



High School Program Handbook
2026
9th – 12th Grade

#StayLockedInOrGetLockedOut

Table of Contents

1. Program Mission

2. Code of Conduct

3. Player Expectations

4. Parent / Coach Relationship

Note – If you have any questions during the season, please communicate directly with your child's head coach and / or Vito, Coach Crowe & David. We look forward to a great season!

Vito Buckle – Owner of Vito Official Basketball – (202) 560-6842

Coach Crowe – High School Co-Director – (301) 232-2508

David Kosc – Director of Vito Official Basketball Grassroots Program & Coach of Vito Focused (12u / 6th Grade) & Vito Future (9th Grade) – (301) 785-9237

Program Mission

Vito Official Basketball & Coach Vito helps kids prepare for college basketball by providing comprehensive team & individual training and knowledge that primarily focuses on skill development, physical conditioning, and mental preparation. Our practice sessions cover everything from shooting accuracy, ball handling, and defensive techniques to building strength, speed, and agility. Beyond the court, we emphasize basketball IQ and game awareness, guiding athletes to understand strategies and make smart decisions during play.

Coach Vito also mentors kids on the recruiting process, assisting with distributing highlight reels and game film communicating with college coaches, and navigating other important steps. Our goal is to equip young athletes with the tools, confidence, and discipline they need to succeed at the collegiate level. Vito Official Basketball & Coach Vito have helped over 50 kids play at the college level.

Along with that, we strive to place our teams in the best available events, competing in AA, A, and B brackets to challenge our kids to improve and to put them in challenging situations that help them adapt to higher levels of competition. We also compete during all of the High School Live Periods, providing our kids with extra exposure to college coaches at all levels. We are not limited in the services we provide and can cater to kids who need more development and experience; we also have teams that offer opportunities for less talented individuals to compete, learn, and build confidence.

Vito Official Basketball equips our youth with vital life skills to succeed both academically and in basketball by establishing a growth mindset to prepare our players to embrace challenges, persist through obstacles, and learn that effort will lead to success.

We have developed a PLAYER PROFILE to identify the qualities that we are looking for in Vito Official Basketball players. We want players who are:

1. Scholars
2. Achievers
3. Communicators
4. Positive
5. Responsible
6. Coachable
7. Competitive
8. Committed (During basketball season, we expect Vito Official Basketball to be the priority over ANY other basketball teams.)

Code of Conduct

We have high expectations for our players, our teams, our coaches, and everyone associated with our basketball program. We use our Player Profile as a general framework to monitor how our players are progressing as athletes and young men.

All team members are required to follow the Code of Conduct as described below:

1. Arrive early / on time for all practices and games.
2. Bring and wear your practice jersey to all practices (one will be provided).
3. Put forth 100% effort and your best attitude with all things related to basketball.
4. Communicate positively and effectively with teammates and coaches.
5. Be respectful, attentive, and engaged with all things related to the team.
6. Demonstrate integrity and be held responsible for your actions.
7. Always act in the best interest of the team.
8. Accept feedback from coaches as an opportunity for self-improvement.
9. Practice sportsmanship AT ALL TIMES with referees and opponents.

Player Profile / Expectations

“Try to be the best FOR the team - NOT the best ON the Team”

Team / Player Expectations

- Play Hard
- Play FOR each other!
- Compete – Be a Competitor NOT a Complainer
- High five & Clap for your teammates
- Help any teammate up off the floor
- Next play mentality – Own the mistake and MOVE ON – Keep playing!
- Subbed Out – Rules:
 - Communicate who you were guarding / where you are on a zone / press.
 - Hustle off the floor by running to the kid subbing in for you to tell them the above
 - High-5 everyone on the bench before sitting down
 - Subbing is for multiple reasons:
 - Mental Reset
 - Breather / Rest
 - Give the team a new look
 - To be coached on the sideline
 - Sharing minutes with your teammates

Parent /Coach Relationship

We want to thank the parents for allowing us to play an important role in your son's youth basketball experience. Our goal is to treat your son with the same level of respect that we expect for our own children.

We have only THREE items that we do not wish to discuss with parents:

1. Playing time
2. Game Strategy
3. Comparisons between players

Playing time is earned by meeting the player expectations noted previously - as well as at practice -by attending practice and demonstrating the ability to successfully run the offense, defense, out of bounds plays, hustling, rebounding, etc. This will get your son more playing time in the game.

Please **DO NOT Coach** your son from the stands – Encouragement and cheering for your kid & the team is the expectation. We need players to concentrate on listening to their coaches and interacting with their teammates during games and not be distracted by looking in the stands. Always cheer as loud as you can for your child's effort and attitude but refrain from telling them where to go on the court or what to do with the ball. Trust the coaches & the game plan.

Also – please refrain from yelling at or abusing the referees during games.

Reminder- your son plays for Vito Official Basketball & every game they wear the Vito Official Basketball uniform; you are both representing Vito as well as the organization. Set a positive example for your son – they tend to mimic their parent's actions and if they hear you criticizing the referees, they will think its ok

to do so as well. Please always represent the Vito Official Basketball organization in a positive manner.

We want to have a positive environment with open lines of communication with all parents. Being positive and being an effective communicator are aspects of our Code of Conduct that we want to model for all our players. We are always happy to discuss anything on your mind – please utilize practice days or scheduling a time with the coaches (and or with Vito & David) would always be the expectation. If you would like to discuss anything related to a specific game, please wait 24 hours before contacting the coaches to ensure topics are not discussed while emotions are high.

Thank you all and we look forward to your son's progress as a basketball player and as a young man.

Vito Buckle, Coach Crowe, & David Kosc

Parent Contract

Required to be signed by a Parent / Guardian for every player

1. **Support All Players:** Cheer for effort, attitude, and teamwork; not just the score.
2. **Respect Coaches and Officials:** No arguing with referees or coaches and no coaching from the sidelines. Trust the coaches & let your kid play without your directions.
3. **Encourage Sportsmanship:** Teach kids to congratulate opponents and play fair.
4. **Stay Positive:** Focus on learning, improvement, and fun. Trust the process
5. **Communicate Constructively:** Address any concerns with coaches privately and respectfully. (24 Hour Rule, give it a day before approaching a coach about game issues)
6. **Be Reliable:** Ensure players arrive on time and are picked up promptly.
7. **Model Good Behavior:** Kids learn by example, so stay calm and kind during games.
8. **Pay Your Fees** - if there is an issue; please communicate with us (No Refunds)
9. **Playing Time** - Understand during tournaments, there are 3-5 Games per weekend - kids are not guaranteed to play every game and there might be a game where a kid is not playing well or doing the right things to help the team win. Some opponents style of play may dictate how much your kid plays & some kids will play more than others at times - this is not equal opportunity basketball.
10. **Practice is Mandatory** - Ensure timely transportation to and from practices (and games). Practice is how you earn playing time - by showing an understanding of the team concepts (offensive plays, various defensive responsibilities & out of bounds plays). Communication with your coach is required if you will miss practice (or game) and mark your availability in the app. DO NOT be a no show. Missed practices can affect playing time.

Sign Here : _____

Date: _____

Player Contract

Each player is required to complete a contract

1. Purpose

This agreement establishes the expectations and responsibilities of the player and the organization for participation in the Spring / Summer Vito Official basketball program.

2. Player Responsibilities

- Attend all practices and games unless excused by the coach.
- Demonstrate good sportsmanship and respect toward teammates, coaches, referees, and opponents.
- Maintain passing grades in school in accordance with team rules. (i.e. 2.0 or Higher)

3. Organization Responsibilities

- Provide safe and supervised practices and games.
- Offer fair playing opportunities and skill development. Note: playing time is not promised. Opportunities will be earned in practice & if you have success with that opportunity; your playing time will increase.
- Communicate schedules and expectations in a timely manner.

4. Conduct and Discipline

Violation of team rules or poor sportsmanship may result in reduced playing time, suspension, or dismissal from the team.

- 1 Technical foul - Sit the rest of the game & 1st half of the next game;
- 2 Technical Fouls - Sit first half of the next game;
- 3 Technical Fouls - Sit the next entire game;
- 4 Technical Fouls - Sit out an entire tournament (all coaches discretion)

5. Acknowledgment

By signing below, all parties agree to the terms of this contract.

Player Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

Coach/Team Rep Signature: _____ Date: _____