**Basketball Program Contacts**

J.D. Ricapito - Head Coach Jricapito@tulpehocken.org

Bryan Mellen - Assistant Coach / JV Coach Bryan.Mellen@binkleyhurst.com

Al Kauffman – Assistant Coach Kauffman@lawyer.com

**Philosophy**

Academics come first. Players must make sure they’re eligible to play in practices and games.

Tulpy players will be taught life skills, not just basketball skills. Players will learn to be respectful to others and grow as young men.

Effort is expected 100% of the time. When stepping on the court for a game or practice players should be giving out their utmost effort.

**Team Rules**

Only players and coaches are allowed in the gym during practice – no friends/parents/siblings hanging out.

Players must notify the coaches **ahead of time** if they’re going to miss or be late to practice; we don’t want to have to wonder where you are. Excused absences are the result of family emergencies, board-approved school functions and illness for which the player misses school. If the player misses school for anything other than a school-related function, he may not participate in basketball that night.

Any unexcused absences or late from practices or games will result in disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal from the team in cases of multiple absences. Attendance will be kept daily to keep track of unexcused absences.

All in-season student athletes must be in school no later than 10:00 AM. Student’s athletes should expect to be denied the privilege to compete or practice on days they arrive after 10:00 AM.

Student athletes are not eligible for participation when serving In-School Suspension or Out-of-School Suspension.

If a player visits a doctor for any reason, he needs a doctor’s note in order to be allowed to practice or play in a game. If a player misses practice for an appointment, a doctor’s note is required or the absence will be unexcused. If a player is injured, the doctor (possibly a trainer) will have the final say in when the player can resume playing.

Any drug, alcohol or tobacco-related offense will result in disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal from the team.

Players must be ready for practice on time. Please refer to the schedule to find out practice times and locations.

Uniform - Sneakers must be securely tied. Players may not wear jewelry, headbands, wristbands, etc. that are not team approved. Players must wear the practice jersey for practices and the game jersey with team shooting shirt over top for all games.

During games, players must sit in the designated area to support their teammates and remain there for the entire game. Players may not leave the bench without permission from a coach. Coaches will allow players to leave once BOTH games are finished and the team has met following the game. Any exceptions from this are at the coaches’ discretion.

We encourage players to take the bus back to school for away games. If players will not be taking the bus, they and their parents must fill out the appropriate form and give it to the coach **prior** to departing from the away game. Students may not ride home with anyone other than a parent unless the coach has approval from the athletic director.

**Parents’ Responsibilities**

Please pick your son up on time. See the activity bus schedule. If you are running late, please let a coach know.

Be positive when discussing any part of the program with your son. Encourage your son to come to practice, work hard and have a good attitude.

Please address any questions or concerns with the coach after practice or via e-mail. Please do not address these concerns before, after, or during a game or disrupt practice.

Other Related Information Schedules will be distributed and are available on TeamApp. These are subject to change with very little notice at times. See the website/TeamApp for up-to-date information. Please use all of the links on the website and app for additional info.

The athletic director will notify the coaches if a player is ineligible because of academics. Such players will attend homework help and will be required to practice, but will not participate in games. They will NOT travel with the team to away games.

Players are responsible for bringing all components of their uniform and any necessary medication to games. White game jerseys will be worn at home games, and black will be worn for away games, with shooting shirts over top for all games.

Playing time is earned, not guaranteed.

If any questions arise, please feel free to contact Coach Ricapito.

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By signing below I acknowledge that I have received a copy of team rules and have viewed the parent/student athletic handbook on the Tulpehocken Athletics webpage.

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