

# KTA Basketball

We are very pleased that your student has chosen to try out for KTA Boys' Basketball. Throughout the season, our players will learn the importance of cooperation, teamwork, self-discipline, and the setting and achievement of goals. Players will be held to an extremely high expectation on and off the court to help them succeed on and off the court.

## Philosophy

All of the members of our team are students first. Their grades, behavior, and attitude will be monitored before, during, and after the season. Team members are expected to handle themselves in the classroom before we will work on anything basketball related. Our goal on the court is to provide the team members with the opportunity to develop their communication, teamwork, and basketball skills that will prepare them for high school and beyond. As the coach, I believe that a team is only as great as its weakest member. It is the team's responsibility to bring everyone up to a level that can compete. There is no room for selfish play on our team.

## Try-out Schedule

Unfortunately, our team simply cannot accommodate all individuals who wish to play. Due to this fact, some players may be cut. Try-out sessions are mandatory, and missing even one may affect your chances of making the team. Try-out schedule is as follows:

Monday, November 8	2:15-4:00pm
Tuesday, November 9	2:15-4:00pm
Wednesday, November 10	3:00-4:30pm
Friday, November 12	2:15-3:30pm

A list of players who will represent the 2021-2022 KTA Boys' Basketball Team will be posted on my teacher page before I leave campus on Friday, November 12<sup>th</sup>. Practice for those players will begin on Monday, November 15<sup>th</sup>. **There will be a mandatory parent meeting for all players and their parents/guardians after practice on Tuesday, November 19<sup>th</sup> from 4:15-5:15pm.**

## Criteria for making the team

In fairness to both players and parents, I will review the following criteria in the selection of team members:

1. **Attitude** – What is the player’s attitude toward the sport of basketball, school, teammates, coaches, instruction, and new situations? Does the player truly want to be the best teammate he can be? Is he ready to take on the responsibility of representing KTA?
2. **Abilities** – How well can the player handle the ball, rebound, shoot, pass, and jump? Does he have adequate speed, endurance, and agility? Does he possess good defensive skills? Can he adapt and play multiple positions on the court?
3. **Potential** – How much time is the player willing to put in to overcoming weaknesses? Does he actively seek information pertaining to the sport? Does he have the desire to be on the court? Can I count on him to maintain his grades and behavior to remain eligible to play?
4. **Knowledge** – Does the player have a basic understanding of the sport and its rules? Has the player had previous experience playing any competitive team sport? How quickly can he take information and apply it to a game situation?

### **What happens if I make the team?**

Once the team has been selected, practice will take place Monday-Thursday until the season starts. Official practice times will be announced at the beginning of the season. Once games begin, practices will be held on non-game days from 2:15-4:00pm. Games will be on Mondays and Wednesdays, and official schedules will come out once rosters have been finalized. All transportation to away games will be provided by the Kyrene School District. **Parents must provide on-time transportation home from games.** If there are any changes in practice schedules during the season, prior notification will be sent home.

### **Eligibility and Academic Standards**

All team members must maintain their grades and exceptional behavior in every class. Prior to tryouts, all potential team members will have last quarter’s grades checked to meet these eligibility requirements. Grades and behavior will be checked weekly by the coach through the use of an eligibility tracker. The specific guidelines and procedures for eligibility will be given to all team players.

Thank you for your time, understanding, and support. We wish all of our potential players luck. We are looking forward to an exciting season. Go Tigers!

Sincerely,

Coach Shepherd