

Lawrence Township Boys' Basketball League
Travel Team Disclosure
Updated September, 2009

The LTBBL Travel Program has traditionally selected two travel teams from each grade from 3rd through 6th grade. These Travel Teams compete against other Travel Teams in the greater Indianapolis area, usually in Saturday leagues and in selected weekend tournaments and other leagues against the best competition in the area, if not the State.

The LTTBL Travel Program involves a significantly greater commitment by the player and his parents with respect to time, travel, expense, and level of competition. The philosophy of the travel league is a higher, but not exclusive, emphasis on winning and quality of play. The Travel Teams have a longer season than recreational league with more games and more practices. While the recreation league generally starts in mid-November and concludes in early March, the Travel Teams' practices start in mid-October and games generally conclude the end of March or early April. Travel teams will generally practice 3 times per week (in 90 minute segments) and play at least one, if not two, games per weekend. Practices for 3rd and 4th graders are generally 6:00 to 7:30 pm on weeknights while the 5th and 6th graders practice 7:30 to 9:00 pm. The time commitment for Travel Team players and parents is roughly twice that of the recreational league.

Players are expected to attend every practice and every game. It is up to each Travel Team coach whether or not players on his team will be allowed to participate in a second team during Travel season. As a general rule, the Travel Program strongly discourages that, and at a minimum, the Travel Team must receive priority over a second team even if permitted by a Travel coach.

Unlike the recreational league, equal playing time is not guaranteed in the Travel Program. Some players may occasionally not play in all games. If you believe that you or your son would be uncomfortable with not playing in games as much as other team members, then the Travel Program may not be appropriate for your son. Please be aware that the LTBBL recreational league is designed for equal playing time for the players.

The term "travel" is somewhat of a misnomer. Most games are played within 15 miles of Lawrence Township. Nonetheless, parents are responsible for ensuring their son arrives at all practices and games on time irrespective of destination.

There is an extra financial commitment above the \$90.00 LTBBL league registration fee. Although it may vary somewhat among the Travel Teams, it is estimated that an additional \$100 to \$125 per player will be required. This includes the player's uniform (which he keeps) and various tournament entry fees. There is also an admission fee charged to spectators by the host site (generally \$2.00 to \$3.00).

LTBBL Travel Team Tryouts are “open” to any and all registered players who desire to try out for a Travel Team. However, your son must be a resident of Lawrence Township to be eligible to participate in the Travel Program.

For 2009 – 2010 season, Travel Tryouts will be as follows:

- Thursday, Sept. 24: Craig Middle School: 3-4th grade 6-7:30PM and 5-6th grade 7:30-9PM (**Parents’ Meeting mandatory attendance** at beginning of practice)
- Friday, Sept 25: Fall Creek Valley Middle School: 5-6th 6-7:30PM and 3-4th 7:30-9PM
- Sunday, Sept. 27: Fall Creek Valley 3-4th 3-4:30PM and 5-6th 4:30-6PM

PLAYERS MUST ATTEND AT LEAST TWO OF THE THREE SESSIONS

Players are selected by the coaches with the help of an advisory board (made up of LTBBL Board members and former coaches). Players are selected based upon many different criteria including, but not limited to, the following: individual skills, team skills, player’s attitude, parents’ attitude, player’s ability to listen/learn and level of commitment to the team. If your son makes a Travel Team, he will not be allowed to participate in the recreational league. If he does not make the Travel Team, he is encouraged to participate in the recreational league.