

**Lake Park Audubon Raiders
Boys Basketball 2022-2023
Player/Parent Handbook**



Philosophy

The philosophy of the Lake Park Audubon Raiders boys basketball program is to develop our student athletes into well rounded individuals that can be successful on and off the court. To become a successful student athlete within our program, each individual must develop/attain skills such as:

- 1) **Discipline-** in order to achieve discipline, everyone will be challenged to avoid making the same mistake over and over again. Nobody is perfect as an individual, we will all make mistakes as players, coaches, and parents. My challenge for everyone over the course of the season is to avoid making the same mistakes continuously.
- 2) **Integrity-** is representing the name that is displayed across your chest on your uniform. How do we want to be viewed as a student athlete representing Lake Park Audubon?
- 3) **Teamwork-** we will not be successful if we don't work collectively as a team. **EVERYONE ON THE TEAM IS IMPORTANT.** Whether you play the entire game or you don't step on the court over the course of a game, everyone needs to have the same goals as a collective unit. Understand that everyone on the team brings something different, no matter your skill set.
- 4) **Sportsmanship-** will be displayed by individuals within our program by having a mutual respect for teammates and opponents competitive efforts on the playing field.

If the skills listed above are developed/attained over the course of each student athletes time in our program, they will help better themselves for other challenges that will occur over the course of your life.

Attendance

Practice Attendance: Excused vs. Unexcused

Excused: Regular attendance is expected of all athletes throughout the season. Athletes should make every attempt to schedule appointments around practice times. Sometimes athletes miss practice due to things out of their control. Some examples of acceptable absences include: illness, medical appointments (those that can't be scheduled around practice time), family emergencies, church activities, or school related activities.

If athletes miss two practices (excused) during the week, they may be suspended for the next game due to health and safety issues. This will be left to the discretion of the coaching staff.

Please make every attempt to contact a member of the coaching staff if you know you will be missing practice (call, text, or email).

Unexcused: An athlete who misses practice with an unacceptable reason. Athletes will also be considered unexcused if they miss practice without informing a member of the coaching staff prior to practice (except if they are absent from school due to illness or family emergency). Examples of unexcused absences include: work, detention, or going out with friends. If you fall behind in school and have to attend after-school help, that is NOT an excused practice.

****Friends or teammates of the athlete may not relay messages for that athlete to the coaches about the player missing a practice in hope of it being excused.**

If an athlete has one unexcused absence from practice, they will be suspended for one half of a game. On the second offense, the athlete will miss an entire game. On the third offense, the coaches will have a meeting with the athlete and parents/guardians to determine further discipline.

If unexcused absences continue to be an issue after a player/parent meeting, that player will be removed from the team.

*****Note: Practices will be held over Thanksgiving and Christmas breaks. If an athlete plans to be gone over the holidays, it is their responsibility to inform the coaches as soon as possible.***

Respect

Every athlete will be expected to show respect for themselves, their teammates, coaches, officials, opponents, parents/guardians, school staff, and community members. Athletes are ambassadors of the Lake Park Audubon school district and should exhibit respectful behavior at all times.

Athletes who are removed from a game for misconduct will not be allowed to play in the following game. This is per the MSHSL and it will be enforced. Please note that any student who demonstrates poor citizenship (cheating, theft, vandalism, physical or

verbal abuse, harassment, defiance of staff, etc.) may lose their eligibility to participate in extracurricular activities.

All athletes are viewed as important assets to the team/program. All athletes are expected to be productive team players. Athletes who are not willing to be team players may be dismissed from the team.

The Lake Park Audubon Boys Basketball Program will not tolerate any incidents of bullying, harassment, or intimidation of athletes to other athletes. Negative or insulting comments toward our school, teammates, coaches, officials or opponents using social media (Facebook, Twitter, etc..) will not be tolerated. If this rule is violated immediate suspension or removal from the team will result. Parents, please help lead by example with this rule.

Playing Time

The Lake Park Audubon boys basketball coaching staff does not guarantee equal playing time for all athletes. Players will be evaluated in several areas throughout the course of the season that will determine how much playing time is earned by each athlete. Some areas include:

- 1) Attitude, effort, and communication on a consistent basis in competition and practice
- 2) Players ability to effectively contribute in competition
- 3) Consistency of performance and development in practice
- 4) Being coachable, and giving one's best effort
- 5) Being committed, prepared, and on time for anything we do (Team first mentality)

Before and early in the season, all athletes are going to be encouraged to develop/improve their skills in all areas. Coaches will evaluate who has developed their game into an all around skill set. The players who have developed their game the most will be rewarded with more playing time opportunities. The way a player helps in improving or distracting the team in practice or games may be a factor in an athletes playing time as well.

As the season progresses, coaches will continuously be evaluating and adjusting lineups according to opponents, individual match-ups, and recognizing individual improvement. Athletes and parents will be expected to understand their roles within the team, as defined by the coach, and concede that the collective performance of the team as a unit is a priority.

Safety and Injuries

We are fortunate to have an athletic trainer on staff at the school. If a player has an injury, they need to report the injury to one of our coaches immediately. The coaches will direct the athlete to our trainer on staff and they will evaluate the athlete further. Parents/guardians need to contact one of the coaches regarding an injury or other medical conditions involving their athlete if your son does not choose not to discuss it with a coach.

Game Day attire/travel

Home game attire: players will be expected to dress in a formal/professional manner. (Examples: shirt & tie, sweater, dress pants, dress shoes)

Away game attire: players will be issued travel gear to wear for road games.

After road games, players may choose to ride home with parents/guardians. Players must have the parent/guardian sign out the athlete with one of the coaches on staff. Players will not be allowed to ride home with a different parent/guardian, unless it is approved ahead of time. We as coaches encourage all athletes to ride the bus home to help develop team chemistry over the course of the season.

Equipment/Uniforms

All the necessary equipment/uniforms will be handed out by coaches at the beginning of the season. After they are handed out, it is the players responsibility to take care of them. Any lost or damaged equipment/uniforms will be replaced at the players expense.

**All shoes worn for games need to be primary Raider colors (White, Red, Black, Grey)*

Coach availability

The coaching staff will not be available after games, during practices, or during school hours to discuss issues with parents/guardians. If a parent/guardian would like to meet with a coach, they should contact the coach to get a time arranged. The coach may require the athlete to be present at the meeting as well.

Chain of command Procedure

Listed below is a chain of command procedure that will be followed if a problem or concern arises over the course of the season. If a problem or concern can't be solved, the problem/concern will then moved on to the next step:

- 1) It is our expectation that a player/coach meeting will occur before a parent/coach meeting regarding playing time, role in the program, player development, or other concerns that a player or parent may have. Players should be encouraged to meet directly with the coaching staff to discuss their concerns.
- 2) Meeting with the coach and activities director, the player may choose to have a parent(s) present.
- 3) Meeting with the coach, activities director, and principal, the player may choose to have a parent(s) present.
- 4) Meeting with the coach, activities director, and principal, the player may choose to have a parent(s) present.
- 5) Meeting with the coach, activities director, principal, and the superintendent, the player may choose to have a parent(s) present.
- 6) If the issue can not be resolved, the issue will be brought to the school board with all the parties listed above in attendance of the meeting.

****Before any of these steps can be taken by student athletes and parents, a 24 hour cooldown period must be followed****

24 Hour Cooldown Period- all participants/parents/guardians are required to follow the 24 hour cooldown period. No discussion between coaches and/or participants/parents/guardians about conflicts will occur after events or practice. Practice fields, contest sites, locker rooms, or other areas within school grounds are not appropriate areas to handle conflict.

If the 24 hour cooldown period is not followed the following procedures will take place:

- 1st time violation: the coach will be responsible for sending out a letter outlining our procedure for handling activity complaints.
- 2nd time violation: Removal from the next contest.
- 3rd time violation: Removal from all remaining contests in the season.

A coach will only be available to be contacted at school, not at home, unless it is an emergency. Time at home is family time for coaches, so please contact a coach at school if possible either via phone or email.

Youth Basketball Tournament

One of our big fundraisers for the year is our youth basketball tournament we host. All players within the program will be expected to help out. It is an “all hands on deck” type of day, but it is a one day event and will cover costs for anything we do as a basketball program for the whole year.

More information will be provided when the tournament comes closer.

Contact information

Any questions related to the basketball program can be directed at the following:

Landon Schultz
Head Boys Basketball Coach
lschultz@lpa.k12.mn.us

Daren Ullrich
JV Boys Basketball Coach

PJ Peterson
Varsity Assistant Coach
ppeterson@lpa.k12.mn.us

Braden Wilmore
C-Team Boys Basketball Coach
bradentwilmore@gmail.com

Connor Waselk
JH Boys Basketball Coach
cwaselk@lpa.k12.mn.us

Joe Conrad
JH Boys Basketball Coach
jconrad@lpa.k12.mn.us

We look forward to getting started this year and appreciate your support for Raiders basketball!

My parent(s)/guardian and I have read through and understand the Lake Park-Audubon Boys Basketball Handbook. My parent(s)/guardian and I agree to abide by all the conditions outlined in the handbook.

Player's Signature: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Contact Numbers: _____

Parent/Guardian Email Address: _____