



May 1, 2014

The State of Basketball

North Tartan Tradition

This state may be known for hockey, but WE are making this state about basketball. The month of May is a time to yet again establish ourselves in the state of Minnesota, while improving ourselves on the national level. With a great showing at Boo Williams by our 14's, 15's, and 16's, the youth of North Tartan took care of business back home. Our toughness, intensity, and defensive efforts have proved to be effective. We are very excited here at North Tartan to be seeing success very early in the season and cannot wait to see what is in store for June and more importantly July. As AAU state is quickly approaching our teams will prepare to repeat the winning fashion of last year, taking six state titles. We would like to wish all of the North Tartan teams good luck these next couple of weeks! Represent the name and play for each other!

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THIS IS EYBL

Elite Youth Basketball League

www.nikeeyb.com

Nike Elite Youth Basketball's mission is to improve the game of basketball through phenomenal experiences and events. We offer young players a place to receive superior skill instruction, honest evaluation, and life-changing opportunities. Through Nike's network of sponsored travel teams the best will compete against the best.

www.nikeeyb.com

Check out the website and see the game change.



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A Better Understanding: Nike is running the first competitive league for their club teams within the framework of three established events leading into their own Nike Nationals tournament which annually wraps up the summer evaluation window. This year's 32 Swoosh sponsored teams will have to compete for an opportunity to be one of the 24 teams actually qualifying for a trip to North Augusta to compete for bragging rights among La Familia Nike!

Tony Dorado, Nike's national Manger for High School Basketball, outlines the intent and focus of the Elite Youth Basketball League. "Nike's reason for establishing the Girls EYBL is aligned with our overall goals for girls' basketball: we want to help improve the girls' game and provide opportunities for girls to be seen by colleges to improve their chances of receiving a scholarship. We feel that a league with something to play for increases the importance of games during the summer which will improve the quality of games."

Beginning at the Boo Williams Nike Invitational (Hampton, Virginia), four groups of eight teams will compete in hopes of securing a top six finish in their restive divisions a ticket to the big stage at the end of July. All 32 teams will be on hand in Hampton and compete in five games. July, at the Battle in the Boro (Franklin, Tennessee and the Nike National Invitational (Chicago, Illinois) will each host two divisions (16 team) for the second round of five more games and final determination of the lineup for the 214 Nike Nationals. Both second round events run concurrently at the end of the first seven day NCAA period.

One thing that EYBL guarantee is that each game has something on the line that should result in challenging games from start to find during each event. From a recruiting and evaluation standpoint it will be revealing not only in tangible basketball skills but focus and competitive rive as well. Let the games begin!

Nike Chicago Event Gains Historic Proportions

National Invitational Tournament Surges Past 430 Teams

Chicago – For the first time in its remarkable 15 year history, NIKE's flagship girls' basketball tournament in Chicago has surpassed 400 teams. The annual event – already the largest and by consensus most competitive female club basketball tournament in the United States – is scheduled for July 10-12, 2014 at McCormick Place.

The 2014 Nike Nationals Invitational Tournament will

eclipse its own record of 360 teams established in 2013. The surge in participation was me possible by several facts, including overwhelming demand to compete in the event combined with a significant expansion into McCormick's South Hall (840,000sq.ft.) and an additional 60,000sq.ft. of newly developed Maple Select flooring me available from corporate partner Connor Sport Court. A total of 52 regulation size courts will be constructed in McCormick South, making it the stunning evolution of a tournament that began with just 24 teams in Des Plaines, L (July, 1999).

Event operators expect to accept jus32 additional teams by lottery, which would bring total participation to a staggering 466 teams at almost 7,000 competing athletes and coaches.

The event, which will attract more than 15,000 participants and fans combined, makes a dramatic economic impact on the city and has negotiated some of the lowest rates memory for its attendees at four of Chicago's premier downtown hotels: the Hyatt Regency at McCormick Place; the Holiday Inn Mart Plaza atop the Chicago Sun-Times building; the Chicago Hilton on Michigan Avenue, and the Historic Polar House. Each hotel features shuttle service to the convention center, which will see an astonishing total of 1,165 games played in a 60 hour period.

Tickets are \$1 per day for adults and \$5 per day for children and seniors. Schedules will be posted on July 1 at www.niketournamentofchampions.com.

Please Read *Chicago Room Block

You will never believe this – teams are stealing room blocks. Parents from other teams are calling in and claiming they are in the room block under one of the Nike travel teams. North Tartan is assigned rooms at one of the four main hotels and we are very fortunate for that. Scott Dekart will be providing that information shortly and will be sending that to the 7 teams attending. From that point you will have only 11 days to reserve your room. There is such high demand that hotels are making sure to reach maximum occupation. There will not be a second chance for this opportunity and al North Tartan rooms that are being held will be released to the public.

SKILLS NIGHT

Every Wednesday in May is North Tartan Skills Night at High Performance Academy in Eagan. Times are from 6:30-8:30 and free to all North Tartan players. Please bring your own ball and be ready for a great SKILL session. This year, Skills will be run by a number of trainers and coaches. Primarily Damien, Hannah, Jenny, and Ashley will be providing the instruction. Skill's Night is free! If you plan on attending please notify us. Send an email to Hannah Skildum at: hannah.skildum@gmail.com

*don't forget the (.)

We are trying to get as close to a count as possible to make sure we have ample space.

May 7: 6:30-8:30pm

May 14: 6:30-8:30pm

May 21: 6:30-8:30pm

May 28: 6:30-8:30pm

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

AAU QUALIFIER

PLACE: METRO

TIME: ALL WEEKEND

Fri, Sat, and Sunday May 2-4

SKILLS NIGHT

PLACE: HIGH PERFORMANCE

TIME: 6:30-8:30PM

Wednesday May 7th

SKILLS NIGHT

PLACE: HIGH PERFORMANCE

TIME: 6:30-8:30PM

Wednesday May 14th

AAU STATE

PLACE: METRO

TIME: ALL WEEKEND

Fri, Sat, and Sun May 16-18

NIKE EYBL HAMPTON VIEWED LIVE

Through High School Cube APP (HSC APP) friends, families, players, and coaches have been able to watch the first Session of play in EYBL: North Tartan Elite vs DFW (Dallas Fort-Worth). The match-up is still viewable and I hope everyone gets a chance to download the free app! Please hit the LIKE button or send a comment. The game is changing and North Tartan is part of it!

Introducing the High School Cube App - The place to watch, share and broadcast your high school events LIVE!

With our app you can watch live events, checkout jaw-dropping highlight clips, and catch replays of prior events from your school, other local schools and featured schools from around the globe. You can even keep tabs on your rivals!



Game found under DFW vs North Tartan.



THE INSIDE SCOOP

WITH TT STARKS

TT STARKS HAS BEEN WITH THE NIKE ELITE TEAM FOR THE PAST THREE YEARS AND HAS BEEN A CONTRIBUTING FACTOR TO THE TEAM'S SUCCESS. HER TOUGHNESS AND WORK ETHIC HAVE BEEN A BIG PART OF HER ACCOMPLISHMENTS AT THE NEXT LEVEL.

WHAT HAS IT MEANT FOR YOU TO BE A PART OF THE NIKE ELITE TEAM FOR THE PAST THREE YEARS?

It honestly is a great honor to play on the elite team for 3 years. It shows me that the coaches and everyone believed I could contribute to the team at that level

WHAT ARE YOUR THOUGHTS ABOUT THE NEW EYBL?

I like the new EYBL. It's great outstate competition and gives us a chance to make a name for ourselves and for North Tartan on a national level.

HOW HAS BEING A PART OF THE NORTH TARTAN FAMILY HELPED YOU AS A PLAYER?

Being with North Tartan has helped me grow as a player and a person. Between Jake and Gerard, they have helped me improve my game tremendously. I really appreciate them.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE PART ABOUT BEING IN THE PROGRAM?

My favorite part would probably be the girls and the gear. I love these girls. We have been friends for years and it's fun to be able to spend my last year of AAU with them. And of course getting Nike stuff is always great 😊

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE MEMORY AS A NORTH TARTAN PLAYER?

I have 2. When we were in 7th grade at nationals and we came back to win overall 5th place. Secondly, 2 years ago when we won the Nike Chicago Tournament! That was fun.



Be Ready for a Great Month of May!

With a bounce,

Bill Larson

WE SUPPLY THE NAME, YOU SUPPLY THE GAME!