**BARBERTON WINTER YOUTH LEAGUE 2015/16**

Dear Coach/Director,

I would like to welcome each and every one of you to this year’s winter league. We are looking forward to another great year. We appreciate you being a part of the largest girls’ basketball league in NE Ohio! Each year our goal is to make the league better than the prior year. So, we appreciate your feedback each year on ways to do just that. I thank all of you who did just that over the past few months. With that feedback, we feel this league will be even better than a year ago.

I have included a list of rules and other information about the league with this cover letter to help you, your parents & players be better prepared for the first week of games. Some of the changes that you will see are:

* We have listen to last year’s coaches and decided to continue to have “A” & “B” division for the 3/4th, 5th, and 6th grade Divisions again this year.
* We have a “NO” foul out rule that will help teams that have fewer players. It will also help with any disagreements regarding who the foul was on and how many fouls a certain player may have. With only 9 weeks of games we don’t think it is good for a player to lose playing time at this level. We will go back to normal 5 fouls per player for the tournament the last week to get teams ready for travel tournaments.

Please read all the details in the rules sections of this email.

We are going to start league games Sunday Nov. 15th to give everyone a chance to complete tryouts, have a few practices, get uniforms, and just get better organized prior to playing a game. I have listed all game days below so you can plan ahead. We will once again complete the season with a single elimination tournament the final week. All teams will be included in the tournament.

We feel that with our 8 week schedule and FREE season ending tournament we are, without a doubt, the biggest bang for your dollar! We had 60 teams committed last year and have 58 already registered for this year. The first set of games will start at 1PM with the last games starting at 7pm each Sunday.

We will be holding a mandatory coaches meeting at 6:30 PM on Sunday, November 8th, 2015 in the Barberton High School Cafeteria/Commons. We will discuss all rules. This year we will use Team Pass Sheets vs. individual passes in the past. This will allow quicker entrance for your players and coaches.

Game days are November 15th, 22nd, 29th; December 6th, 13th, 20th ; January 10th, 17th, followed by the single elimination tournament on January 24th. The first game of the day will start at 1PM. Teams will not allowed in the buildings prior to 12:30 PM. The last game of the day will start at 7:00 PM.

Our coaching staff, players, and families are looking forward to welcoming you to the Barberton City Schools. Please feel free to contact us for more information.

Greg Whitmer & Skylar Shifferly

Barberton High School