



ROAD TO SUCCESS: NEUQUA VALLEY SUNDAY LEAGUE

For a second year, Lakeview will provide an additional opportunity for girls basketball players in 6th and 7th grade. On Sundays, Neuqua Valley High School hosts a competitive basketball league featuring over 20 teams from the western suburbs. League games will take place on Sundays beginning in November and ending in early February. We plan to run two teams this year: 6th grade and 7th grade (2009-10 school year grades).

The philosophy of NVHS's Sunday Night League is as follows (via Mike Williams, Head Girls Basketball Coach):
"This league affords young women the opportunity to compete at their highest level. The league is not recreational; it is for the skilled athlete who wants an opportunity to compete against the best athletes in the area. This league is focused on one thing... getting the most out of the abilities of the players without the pressure of winning at all cost. This is why the league will not keep standings; this keeps the emphasis on development of ALL players. Hopefully all the players will understand that doing their best with the talent and skills they have is victory in itself."

We follow a similar philosophy and will use the Sunday League as an extension of what we do at Lakeview. Lakeview's current basketball program only offers 10 games per season for our JV team; this would add another 20 experiences/games to the schedule. As game play is the best way for players to improve, we feel that this opportunity is important to provide an adequate experience to girls in 6th and 7th grade. The only downside: we compete against very good travel teams. Winning is difficult, especially if girls play up a grade. However, our goal is to provide the girls with more game play, as it is the single best way to improve as a player. If we all (girls, parents, and coaches) go into the Sunday League with this mentality – working hard to improve, being dedicated to the team, and enjoying yourself! – our girls will improve tremendously. You may talk with any of the parents/players from previous teams if you would like more information about how this league works, as well as us, of course. Last year this proved to be instrumental in the development of our girls' skills, developing a deeper interest and passion for basketball, and provided a unique team-building atmosphere that we don't get at school. This is a fun, productive experience.

Dedicated practice time is essential to our teams. As our administrators endorse and support this league, we will now practice, twice a week, from 5:00 – 6:30, at Lakeview. During the JV season, we'll adjust the practice schedule so that girls don't have 2 games/practices in one day. We expect girls to attend all practices, as this is a competitive league in which we need to prepare.

This league costs \$750.00 per team, so the final per-player cost can not be determined until the teams are finalized. We ask for a \$25.00 deposit now to reserve your daughter's spot, and we'll let you know of the final cost in October before league play begins and our team is finalized. Neuqua Valle's deadline is in June. If we do not have enough girls, we cannot run a team. If unable, we will return your deposit in late June/early July.

Please contact us with any questions. We look forward to another fun opportunity to coach your girls!

Mr. Little, Ms. Nyhlen, and Mr. K can be reached by e-mail (jlittle@ccsd66.org), (enyhlen@ccsd66.org) or (bkukulski@ccsd66.org)

Please complete this form and return, with \$25.00 payment (made payable to CCSD 66) to Mr. Little (Lakeview 104) by June 23

Student/Player Name: _____ **2009-10 School Grade:** _____

Parent Name(s): _____ **Home Phone Number:** _____

Emergency Contact and Phone Number: _____

Do you have a current athletic physical on file in the Lakeview office? YES NO
Will you have a ride to/from Neuqua Valley High School (Rte 59 and 95th St in Naperville) on Sundays? YES NO
Have you included your \$25.00 deposit, made payable to Center Cass Dist. 66? YES NO

Participation in the NVHS "Road to Success" League is voluntary and experiential; play does not guarantee a position on the Lakeview JHS basketball teams. Additional info and contact people can be found at this website: <http://nvroadtosuccess.com/sundayleague/>