



Welcome and thank you for attending the Higher Goals Evaluation session “tryouts”. We are one of the only basketball programs in the country that services boys and girls of all ages and all skill levels from beginner to professional. We promote basketball for everyone!

We understand there are many options and much to consider when selecting a basketball program/team that fits your child’s desires and needs. This document lays out the various competitive levels that our team program services (The Beginner (Club) Player, The Intermediate (Select) Player, and the Advanced (Elite) Player). We’ve also answered a few frequently asked questions about our program and youth basketball in general.

### **THE CLUB PLAYER:**

A player that has zero to a low level of experience playing organized basketball (in a league). Although a beginner/club player may show a high level of interest in basketball via playing recreationally with friends outside or at a gym, this player must grasp a deeper understanding of the rules of the game, the hierarchy of team basketball, and the environmental differences of organized basketball.

The only requirement for a beginner level player is the desire to come to practice. HG beginner level practices involve a trained coach that oversees and encourages players to learn the basic essentials to play organized basketball. A typical practice will incorporate ball handling drills - independently and partnered with another player, shooting drills, endurance drills and learning universal basketball plays for game play.

**Commitment Level:** attend practice twice a week

**Game Play:** HG Administration generally assigns beginners to our recreational league (games once per week on weekends). However, some beginners may be encouraged to sit out of league play until a higher level of understanding or physical ability is reached via training and practices with the team. There is a playing time minimum for all players whom regularly attend practice and give their best effort.

### **THE SELECT PLAYER:**

A player that has moderate to a high level of experience playing organized basketball in leagues and/or tournaments. Although intermediate/select players may have years of experience playing organized basketball, often there is a physical or mental weakness that has not been addressed. For example, an intermediate/select player may have unbelievable athletic skills or physical attributes, but lacks overall basketball skills and/or IQ.



The intermediate/select player generally has a true desire to improve and is motivated to work on their skills outside of team practices. Intermediate/select players are also motivated by the desire to play on their Middle or High School teams, and as middle school approaches, most intermediate/select players began to identify basketball as their primary sport.

HG intermediate/select level practices involve a trained coach that demands a higher level of intensity and utilizes more intricate and faster paced drills.

**Commitment Level:** practice twice a week as well as put individual time outside of HG team practices.

**Game Play:** high level recreation leagues and/or weekend tournaments - Coaches place a higher emphasis on earning playing time.

### **THE ELITE PLAYER:**

A player that has moderate to a high level of experience playing organized basketball in leagues and/or tournaments. Advanced/elite players have well-defined skills in one or multiple areas of the game while also possessing the physical and/or mental strengths that are essential to success.

The advanced/elite player is self-motivated to play and/or train (independently or with a trainer) 4-7 days per week and at times may train or practice twice in one day without hesitation. Advanced/elite players are generally on the top team at their Middle or High School and have identified basketball as their primary sport.

An advanced/elite player has an unconditional love for and commitment to the team, organization, and the game of basketball, but also understands the systematic concept of constantly earning his/her spot on the team and a spot on the court.

HG advanced/elite level practices involve a trained coach that demands the highest level of focus and intensity.

**Commitment Level:** year-round team practices 1-2 per week, skills practice 1-2 per week

**Game Play:** select leagues and/or 1-2 tournaments per month, with possible summer travel

### **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:**

#### **What if my child doesn't make the team?**

No worries, your child made the team. This session is only to evaluate your child's competitive level based on our criteria listed above. All players that tryout have an open spot on a team in our program. We also have a variety of skills training options to help expedite your child's development.

**My child had a bad performance at tryouts; can he/she have another shot to prove his/her competitive level?**





Our coaches have followed youth competition on all levels for years, and can spot a player's competitive level rather quickly. However, you can trust that we do not evaluate based on 1 or 2 sessions. In our program, players are constantly under evaluation via practices and games. Thus, any player can be moved up or down in level of competition at any time (generally season to season).

**How do we follow up after tryouts?**

After tryouts, you will receive an email in regards to team placement projections, and information on next steps, including your child's mandatory parent meeting.

**My child dominated the rec leagues he/she played in, why wasn't he/she selected for your top team?**

One of the challenges parents and youth players face is transitioning from recreation to select level basketball. Players must be given time to adjust to the increased level of speed, quickness, decision making, and skills among players on the select/club level. Rest assured that if we feel we've made a bad decision on placement for your child, it will be fixed expeditiously.

**My child made your Elite Team! We'd love to play, but our family is very busy, I'm not sure we can fully commit to the practice & game schedule?**

No problem, many families are in the same boat. Talk to your coach and our administration about it. We may be able to work something out. If not, rest assured, we have other options that will allow your child to play competitively under a less taxing schedule.

**I have a few questions that were not addressed on this sheet, who do I talk to?**

Email: [info@highergoalsnow.com](mailto:info@highergoalsnow.com) or call: 817-357-1873 and leave us a message. Be sure to state your name, your child's name and grade, the city you reside, and your question/concern. One of our staff members will contact you promptly.

