

**WAUNAKEE COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF EDUCATION CO-CURRICULAR COMMITTEE MEETING**

Tuesday, April 16, 2024  
7:30 AM

Waunakee Community School District  
905 Bethel Circle  
Waunakee, WI 53597

Members of the public may attend Board of Education meetings in-person, and will be asked to check in with District personnel when you arrive.

Public comments will be limited to 3 minutes. The Board will allow 30 Minutes for public comments.

Public comments may be sent to Rebecca McDonough at [district\\_administrator@waunakee.k12.wi.us](mailto:district_administrator@waunakee.k12.wi.us) up to one hour before the start of the Board meeting. All comments will be reviewed by the Board members. Emailed comments will be reviewed by the board but not read out loud. Emailed comments sent during any part of the board meeting (Board Development, Closed session, Open session) will be forwarded to the board but may or may not be reviewed by the board until after the board adjourns. Comments must include the commentator's name, address, and must identify their connection to the District (if any) and any group they are representing in order to be considered by the Board.

If you would like to address the Board in-person during the public comments section of the meeting, you will be greeted in the lobby of the building, asked to check in with District personnel when you arrive so that you can be recognized and address the Board when your name is called.

A recording of the meeting will be posted on the District webpage within 24 hours of the meeting time.

**AGENDA**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

**II. ROLL CALL**

**III. APPROVE THE AGENDA**

**IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**V. YOUNG CONSERVATIVES CLUB AFFILIATION**

The Young Conservatives Club at the high school has approached the administration about wanting to affiliate their club with High School Turning Point -- a national organization with a high school component. Their reason for wanting to affiliate with this organization is to add organizational structure to their club. Since an affiliation with a national organization changes the original proposal for the club when it was approved by the Board, we are bringing this request back through the Board process, starting with the Co-Curricular Committee.

Christina Raemisch, advisor, and members of the club will be present at Tuesday's Co-Curricular Meeting to present their request.

**VI. CO-CURRICULAR REPORT** **3**

Attached please find the Winter Co-Curricular Report. Athletic Director, Nick Conrad, will be present at the Co-Curricular Committee to share this report and answer any questions.

**VII. MS WRESTLING UPDATE** **13**

At the June School Board Meeting, there were public comments from a parent requesting that the middle school wrestling program expand to allow for 6th grade students from the Intermediate School to participate.

The administration will provide an update on this issue to the Committee.

**VIII. CONSIDERATION OF BOYS VOLLEYBALL** **14**

Attached please find documentation related to a request to start a Boy's Volleyball Team. Nick Conrad, Athletic Director, has been working on this request with parents and students, and he will present the proposal to the Committee for review, questions, and consideration.

**IX. REVIEW AND CONSIDER E-SPORTS AT HIGH SCHOOL**

This agenda item for e-sports at the high school is being included so that we can discuss with the Committee the history of where e-sports is situated within the approval process.

The administration will represent this item at the Committee Meeting.

**X. CO-CURRICULAR CODE FOLLOW-UP DISCUSSION AND FEEDBACK**

At the previous Co-Curricular Committee Meeting, there was a request for administration to bring back information related to individual sports/coaches having more strict team rules than outlined in the Co-Curricular Code/Guidelines. Nick Conrad will share information on this topic, answer any questions, and solicit feedback from the Committee.

**XI. FUTURE MEETINGS**

**XII. ADJOURN**

“Any person who has a qualifying disability as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act who requires assistance with access or materials should contact the Waunakee Community School District Office at 849-2000, 905 Bethel Circle Drive Waunakee, WI 53597, at least twenty-four hours prior to the commencement of the meeting so that necessary arrangements can be made to accommodate the request.”



# WAUNAKEE

## COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL

301 Community Drive  
Waunakee, Wisconsin 53597  
(608) 849-2100

Athletics Office

## Winter Participation Report

- 307 high school students participated in Category A activities.
- 134 middle school students participated in Category A activities.
- 10 high school head coaches.
- 26 high school assistant coaches (5 volunteer coaches).
- 8 middle school head coaches.
- 7 middle school assistant coaches.

High School Participation Numbers			
Activity	2023-24	2022-23	2021-22
Girls Basketball	35	30	38
Boys Basketball	68	62	69
Boys Swim	19	19	21
Boys Hockey	41	41	43
Gymnastics	16	16	19
Girls Hockey	17	14	13
Wrestling	33	38	34
Ski & Snowboard	50	39	29
Dance	22	18	14
Cheer	6	6	N/A

<b>Middle School Participation Numbers</b>			
<b>Activity</b>	<b>2023-24</b>	<b>2022-23</b>	<b>2021-22</b>
Wrestling	17	24	37
Girls Basketball	30	46	21
Boys Basketball	87	98	64

<b>High School Winter Sport GPA</b>	
<b>Activity</b>	<b>GPA</b>
Girls Basketball	3.70
Boys Basketball	3.32
Boys Swim	3.86
Boys Hockey	3.26
Gymnastics	3.50
Girls Hockey	3.55
Wrestling	3.20
Ski & Snowboard	3.44
Dance	3.67
Cheer	3.24

# Winter Academic/Athletic All-State Honors

Activity	Academic	Athletic
Girls Basketball	WBCA D1 Second Team Academic All-State  Individual Academic All-State <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Emily Acker</li> <li>- Tessa Bryan</li> <li>- Amanda Comins</li> <li>- Ellen Dotzler</li> <li>- Abbey Eberle</li> <li>- Amira Endres</li> <li>- Lexi Fuhremann</li> <li>- Katie Gnorski</li> <li>- Sam Longua</li> <li>- Claire Meudt</li> <li>- Audrey Meudt</li> <li>- Avery Miller</li> <li>- Ayla Olsen</li> </ul>	All-Conference <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 1st Team                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Clare Meudt</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Honorable Mention                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Tessa Bryan</li> <li>- Audrey Meudt</li> <li>- Lexi Fuhremann</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Boys Basketball	Individual Academic All-State <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- John Ellickson</li> <li>- Drew Hanzel</li> <li>- Mason Lavold</li> <li>- Kaden MacKenzie</li> <li>- Ethan Niermeyer</li> <li>- Ethan Valk</li> </ul>	All-Conference <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 1st Team                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Keaton Frisch</li> <li>- Kaden MacKenzie</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Honorable Mention                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Eli Selk</li> <li>- Jake Bova</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Boys Swim		All-State <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Brady Michaels</li> </ul>
Wrestling		All-Conference <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 1st Team                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Mason Spear</li> <li>- Gabe Metzler</li> <li>- Jackson Lenzendorf</li> </ul> </li> <li>- 2nd Team                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Brett Farrell</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Payton Schutz</li> <li>- Quinn Pfeiffer</li> <li>- Ellie Lenzendorf</li> </ul>
Boys Hockey		<p>All-Conference</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 1st Team <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Calvin Behnke</li> <li>- David Emerich</li> </ul> </li> <li>- 2nd Team <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ethan Evans</li> <li>- Tate Schmidt</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Honorable Mention <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Michael Gruetzmacher</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Girls Hockey		WIAA Winter Sportsmanship Award
Gymnastics		<p>All-Conference</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- First Team <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Anika Lee (4/5 events)</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Second Team <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Anika Lee (1/5 events)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

# Winter Sporting Events

- 281 Winter workers scheduled and coordinated for 194 home events.
- 270 bus trips coordinated for middle and high school activities.
- 142 WIAA officials assigned.

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## Winter Gate Receipts

Sport	Tickets Sold (Regular & WIAA <sup>12</sup> )	Gross Ticket Revenue
Basketball	6,009	\$34,674
Wrestling	1,694	\$10,138
Hockey	2,232	\$11,417
Gymnastics	181	\$705
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>10,116</b>	<b>\$56,934</b>

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<sup>1</sup> WIAA Playoff Ticket revenue is shared with the WIAA. The percent varies with sport.

<sup>2</sup> 2,112 season passes sold in 2023-24 so far.



# WAUNAKEE

## COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL

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# Winter Athletic Participation Summary

2023-24

# Celebrate Our Student Athletes

**307 of 1352 (22.7%)**

WCHS students participated  
in winter athletics.

**322 of 696 (46.2%)**

WCMS students participated  
in winter athletics.

**20+** student athletes  
recognized as All-State  
Scholar Athletes.

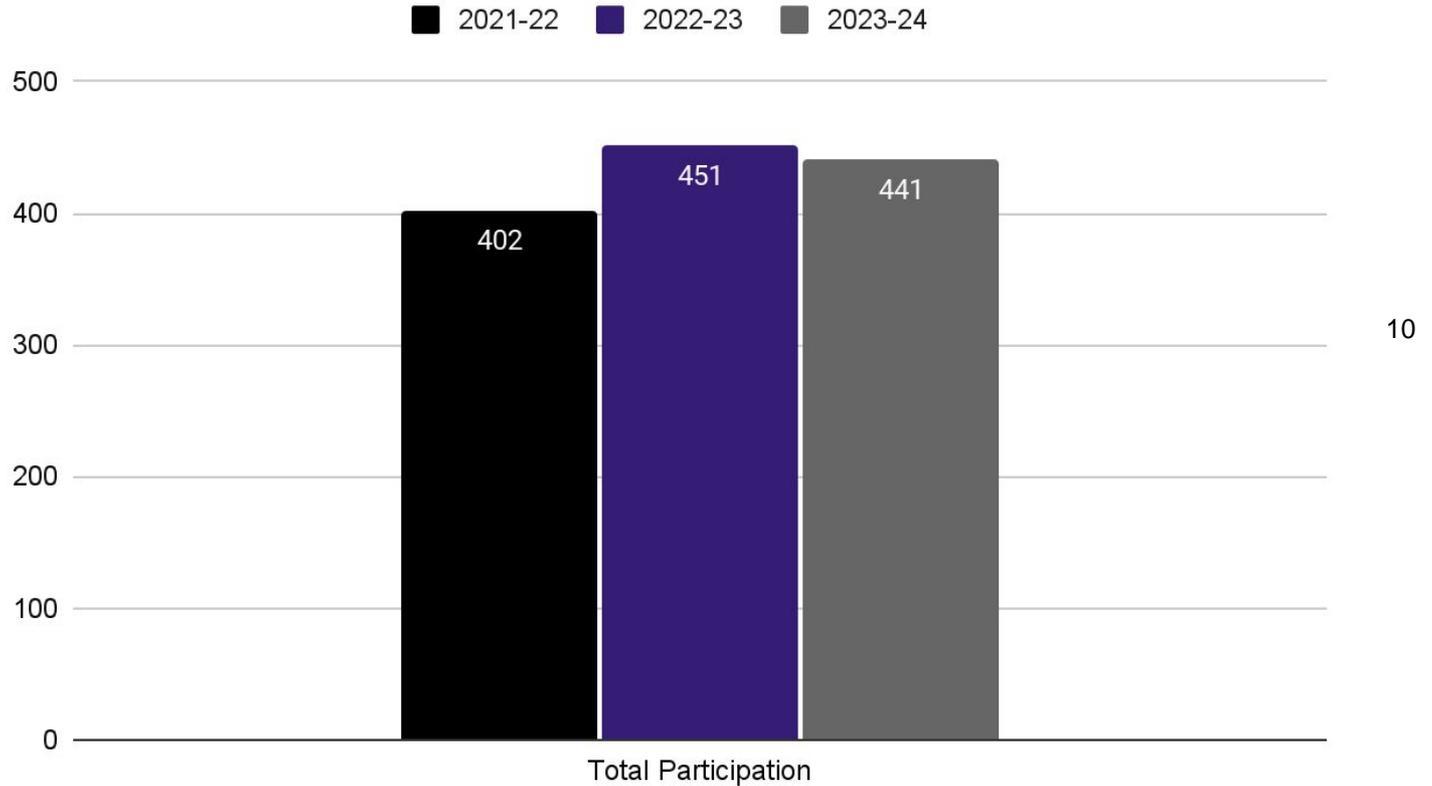
**Top Academic  
Athletic Programs**  
(Based on Grade Point Average)

**Winter** - Boys Swim 3.86





# Student Body Participation Comparison





## Highlights

- Girls Basketball
  - WBCA Academic All-State Team
- Boys Basketball
  - Badger Conference Champions
- Wrestling
  - Badger Conference Champions and Regional Champions
  - Three Individual State wrestlers
- Boys Swim
  - State Qualifier in 200-yard medley relay, 200-yard IM, 100-yard backstroke.
  - Badger Conference Champions
  - School record for 100m backstroke (Brady Michaels) 11
- Girls Hockey
  - State Appearance
  - WIAA Sportsmanship Award Winner
- Boys Hockey
  - State Journal Hockey Player of the Year (David Emerich)



## Highlights

- Gymnastics
  - State Qualifier (Annika Lee)
- Ski
  - Four State qualifiers
- Snowboard
  - WHSARA Conference Champions
- Dance
  - 4th Place at Regionals (Hip Hop)
- Cheer 12
  - 1st Place at the Mardi Gras Classic
  - 1st Place at the Eau Claire Competition



## **Agenda Item: MS Wrestling Update**

**Background Information:** At the December 12, 2023 co-curricular meeting, information was shared regarding the potential addition of allow 6th-graders the ability to participate with the middle school wrestling team. No decision was made as more information was needed regarding potential transportation challenges, academic eligibility, and if this was allowed by other schools in our middle school athletic conference.

These potential challenges have now been resolved and will be discussed at the co-curricular meeting.

**Administrative Recommendation:** To approve 6th-grade students to participate in middle school wrestling, starting with the 2024-25 school year. This change will allow us to be in alignment with the other schools in the conference while helping to build interest in the sport.

**Board Action Requested:** The following motion would be in order: “Move to approve allowing 6th-grade students the ability to participate in the middle school wrestling program, provided they meet academic requirements.”

**Fiscal Note:** There are no financial impacts related to this requested action.



## **Agenda Item: Boys Volleyball Club Team**

**Background Information:** The sport of boys volleyball is one of the more rapidly growing sports in the country. Several families have reached out to me to inquire about the possibility of adding the sport to our athletic offerings at Waunakee High School. To gauge interest in the possibility of forming a club team, four open gyms were held in the fall, with six more scheduled this spring. 16 Boys in the district attended at least one of the open gyms held in the fall. Of those 16, 12 of the boys would be freshman next school year.

If interest is high enough this fall, the athletic department would recommend joining a local co-op for the 2025-26 school year. The deadline to request this co-op is September 1, 2024.

For the upcoming school year, students would register through the athletic department. An abbreviated schedule of matches would be scheduled for the fall season, if we have enough to form a team. WIAA boys volleyball rules, procedures, and season times would be followed.

**Administrative Recommendation:** To approve the creation of a club boys volleyball team at the high school level for the 2024-25 school year, with the potential of joining a co-op for the 2025-26 school year.

**Board Action Requested:** The following motion would be in order: "Move to approve the boys volleyball club request for the 2024-25 school year."

**Fiscal Note:** TBD

## Prospect of long term participation and student involvement:

1. Several families interested in the Waunakee school district starting as freshman Fall 2024, and other families in other age groups. See attached list.
2. **Fastest growing sport in the country.** It's coming...
  - o Madison Area Schools:
    - All Madison schools have teams (East, West, Memorial, Edgewood, Lafollette, MCDS, Abundant Life)
      - Memorial had 40 *freshman* boys go out for their program last fall)
    - Middleton won the state championship last year (2023)
      - Freshman, 2 JV, and varsity teams
    - DeForest had 20 kids in their first year as a club (2022). 2 fully WIAA sanctioned teams in 2nd year (2023)
    - Sun Prairie had 3 teams in the first year
    - Verona, McFarland, Oregon, etc working on forming teams
  - o 4 Madison area **boys** volleyball clubs
  - o New dedicated Vball facility in Sun Prairie (Madtown / Inferno) with 13 boys teams this season ranging from **13s** to **18s**.
3. Madison Hosted the Dale Rohde Boys Volleyball Tournament this year.
  - o At Alliant Energy Center. 134 teams from around the state and region
4. Inexpensive to start. \$1000 Grant from Great Lakes Region. 6 Mens' Balls provided free. Main ask is for Gym space. (other: Uniforms, coach, refs, tournament fees, miscellaneous).
5. Has shown that it does NOT take away players / athletes from other sports like football, maybe your 5th string WR or CB, but not your OL / DL, etc.. Great combo with Basketball (i.e. Zak Showalter).
6. Kids who don't have another sport. Allows for child development and mentoring. Right now club Vball is expensive, preventing some kids from having an opportunity to play.
7. Another opportunity for boys in college. Over 120 division 3 schools, 50 division 1 and 2, and 50 NAIA schools offer in college. A LOT of opportunity at the next level.
8. Coaches - I have a strong connection with local college and club level staff.
9. Men's professional leagues are in development

	<b>Grade Fall 2024</b>	<b>Attended Open Gym</b>
<b>Jude Gehrke</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Ethan Frank</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Caleb Fisher</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Jonathon Rode</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Evan Broeckert</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Jack Bilderback</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Andrew Statz</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Brady Pokrass</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Jackson Sheahan</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Evan Christianson</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Michael Pelzer</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Lincoln W</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Jett Delzer</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Charlie Zimbric</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Louis Zimbric</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Vishna Kata</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Alex Manley</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Brennan Duffy</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>No</b>
<b>Matt Comins</b>		<b>No</b>
<b>Charlie Ellis</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Nolan Cashen</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Tavin Lezoette</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Jacob Trandafir</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Hudson Dodd</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Austin Brunet</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Sawyer Crosby</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Ezra</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Kam Meier</b>		<b>No</b>
<b>Endres</b>		<b>No</b>
<b>Hoff</b>		16 <b>No</b>

## Estimated Expenses (Deforest 1st year numbers)

<i>Expense Type</i>		% of total
Club Setup & Management	\$564.10	10.26%
Coaching	<b>\$2,500.00</b>	45.48%
Equipment	\$1,817.36	33.06%
Insurance	\$105.00	1.91%
Officials	\$360.00	6.55%
Tournament	\$150.00	2.73%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$5,496.46</b>	~ 20 kids ~ \$270 / athlete

**Non profit** organization created (~ Booster Club) used to cover 1st year costs

- Brought in **\$9,959.50** in donations
- Other Revenue
  - Spectators
  - Concessions
  - Donations
- •Balance donated to school (as well as uniforms and equipment)

# Waunakee Boys Volleyball

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Presentation to the School District Co-Curricular Committee  
Proposal to add as a club sport for the fall 2024 Season

7/16/24

# It's here...

Boys high school volleyball numbers have increased by 40% since 2017 making it the

## Fastest growing sport in the country

- <https://usavolleyball.org/resource/give-the-boys-a-chance/>

# It's here...

- Other schools with boys' volleyball programs in our area and the big 8 conference:
  - All Madison teams:
    - East
    - West
    - Memorial: 40 Freshman boys tried out 2023
    - Lafollette
    - Edgewood coop with Abundant Life
  - Madison Country Day School
  - Middleton: 2023 State Champions!!!
  - Sun Prairie: 2023 = 3 teams in their 1<sup>st</sup> year of existence (2023)
  - DeForest: 20 kids in 1<sup>st</sup> year (2022) of club program, 2 fully WIAA sanctioned teams in 2<sup>nd</sup> year (2023)
  - McFarland/Monona Grove/Cottage Grove are also working on a club team for the fall 2024.
  - Verona and Oregon have shown significant interest and likely to start school teams in the near future.

# It's here:

- Local boys volleyball clubs:
  - Inferno
    - 13 teams from U13 to U18. New 10 court dedicated volleyball facility (2023)
  - Elite
    - Keva – proposing new east / west side volleyball facility
  - Starlings
    - Non profit club for low income families
  - Sting
    - Independent club for boys involved in other winter / spring sports
  - All Stars
    - Boys only club started by Waunakee parent to promote sport for local boys
- Madison Hosted annual Dale Rhode boys tournament this year
  - At Alliant Energy Center. 134 teams from around the state and region

# What about Waunakee?

- Open Gyms

- Held 4 boys only volleyball open gyms September / October 2023 and currently hosting more Spring 2024
- Saturday afternoons in the fall and Friday nights in the Spring at Waunakee intermediate school
- 2 hour sessions, training coach, drills and competitive play
- Locally advertised via school announcements / newsletters / social media



# What about Waunakee?

- Requirements for a team
  - At least **10-12 boys** required to field a team
- Open Gym data / results
  - Surveys and promotion resulted in 31 boys expressing interest in participating
  - Total of 26 boys within Waunakee school district attended at least one open gym (not all could attend)
  - 20-21 would be of high school age as of fall 2024 including 8 freshmen
  - There were also 9-10 additional boys of younger age (4<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> grade)

# School district numbers

- **High School:**
  - 648 students participating of 1352 students (47.9%)
- **Middle School:**
  - 322 of **696** students participated in fall sports (46.2%)
- Data has shown boys volleyball does NOT take athletes from other sports

# Further Opportunities

- College playing and scholarship availability
  - Over 120 division 3 schools
  - 50 division 1 and 2 schools
  - 50 NAIA schools
  - A LOT of opportunity at the next level.

# The numbers (DeForest numbers after year 1)

<i>Expense Type</i>	SUM of Amount	% of total
Club Setup & Management	\$564.10	10.26%
Coaching	<b>\$2,500.00</b>	45.48%
Equipment	\$1,817.36	33.06%
Insurance	\$105.00	1.91%
Officials	\$360.00	6.55%
Tournament	\$150.00	2.73%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$5,496.46</b>	~ 20 kids ~ \$270 / athlete

# Revenue

- Non profit organization created to cover initial start up costs
  - Brought in **\$9,959.50** in donations
- Other Revenue
  - Spectators
  - Concessions
  - Donations
- Balance donated to school (as well as uniforms and equipment)

# Future considerations

	1 Team	2 Teams	3 Teams
Club Setup & Management	\$564.10	\$564.10	\$564.10
Coaching	2500	5000	7500
Equipment		\$1,817.36	\$3,634.72
Insurance	\$105.00	\$210.00	\$315.00
Officials	\$500.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,500.00
Tournament	\$400.00	\$800.00	\$1,200.00
<b>Total Cost Estimate</b>	<b>\$4,069.10</b>	<b>\$9,391.46</b>	<b>\$14,713.82</b>

# Commitment

- Gym time
  - 4 nights a week, evenings Mon – Fri
  - 4 – 8 matches, home and away
  - 2-3 tournaments
- Access to equipment
  - Nets, balls, ball carts
  - Scoring equipment for matches
- Transportation?
  - Parents and families if not available

# Other

- Liability insurance purchased by club
- Coach
  - Have an interested party, nothing would be hired until program secured