013 2012 2011 2010 2009
2008 2007 2006 2005 2004 2003 2002
1998 1997 1963 1950 1949 1945 1940
1935 1934 1933 1931 1930 1929 1928



**2015 IHSA Class 4A
Sectional Champions and Elite 8**

IHSA Regional Championships:
2022 2020 2019 2015 2011 2010
2002 1974 1973 1968

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Frequently Asked Questions:

1. What makes Jr. Bulldog Basketball Unique compared to other programs?

—Formed in 2002 by Coach Reingruber, we are the original Jr. Bulldog program in the RBHS community, and many other sports and schools have modeled many of our ideas/concepts. It is also one of the few true feeder programs in the Chicago area that is run and overseen by the head varsity basketball coach of the local high school. Most programs are run by a group of parents and we take pride in our program mission and daily goals being overseen by the head of the RB Basketball program. This gives a unique and powerful opportunity for player and program development from 3rd thru 12th grade. This approach has been backed up by the major success of the RB Varsity Boys Basketball program over the past two decades.

2. How many games do they play?

—8th Grade plays roughly 50 games. 7th—45, 6th—40, 5th—35, 4th—30. 3rd Grade plays 25

3. When and where are the games?

—99% of the games will be on the weekends. All tournaments are in the Chicago area. There are some tournaments that are two day events and most weekends your son will play just one day and have the other day off. Often times they will play 2 games within a 3 hour span or 3 games in a 4 hour span, so it doesn't wipe out an entire day.

4. What is the playing time requirement?

—In 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th grade all players will play roughly 1-1 ½ quarters of the game. In 7th, and 8th grade, every player will play each half, but playing time length is not guaranteed. We keep no more than 10 players per team to assure player reps and development.

5. When are the practices?

—Generally 2 evenings per week. Practice usually lasts for 90 minutes and will usually start between 7pm and 8pm, depending on location.

6. Where are the practices?

—Older kids generally always practice at Riverside Brookfield High School. Younger teams generally practice at S.E. Gross, Brook Park, Komarek School, Riverside Presbyterian Church, St. Barbara, and other local schools, but will also practice at RB at times.

7. Can a player play Jr. Bulldog Basketball and Jr. Bulldog Football?

—YES! There is about a 3 week overlap between the two programs. Football practice generally ends before basketball practice begins each evening because it starts to get dark earlier in October. Also, basketball games don't begin until November and football is usually finishing up about the same time. We have had a number of players over the last couple of years compete in both programs!

8. Transportation to games?

—Parents are responsible to get their players to and from games, or arrange a car pool with another family. Junior Bulldog Basketball does not provide transportation to games.

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9. My son is in 2nd grade and wants to try out for the 3rd grade team, can he?
—Yes! We have had a few second graders try out for the 3rd grade team and be selected over the years. After 2nd grade, the Jr. Bulldog staff will determine if a player’s best fit for development is “playing up” a grade level or staying with their grade level.
10. Who are the coaches?
—Our Junior Bulldog Coaches are generally parents of players who have experience coaching/playing basketball and have gone thru training with the RBHS basketball coaching staff. Occasionally we will have some former RBHS players coach the older levels, depending on their availability.
11. What should I do if I am interested in coaching?
—Reach out to Head Coach, Mike Reingruber at reingruber@rbhs208.net to express interest and set up a time for a conversation.
12. How are teams divided up?
—There are generally two teams of 10 at every grade level. So, at the youngest levels we try to divide the teams up as evenly as possible to maximize development. The older teams are divided more into an “A” and “B” level, but those aren’t traditional A and B teams either. We never take the top 10 and put them on one team and the next 10 and put them on another. Every decision when it comes to teams we make is where we feel each player will develop their skills the best.
13. Why don’t our players get bags, warm-ups, big time uniforms, etc.?
—In order to keep the cost down for our families, we don’t go over the top on gear. We never want a family to say their son can’t play because it is too expensive. Our fee only covers roughly half of the program expenses. The other half of the program expenses are funded by running the annual tournament in November. This is why we ask parents to volunteer to work the tournament...to keep cost down! Many other local basketball programs cost in excess of \$1200-\$1500. Also, as a feeder program and developmental program, we feel that players should earn their way toward the top gear. Feeder program kids should not get better gear than freshman players, as freshman should not get better gear than sophomores, and no one should get better gear than the varsity. Gear is earned as they make it through the ranks to the high school program.