



Middle School Developmental League

A High-Quality Alternative for 7th/8th Grade Players
A Co-Production: Birmingham Basketball Academy &
BlackWatch Sports Performance



Why?

- With the large numbers and such a short time frame for tryouts, it is very difficult for the coaching staff to choose players.
- If a young man who loves to play doesn't make the school team, what viable options does he have? We offer him a chance to keep playing and improving. (And have FUN!)
- Often, there may not be significant differences between the last players who make the team and the first group of players who don't make the team.
- Young athletes are subject to extremely wide variations of physical, emotional, and mental maturity levels. It's not uncommon to see 7th graders who are practically fully grown—or 8th graders who haven't hit their "growth spurt" yet. (One of our former players, who was 5'8" 140, is now 6'6", 210—and a college prospect in football and basketball.)
- Taller players, who tend to develop at a slower rate, often get left behind by not making the team. That same kid might be 6'4" by the 10th grade!

League Overview

- 10 players per team. Generally organized by school.
- Cost per player: \$299. (After 10/31, late registration \$349.)
 - Uniform provided.
 - 8 Games @ *BlackWatch Sports*: 12/2, 12/9, 12/16, 1/6, 1/13, 1/20, 1/27, and 2/3.
 - We provide the coaches. They will do a great job: 1) teaching fundamentals, 2) managing practices, 3) coaching in the games. The atmosphere will be positive and encouraging throughout the season. Players learn to take risks, develop confidence, and learn team skills.
 - High success rate: 40+% of 2016-17 D-League players made their teams this past spring!
- One practice/week (mostly on Sundays 2-5:00 p.m.). Heavy emphasis on fundamentals. Training is standardized for all teams. (First practice is on Sunday, November 5th.)
- Game notes: 15 minutes of fundamental drills for "warm up." Each half: 16-minute running clock. Certified referees. Everyone plays! And we play fast on offense/man on defense.

**This is our 5th Season:
Our first 8th-graders are now high school
seniors, class of '18!**

Register @ bhambba.com!