



YES! Newsletter Spring Season 03/18/18

Coaches Corner:

Coach Steve Carey



Coach Carey is looking forward to the 2018 Spring season. He continues to work with two different age groups and is in the process of rebuilding his 6th grade team. Carey is excited about the return of JT and Logan, and the addition of two new talented guards, Tyler and Connor, both from Auburn. Carey feels that JT will be a force down low this season. He commends Nafees for working hard in the off season and believes he looks strong going into the season. Also joining the team are Ahmed and Rahim, both of whom played for the YES! Summer League.

Carey is very excited about his 8th Grade team. Carey has eight returning players after going 9-2 in the fall league. He commends Tyler H. for setting scoring records for his Westbrook school team. He recognizes that he has a special mix of talented ball handlers, quick wing players and big men and feels his team will sneak up and surprise some of the other AAU teams this season.

Let The Games Begin! Let's Go!

Despite the Nor'easter's, YES! 2018 Spring season is off to a great start!

Practices have begun and the game season is underway. YES! is looking forward

to a fun and challenging Spring season. This past weekend our teams played at various locations and tournaments.

Zero Gravity New Hampshire Hoops Fest, March 17-18th: **Champions!!!!**



Coach Phillips' 9th Grade Elite Boys team competed in the **Zero Gravity New Hampshire Hoops Fest**. This tournament is Zero Gravity's Spring 2018 marquee tip off event with over 200 teams in attendance that can range from Massachusetts to Canada.



Coach Phillips' team went into double overtime. Loki A. made a big shot that put the game into overtime and Phillips' team came out victorious with a 57- 53 win. Jared J. was chosen as the **YES!** Player of the Game! Jared showed his dominance on the glass and court vision as a big man that proved invaluable.

CONGRATULATIONS Coach Phillips' and to the 9th Grade Elite Boys' Team!!! **YES!**

Westbrook Paper City Classic Tournament, March 16-17th:



Coach Conant's 5th Grade Girls competed in the **Westbrook Paper City Classic**. This was the first tournament for Conant's young 5th Grade team. As he expected, there were some highs and lows, but overall, he felt that the team ended the weekend trending in the right direction. Conant was impressed with the determination and character the girls showed over the weekend.

He gave additional congratulations to Audrey B. for representing **YES!** in the free throw competition making 14 out of 20 attempts and for being awarded the MVP for Team **YES!**

Coach Carey's 8th Grade Boys' team played their first games this weekend and beat a team from Barnstable, Massachusetts with a 67-26 lead with 24 points by Jacob S. who dominated down low. Carey also brought his team to a 62-35 win in his second game against a strong Tommy Gun team fro Rumford. Carey felt it was a balanced attack with five of his players scoring 8 or more points.

Congratulations Coach Carey and 8th Grade Boys' Team!! **YES!!**

GAMES: Remember that game schedules will be updated on TEAMSnap typically on Wednesdays or early Thursdays for the upcoming weekend schedule. There are often last minute changes beyond our control. It is important to check your TEAMSnap prior to each game to ensure the time/location of the game has not changed.

Have questions? Here is list of frequently asked questions by [YES!](#) parents and players.

1. How do I know when and where a game will be held?

Everyone should download the app, TeamSnap. On TeamSnap, you will have access to the team's practices and game schedules and location of the events.

2. When will the game schedule be posted?

Game schedules are typically posted each Wednesday night or Thursday morning for the upcoming weekend. Games times can change so it is important for everyone to check their TeamSnap prior to each game. Everyone should also receive an email alerting the player that a game or practice has been scheduled. If you do not receive an email, simply go into TeamSnap, as all of the information is noted within this app. Please remember that game schedules are posted as quickly as possible. While we at [YES!](#) wish we could post game schedules sooner, the scheduling is out of our control.

3. Do I really need to let the Coach know I will be attending a practice/game?

Yes!! Coaches need to know if a player is and is not attending a practice or a game. This is especially true for games. If players are not able to make a game, it is imperative that they inform the Coach well before game day. If we do not have a full team for a game, we can always have players from other teams fill in. So please, make sure you use TeamSnap to note your player's availability.

4. Will attending Skills and Drills at the Academy really help my child's game?

Basketball players need to engage in countless repetitions of various skills and drills to engrain those skills into their muscle memory. For example, players cannot think through the motions needed to dribble through their legs or make a jump shot during a game situation. These skills are learned and perfected on the practice court. It takes countless repetitions before a player's movements on the court become natural and effortless. It takes dedication and practice, practice, practice to become an exceptional player.

5. When are the Skills & Drills sessions offered?

*Skills & Drills sessions run all year long! We have sessions on Sundays, Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays. Each player is entitled to attend one weekly skills and drills session as part of their participation in the **YES! Program**. Players should remember to bring their own basketball to Skills and Drills. <http://www.yestoyouth.org/yes-basketball-skills-academy/>*

6. Do Coaches offer one-on-one training for my player?

***YES!** offers one-on-one training for any player who feels he or she wants to work on their training on an individual level. One-on-One training offers individual attention to a player and provides that player with personalized workouts to help that player with their weaknesses while focusing on developing and improving their strengths. **YES!** also offers small group training.*

7. I heard that games are aired on the television. Is that accurate?

YES! Will start airing some of the games in April. The games will be aired on WPME at 8am on Saturday mornings.

8. Can I continue to play basketball after the Spring season?

Players who wish to continue to perfect their game skills can continue to play after the Spring season by enrolling in the Summer program. During the Summer program, players continue to have access to a weekly skills session, participate in practices and engage in weekly games.

9. I'd like to support an underprivileged player, how do I do that?

YES! believes that any child who desires to play basketball should have the opportunity to be play. Anyone wishing to help support a player should contact YES! @yes@maine.rr.com. Your donation could be used as a tax write off.

10. Does YES! Offer training in our local school system for travel teams?

YES! provides in-school training for school's travel teams to elevate those teams to a higher level. If interested please contact YES! @yes@maine.rr.com.

Remember to provide YES! with photos for us to consider on our sites and/or newsletter via your TeamSnap account. Just log in to your account and click on the media tab.

Fun Fact: The first official basketball game was played in 1892 with nine players. Six years later, in 1898, this changed to five players.

YES! recognizes the level of passion and commitment each player must make to become a great basketball player. Players who truly want to excel have passion every time they step into the gym, the willingness to learn and the mentality that they can do better. **YES!** will be Spotighting various players throughout the 2018 Spring season who show commitment, passion and dedication.

YES! Basketball Spotlight Player:



Olivia O.

Olivia is a 12 year old player on Coach Patrick Reagan's 7th Grade Girls team. She has been playing for **YES!** for the past two years. While Olivia feels her ball-handling skills have improved these past couple of years, her primary goal for this season is to continue to work hard on this skill set.

Olivia has a true love for the sport and enjoys meeting new people and making new friends with other players on her team.

Olivia's team played their first games this past weekend. **YES!** Wishes Olivia the best of luck this season as she continues to work hard to improve her skills!

Best of luck for a successful season Olivia!! **YES!**

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