

# Information for Parents & Players

Dear Athletes, Parents and/or Guardians:

February 28, 2020

*Please take some time to go through this information letter with your son or daughter and sign the attached team commitment form. If you have any questions about any of the information included, please feel free to contact our Badminton Coordinator (Steven Reid) or one of the coaches directly, so we may be of assistance...Thank you!*

## Divisions

Badminton divisions are determined by "age" not grade, so it is important that each athlete registers and competes in the correct division.

### Elementary & Junior High (Junior) Divisions (Compete @ LSAA District Championships)

2009 Tyro

2008 Novice

2007 Junior

2006 Intermediate

2005 Senior (Grade 9's with a '04 birthday are still eligible)

### High School (Senior) Divisions (Compete @ ASAA Districts & Zone Championships)

Junior under 16 before September 1

Intermediate under 17 before September 1

Senior under 19 before September 1

## Practice Schedule

<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>
<b>Junior &amp; Senior High</b> Junior Intermediate Senior		<b>Junior &amp; Senior High</b> Junior Intermediate Senior	<b>Elementary</b> Tyro Novice	
<b>3:30 – 5:00</b>		<b>3:30 – 5:00</b>	<b>3:30 – 5:00</b>	

- ★ Badminton is an extremely short season (less than 2 months) so we ask that athletes who join the badminton team show commitment to the team and make it a priority to attend as many badminton practices as possible.
  - Several athletes will join and wish to play doubles, so they will be reliant on their partners attendance to be successful as a duo.
- ★ Sr. Athletes and Parents will be required to sign an ASAA Participation Waiver.
  - Form must be signed once and is good for all 3 years in High School Athletics
- ★ Students that do not attend school on a practice day (for unexcused reasons only) will not be permitted to practice with the team that day.
  - No Attendance = No Practice!

***Practices will begin on Wednesday, March 4<sup>th</sup>***

## Hawks Badminton 2020

### Fees & Expenses

EPS is very proud to offer our Badminton Team Program with no registration fee to play. EPS PAC is a tremendous supporter of Hawks Athletics and will cover the cost of all District & Zone Entry Fees.

- ★ Potential expenses to each family “could” be:
  - Hawks Badminton Team T-Shirt (\$20)
  - Badminton Racquet
    - An order form is included, if they do not have their own
  - Quality pair of indoor athletic shoes.

### Fines & No-Shows

Tournament Coordinators go to a great deal of effort to put draws together for large numbers of students (sometimes up to 400+ competitors for the junior events), coupled with coaches and athletes who have dedicated a great deal of time into training for an event; therefore, we want to ensure that everything within our control is done to get our athletes to a competition they have committed to be a part of.

***Deadlines are strictly adhered to for all Badminton Events!***

### ***If you can't attend a tournament you have previously committed too...***

- ★ Please advise the Coaching Staff ASAP so we can make sure we fill our EPS Roster spots with a replacement and notify the tournament Coordinator of your absence.
- ★ We can (and have) been fined in the past for having “no-shows” the day of a District or Zone Event.
  - Athletes will be responsible to pay the cost of any such fines (usually \$10) in their absence, in addition to the registration fee (usually \$5)
    - i.e. We have to register our HS Roster one week prior to the competition...if you pull out of the tournament after that date, you will be responsible to cover the cost of your registration and any fines for your subsequent withdrawal.
  - There is no fine if you withdraw ***before*** the event registration deadline.
- ★ Please do not sign-up to be part of a Doubles Team at the beginning of the year if one of the team members can't attend District Playoffs (check your calendar)
- ★ Ensure your Doubles Partner has transportation and is committed to tournaments.
  - We have encountered a few problems in the past with Doubles Pairings having one player becoming a “No-Show” on the competition date (without any notification), leaving one doubles partner unable to play.
  - Parents please communicate with your child's doubles partner's family.
  - There will be an EPS fine of \$50 for one player being a “Non-Communicative No-Show” as part of a Doubles pairing for District/Zone Championships.

### Team Uniforms

All badminton team members will be asked to purchase a Hawks Badminton Team T-Shirt (if they don't already have one). The cost for each T-shirt will be \$20.

- ★ A Team order will be made in early March (after we collect athlete sizes)
  - Please make cheques out to: *École Plamondon School*
- ★ The shirt will be the athletes to keep at the end of the season.

## Hawks Badminton 2020

### Rackets

All team members will be asked to purchase their own competition badminton racquet.

- ★ Our advice is to buy a brand name racquet (Yonex, Victor, Wilson, Diadora, Black Knight, etc.) as they will be strung well and it will last much longer.
- ★ An order form from Sportfactor is included with this letter.
  - check out their website to get a closer look at: [www.sportfactor.net](http://www.sportfactor.net)
- ★ Lac La Biche Sporting Goods often has a good selection as well.

### Pick-Ups and Team Travel

Please ensure that athletes are picked up promptly after practices & tournaments

- ★ We are more than happy to work with your children after hours during extra-curricular activities, but we too have families and we want to get home as soon as possible to see them...and we can't leave until all Juniors are picked-up ☺.
- ★ Practices will end promptly at the designated time and will not run long.

We will do our absolute best to transport all Badminton athletes to their various competitions. However (speaking from past years experiences) there are some circumstances which may arise, making it difficult to get the many badminton athletes we have competing to the many different venues they may be playing at. Therefore, we may rely on parents to transport their own children to events.

- ★ If Senior Playoffs happen during the school day, we will do our best to transport athletes on the Hawks Mini-Bus
- ★ For the CLMS Invitational & Junior Districts (scheduled to be on a Saturday) we will need parents to transport/supervise their child at the appropriate venue as there are up to 8 different venues used for the competition.

### Try-Outs & Cuts

We want as many players to learn about the game of Badminton, develop their skills as much as possible, and be part of a Hawks Athletic Team...so there are no try-outs and no-cuts to practice with the Badminton Team; however, when it comes time for District Playoffs in April we are only permitted to send 2 players (or doubles pairings) per gender, per age category to compete in the District Championships.

- ★ Therefore, if 6 Novice Boys want to play singles we will need to have a playoff in that age category, as we are only permitted to send 2 players.
- ★ If one of the top 2 can't attend, then third place would be the replacement.
- ★ We will also make every attempt possible to have players that don't make top 2 to create doubles pairings and fill in open gaps in our full Team Roster to get as many athletes competing at Districts as possible ☺

### 2020 Tournament Dates:

□	Junior West Wards (Gr. 5-9)	Wednesday April 15th	(Lac La Biche)
□	Senior Districts (Gr. 10-12)	Wednesday April 15th	(Bonnyville)
□	Senior Zones (Gr. 10-12)	Wednesday April 22nd	(Lloydminster)
□	Junior Districts (Gr. 5-9)	Saturday, April 25th	(Bonnyville)