

## TEAM PARENT EXPECTATIONS

The primary goals of a Team Parent are to provide timely, important communication to your team and to create a sense of team unity among the families. You are key to effective communication between the coaches, parents, and AHA-B leadership team of officers. Our hope is that you will also be a force that promotes unity on the team and in the program. We are asking you to rise to the occasion and make a stand for Christlike behavior at every turn. Please encourage peace and discourage dissention, pointing disgruntled parents to the Conflict Resolution Policy outlined in the [Basketball Handbook](#). We also want to exhibit Christlike attitudes toward referees and opposing teams. Remind parents and players of the pledges they signed at registration (also found in the Handbook).

### Communication

You will be given access to team rosters and contact information for all AHA-B registered players, parents, and coaches.

1. Put together a contact list in your email account of your players, parents, and coaches so you can easily send out team announcements.
2. Contact parents, players, and coaches to let them know you are the Team Mom/Dad.
3. Send parents a contact list of the team's families so they can get connected to one another. Including home addresses is helpful as some families may want to know who they can carpool with for practices and games.
4. Make sure parents have coaches' contact information.
5. Send a weekly email (preferably Saturday or Sunday) to your team with information about that week's activities. Check website (<http://aggielandhomeschool.com/events>) regularly for the most updated information. Include the following info in your emails:
  - a. Practice times & locations
  - b. Game times & locations
    - i. Coach's requested arrival time
    - ii. Location address
  - c. Color jersey to wear (purple = away game, white = home game)
  - d. Book/Clock/Gate/Water assignments (more info on that below)
  - e. You may want to ask if players need rides to games. They can reply to all letting the need be known or you can coordinate that yourself.
    - i. Remind parents of courtesy offers of gas money to the family that drives when carpooling or giving rides.
    - ii. Remind parents to send spending money for their player when he/she is riding with another family.
  - f. Send whatever your coach wants you to pass on to the families.
  - g. Bring to their attention any program-wide announcements.

It's suggested that you use *Remind* or *GroupMe* to communicate you're your team in addition to email. *Remind* can be used to send one-way announcements to your team. You can use *Remind* on the web or download the app. The app is user-friendly and gives many options for communicating with the group, as well as individuals. Within the app, all team messages will be together for ease of reference. *GroupMe* is an app that is similar to group texts...everyone gets each message and reply sent in the group. Messages can come as texts and/or in the app. A member can choose to mute/snooze their notifications for a time period and then check them all later if they prefer.

### **Game Day Preparation**

Each team is responsible for supplying someone to keep the following:

- book (home games & away games, including tournaments)
- clock/scoreboard (home games and if we're the "away" team in a homeschool tournament)
- gate (collect entrance fees at games in our home gym)
- water (at home games for referees and visiting team)

It is the Team Mom/Dad's duty to coordinate helpers in the above areas. We are a volunteer organization and rely heavily upon families to serve.

1. Encourage at least one family member of each player to learn how to keep the book and/or clock.
  - a. Try to schedule a new person with an experienced book/clock keeper the first few games until everyone has been trained. Having a new person shadow and experienced person is a great way for them to learn.
  - b. Those new to keeping the book/clock may find it easier to practice at a younger team's game first which usually moves at a slower pace.
2. Children are allowed to work the gate, but they should be supervised by an adult at all times. Gate keepers should start collecting fees 30 minutes before their game starts. They can stop collecting fees at halftime or whenever the next gate keeper arrives. No fees are charged after halftime of the last game.

Gate fees: \$4/adult, \$2/student, \$10 family max (a sign stating fees will be in money box)

Free admission to our home games will be given to the following:

- \* AHA-B sponsors of any level get one free admission.
- \* Current AHA Basketball players and immediate family members (ANY game, not just their own)
- \* Current AHA Basketball coaches (ANY game, not just their own)

### **Miscellaneous Responsibilities**

Feel free to delegate some of these responsibilities to other parents on the team. You don't have to do it all by yourself.

1. Plan a family social for the team at the beginning of the season. The purpose is to let coaches & parents meet each other, let families meet other families, and let players bond off-court. Ideas include:
  - a. Meal at a restaurant after practice or game
  - b. Potluck at team member's home
  - c. Picnic at a park
2. Make sure your college-aged coaches are welcomed & included. Encourage parents to offer the college-aged coaches rides to away games.
3. Collect money from families to purchase end-of-season gifts for coaches
4. You may be asked to pass along fundraising information to your team.
5. You may be asked to gather player sizes for uniforms and later distribute those uniforms.
6. You may be asked to distribute fan gear ordered by your team's families.

**OPTIONAL Team Activities**

If you or someone else on the team wants to coordinate of the following *optional* activities, go for it! You do not have to do any of the below if you don't want to or don't have time.

1. Fundraisers – Plan a fundraiser (garage sale, concessions, bake sale, yard work, etc.).
  - a. Private fundraisers can raise funds for your registration fees, player fees, travel expenses, uniforms, and other costs associated with playing AHA Basketball.
  - b. Money made from these fundraisers should be distributed among the individuals who participated however you see fit. That money should not come through the basketball account first.
  - c. If you happen to raise more money at a private fundraiser than you need to cover your own basketball expenses, please consider making a donation to AHA Basketball to help cover the program's operating expenses. Thank you!
2. Team Spirit – Boost team spirit and Panther Pride. Below are some things previous moms have done.
  - d. Provide shoe polish for team to decorate their car windows when traveling to games/tournaments.
  - e. Purchase purple shop towels (found in Walmart's auto department) to loan fans so they can wave them at tournament games.
  - f. Design a Panther Mom/Dad shirt for your team's parents to buy and coordinate a day to all wear them at State and Regionals.
  - g. Buy pom-poms and noise makers (buckets to drum, etc.) for Nationals.
3. Team Bonding – Create opportunities for players to strengthen their friendships.
  - h. Coordinate places the team can meet for meals at tournaments.
  - i. Plan a team Christmas party at the end of a practice or on a separate date.
  - j. Organize a team service project such as serving at The Bridge Ministries' food pantry or Christmas store.
  - k. Coordinate a time for the team to go watch an Aggie basketball game together (tickets are usually discounted when college students are gone during Christmas break).

Thank you for your willingness to serve as a Team Parent!