

Dear Parents/Guardians,

We would like to thank all of you for helping us achieve record enrollment this season in our 2016 youth basketball league. We pride ourselves on helping children learn and grow in a safe and fun environment. Children have continued to enhance their skills in our sports programs and become better athletes through our programming at the Y. It has been very rewarding to see many of our athletes participate and grow year after year.

This basketball season, we have faced several challenges that we wanted to inform you we will be addressing as we move forward. Registration has reached a record high for our basketball season, however, many of those registrations took place just prior to our season starting. It is important that you register as early as possible, to assure we are prepared and equipped for whatever is necessary. This season, we created two new teams and extended our season, due to the overwhelming number of late registrations. We realize not all of our teams are as balanced as we would like. Therefore, we will be adjusting the end of our season, to make our games and playoffs more fair and competitive.

Next season, we will be assuring equality across all of our teams by holding an unbiased skills evaluation draft at the start of our season. This skills assessment will be determined by volunteers not associated with our basketball league, to make the teams as fair as possible. We will no longer be accepting requests for coaches or from coaches. We will also look to be sure all of our athletes are being given equal playing time and issuing a formal rule book to all of our coaches on the new requirements. The Meriden Y is looking to relocate our Gymnastics program to its own facility. That will allow for more open-gym time, giving each coach time to set up practices with their players during the week at the Y.

We apologize for any inconvenience or issues you or your child may have faced this season. This plan is being implemented to be sure we are moving ahead with a fun, fair and competitive basketball league. Please see the attached updated schedule or check it out on our website at meridenymca.org. For further questions, concerns or information, feel free to contact me at <u>kscarpati@meridenymca.org</u>.

Thank you and we look forward to seeing you soon!

Sincerely,

Kevin Scarpati Athletic Director Meriden YMCA