



INDY HOOPS INC.

193 Innisbrooke Avenue
Greenwood, IN 46142
www.indyhoops.net

Larry Hendren

Debbie Hendren

November 12, 2019

**FOR ELECTRONIC DISTRIBUTION TO:
ALL INDY HOOPS PARENTS/SPECTATORS**

RE: Behavior and Sportsmanship at Indy Hoops Events

Dear Parents/Spectators:

This letter has been directed to be distributed to all Indy Hoops parents/spectators. We requested that your coach/community contact distribute this letter to you, because the first two weeks of this Indy Hoops season have brought about a number of incidents wherein parents/spectators were complaining about admissions fees. Some of these incidents involved the volunteers at the admissions tables being berated, yelled at, embarrassed, cursed at, and even having money thrown in their faces. People have also attempted to use the justification of, “I didn’t have to pay last weekend,” as a reason for them not needing to pay this weekend. This unacceptable behavior has led to the necessity of writing this letter.

The guidelines for entry into a game are posted on every schedule and also on the schedule page of our website. All host sites are instructed to charge the same admission fee at Indy Hoops regular season games. We do this so that there are no surprises about admissions costs each Sunday. League-wide admissions fees are discussed and set at the annual Coaches’ Meeting. If you believe a change should be made to the admissions policy, please discuss this with your community contact and/or coach, so that they may determine whether to bring it up at next year’s Coaches’ Meeting.

We would like to take this opportunity clarify our admissions policy for those that are unfamiliar. The basketball gymnasiums that you visit each Sunday are coordinated by someone at that school district volunteering their facilities in order to host your player’s games. Host site coordination usually involves the school’s athletic director, varsity basketball staff, and community contacts connected with these individuals. These individuals volunteer their facilities and receive the opportunity to fundraise for their school’s programs, such as their sports boosters, sports teams, band, community food pantries, and other noble causes. When volunteering to host games for Indy Hoops, the host sites understand that they are responsible for finding volunteers to staff their admissions tables and concession stands. **Host sites are responsible for paying for the referees for each game hosted as well as any custodial fees associated with the school hosting an event—expenses that are usually paid for by the**

funds received from the admissions tables. Without admissions fees, these host sites would be unable to pay for their expenses. However, after paying for their expenses, the schools are able to use their net profit from the event for whatever cause they choose. **Indy Hoops does not receive any money from the admissions fees or concession stand.** The people you are encountering at these host sites are usually parents volunteering so that their child's team/club may benefit from the fundraiser. In the alternative, the volunteers may be teachers or other members of the community volunteering to raise money for a cause in which they are passionate about. So before hassling the human being sitting at the admissions table, remember that they are likely a volunteer that is a parent, just like you, trying to support their kid. Be respectful, set a good example for the hundreds of children playing games each weekend, and rest comfortably in knowing that your admissions fees are going back to the community that was kind enough to host you and your child's team that weekend. If you managed to go to a host site and did not pay an admissions fee, know that you have cheated that school out of money for their fundraiser. Therefore, it should not be a point of pride that you failed to pay and/or a justification for you not to pay the admissions fee the next weekend. Pay your admissions fees. Parents/spectators that harass or otherwise hassle the admissions table volunteers, or anyone else at an Indy Hoops event, may be asked to leave the host site and/or be banned from future Indy Hoops events.

Additionally, we received a letter, along with posters and pamphlets, from the Indiana High School Athletic Association (IHSAA) regarding sportsmanship. The IHSAA believes that sportsmanship has become an increasingly serious issue in recent years, particularly when it comes to parent/spectator behavior toward referees and coaches. As a result, the IHSAA has noticed a shortage of referees. While Indy Hoops already has its own policies regarding sportsmanship and consequences for unsportsmanlike behavior, I encourage you to read the enclosures and ask yourself whether you are consistently following the six simple rules enumerated in the pamphlet.

We are looking forward to the players having a positive and fun-filled weekend of basketball.

Sincerely,

Indy Hoops, Inc.

Larry & Debbie Hendren

cc: AMH/LND

Enclosures: IHSAA Letter
IHSAA Pamphlet
IHSAA Poster