BROOKLYN CUP | WINTER 2025

Dear BBA Families,

Welcome to the 2025 Winter Season at Brooklyn Basketball Academy! We're thrilled to kick-off another exciting season with both returning and new students. The level of play grew tremendously this fall, and we're excited to keep the momentum going!

Progress

The progress we've observed across each team has been outstanding. Players are moving the ball faster, reading defenses better and showcasing improved speed on the court. Nearly every player is now capable of attacking a basket, making mid-range jumpers or even three-pointers. Both individual and team defense has become stronger, with players showing increased awareness on the court and better handling of pressure situations. Spacing has also improved significantly, allowing for more effective drive-and-kick plays. Footwork has noticeably improved compared to previous seasons, and ball handling across the teams has reached new levels. Almost every player can now confidently dribble and take on a defender.

We will provide player evaluation documents based on each player's fall season performance before the holiday break. Thank you once again for your support. We can't wait to make the winter season even better!

You asked, we listened:

With each season we strive to improve the league for all involved, and this winter is no different. A lot of time was spent reviewing feedback from the mid season surveys and we are excited to introduce a number of enhancements to the program, including:

- An app to more efficiently manage scheduling and team communications
- Longer game times, allowing for more playing time for each player
- Twice a week team practices to further build skills and team cohesiveness
- Community building events to create connections across the BBA family
- Rebranded team names (now Brooklyn neighborhoods based on gym locations) to better reflect the Borough we represent and to generate more excitement around our teams and build community connection

Winter Season Duration:

- Monday, January 6th Sunday, March 30th
- Since our program is a mix of public and private school students, with different vacation weeks, practices will take place every week of the season. To schedule make-up classes due to school vacation, please contact Nelly at nelly@bkbasketballacademy.com.

Practice Setup:

• Team practices will now be offered twice a week.

- One practice in Gowanus the same day/time as the fall season, and a 2nd practice at our Industry City location's downstairs facility.
- Each team will have two dedicated coaches, one of which will be at every practice and Brooklyn Cup game.
- While attending the 2nd practice is not required to remain in the league, we strongly
 encourage players to participate in both. This is the best way for us to deliver the greater
 skill improvement and strong ties with teammates and coaches that parents have
 requested.

Game Setup:

- We will increase the minutes of game play across all divisions.
- Games will take place every weekend of the season with the exception of Martin Luther King (January 18th/19th) and President's Day (February 15th/16th) weekends.
- We aim to ensure that every student receives a similar amount of playing time throughout the regular season. Various lineups will be used to provide everyone with starting experience.
- In the playoffs, starting lineup decisions will be based on player performance. Expect variations in playing time during playoff games. While all players will have significant minutes, those who perform better will spend slightly more time on the court.

Practice and Game Schedule:

- Each team's practice schedule can be viewed when you register for the season through LeagueApps and the full Brooklyn Cup practice schedule can be found below.
- All game times will be loaded into LeagueApps by December 16th
- Game time frames for each division to assist with your planning are as follows:

SATURDAY

- COED 4/5 Grade Division 9AM to 3PM
- BOYS 8/9 Grade Division 3PM to 6PM

SUNDAY

- COED 2/3 Grade Division 9AM to 2PM
- GIRLS 5/6/7 Grade Division 2PM to 4PM
- BOYS 6/7 Grade Division 4PM to 8PM

Uniforms:

- All players will receive new game uniforms branded with their new team names.
- Players who played in the fall will use their same practice uniforms for the winter. If your child doesn't have one or has outgrown theirs, please contact us.
- All new players will be supplied practice uniforms.

LeagueApps:

- LeagueApps will now be used to manage communications, scheduling and attendance with parents instead of WhatsApp.
- After downloading the app from the App Store, log in using the same login and password used for registration for the winter season. Once logged in you will be able to:
 - See your team roster and coaches
 - Access the team's full practice and game schedules with the ability to sync with your personal calendar
 - Message your team, coaches or individual players
 - o Receive updates through email and the app when scheduling changes are made
 - Confirm attendance for upcoming games
 - View season standings
- A video of parent functionality can be found here. If anyone has trouble downloading or using the app please don't hesitate to reach out for help (Info@bkbasketballacademy.com).

Most importantly, THANK YOU for being a huge part of what we've accomplished this past year. We are truly grateful for your continued support and dedication. More exciting developments are on the horizon and we can't wait to share what's next with all of you. Wishing you all a holiday season filled with warmth, togetherness, and countless reasons to be thankful.

BBA Family!

