



City of Dupont Recreational Basketball End of Season Report 2021-2022

"I feel like my son learned a lot, improved through the season, and had fun!" – Parent of a Player

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To Our Families

Highlights

215 boys and girls, Kindergarten through 9th grade participated in the City of Dupont Recreational Basketball program. In the end of season survey, 94% of parents/guardians were somewhat or very satisfied with the program and 99% believed it was worth the price. Because of Washington State COVID restrictions, the 2021-2022 season was conducted wearing a face mask at all times – during practices and games – by all participants including players, coaches, and spectators. Because the 2020-2021 season was cancelled due to Washington state COVID restrictions, the league's focus this year was getting back to the basics and some initiatives from previous years – like the Saint Martin's University Night and All-Star games – were not conducted. However, several of our divisions played games against teams from Fife-Milton Recreational Basketball League and Joint Base Lewis-McChord. The majority of parents/guardians surveyed believed these games were worthwhile and should be continued in the future.

Financial Highlights

The program operated at an overall net gain of \$2,751, with \$18,474 in revenue and \$15,723 in expenses.

Looking Ahead

Improvements and other initiatives are being evaluated for 2022-2023. A full listing can be found on pages 31-32, but highlights include:

- Establishing an advisory group to govern the City of Dupont program as well as a Player Agent
- Changing some modified rules to align with high school rules and the external leagues we play
- Improving ways to enforce playing time rules
- Playing external league weeknight games in Fife earlier in the evening
- Hosting an All-Star game for 3rd grade & higher divisions
- Playing 3rd-4th grade games on full court 5v5 in order to use seating/bleachers at the school
- Hosting an open gym for experienced players and a clinic for new players in November before the season starts
- Having the ability to broadcast league messages via text

- Improving officiating

Program Summary

A total of 215 kids played in the program: 48 girls and 172 boys. The league operated 6 competitive divisions: 1-2nd grade (Co-ed), 3rd-4th grade (Girls), 3rd-4th grade (Boys), 5th -6th grade (Boys), 5th – 9th grade (Girls) and 7th – 9th grade (Boys); along with the Little Hoopsters clinic for Kindergarteners. Geographically, 71% of the players were from Dupont, 12% Steilacoom, 9% Lakewood, and 8% other (JBLM, Tacoma, University Place).

Each of our 3rd grade and higher teams practiced twice a week for 60-90 minutes, and our Kindergarten – 2nd grade teams practiced once a week. Games for the competitive divisions occurred every Saturday at Chloe Clark Elementary School and Pioneer Middle school gyms with each game officiated by Northwest Officials referees. A total of 8 games were played by each team. Our 3rd- 4th Grade (Girls), 5th- 8th Grade (Girls), and 7 - 9th Grade (Boys) played games against Fife-Milton Basketball. Our 5 - 6th Grade (Boys) and 7 - 9th Grade (Boys) also played games against Joint Base Lewis-McChord (JBLM). Pictures were taken over two Saturdays by Chaotic Grace Photography (<http://www.chaotic-grace.com/>)

Finances

Financial Summary

- Overall net gain of \$2,751. The program paid for itself – no added expense to the city
- Total of \$18,474 in revenue and \$15,723 in expenses
- \$2,611 of expenses were reusable investments (basketballs, equipment)

Income Statement

2021-2022 Dupont Recreational Basketball Income Statement

Expenses	Actual	Estimate	Notes
Equipment (bballs, pumps, etc.)	\$ 2,611	\$ 2,000	
Referee	\$ 3,493	\$ 4,500	
Shirts	\$ 2,121	\$ 2,700	
TeamSideline website	\$ 600	\$ 600	
Steilacoom School Custodian	\$ 1,500	\$ 2,000	Actual remains an estimate based on \$150 for each Saturday
Facilities	\$ -	\$ 1,560	
Administration	\$ 5,398	\$ 5,000	
Total Expenses	\$ 15,723	\$ 13,360	
Gross Revenue	\$ 18,474	\$ 19,000	
Net Revenue	\$ 2,751	\$ 5,640	

Survey Results

Survey Overview

A total of 105 families responded to the survey administered by the league at the end of the season. Each family received a survey consisting of seven (7) questions. Additionally, families of players who competed against teams from Fife-Milton and JBLM received a separate survey with several questions about that experience. This appendix contains a summary and analysis of the survey results.

The summary contains the survey question, a description of the question, and relevant background information. The analysis includes a graphical representation of question responses, a quantitative summary of the results, and a summation of critical comments. For this analysis, it was determined that summarizing the favorable comments did not serve any purpose other than to reinforce the current state of the program.

Satisfaction

Overall Satisfaction

Question: How satisfied were you with the City of Dupont recreational basketball program?

Overall, 94% of respondents were very or somewhat satisfied with the basketball program. Only 4 respondents were dissatisfied (table 1). At total of 35 comments were made on this question, 27 were favorable, 7 were critical, and 1 was a suggestion. The critical comments are below:

- 10' baskets for 3rd-4th graders is too tall
- Baskets were broken again
- League Administrator needs more training on professionalism with parents
- Some confusion with the game schedule and last-minute changes
- Inconsistent refereeing; they favored the team in the lead
- Masking players and threatening to stop the season was not okay
- Unequal playing time for my child, coach favored the good players

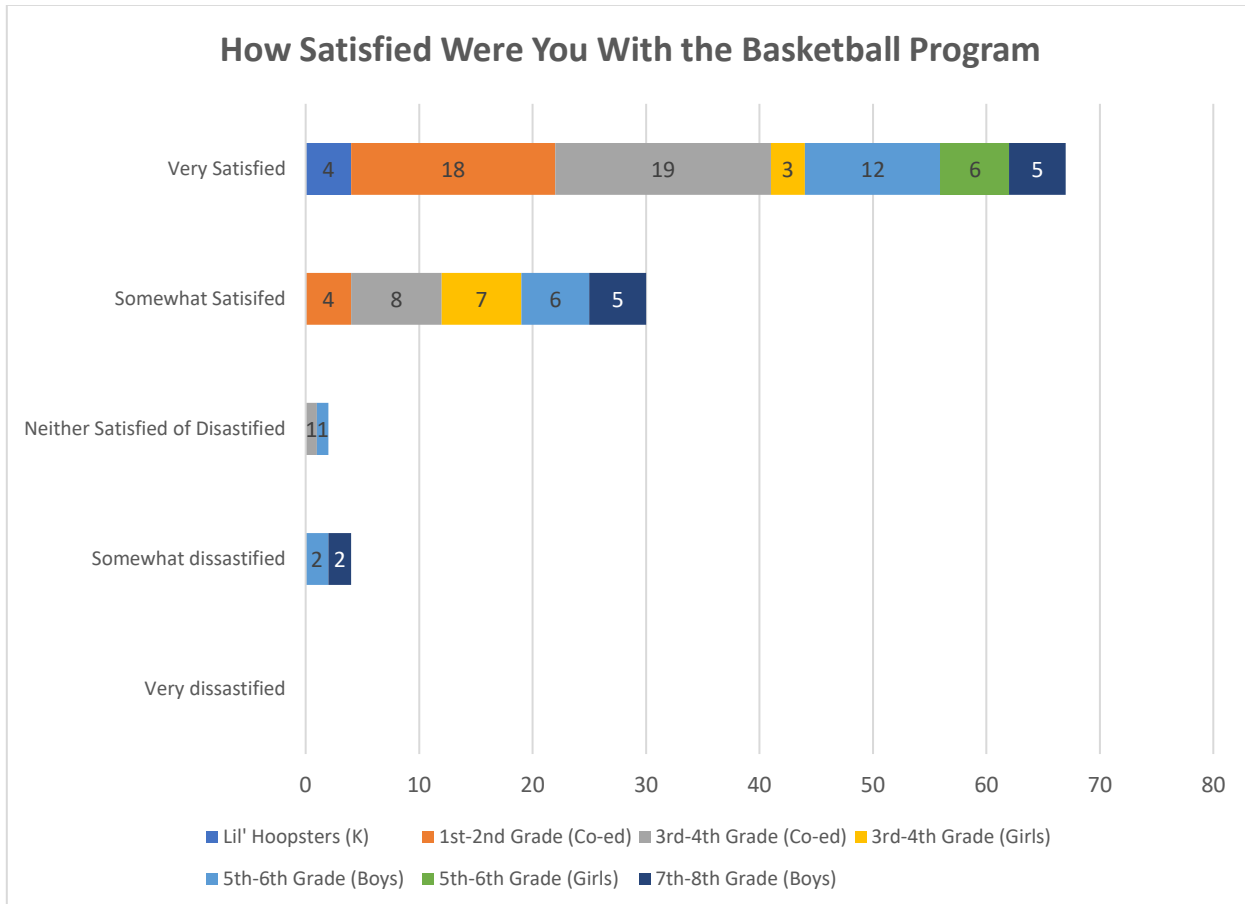


Table 1 Program Satisfaction

Likely to Recommend to Others

Question: How likely are you to recommend the basketball program to others?

Overall, 94% of respondents said it was at least probable they would recommend the program to others, with 74% stating it was extremely likely they would. Only 4 respondents were dissatisfied (table 2); one (1) indicated they would not recommend the program, and three (3) were not sure if they would. Comments were not enabled for this question.

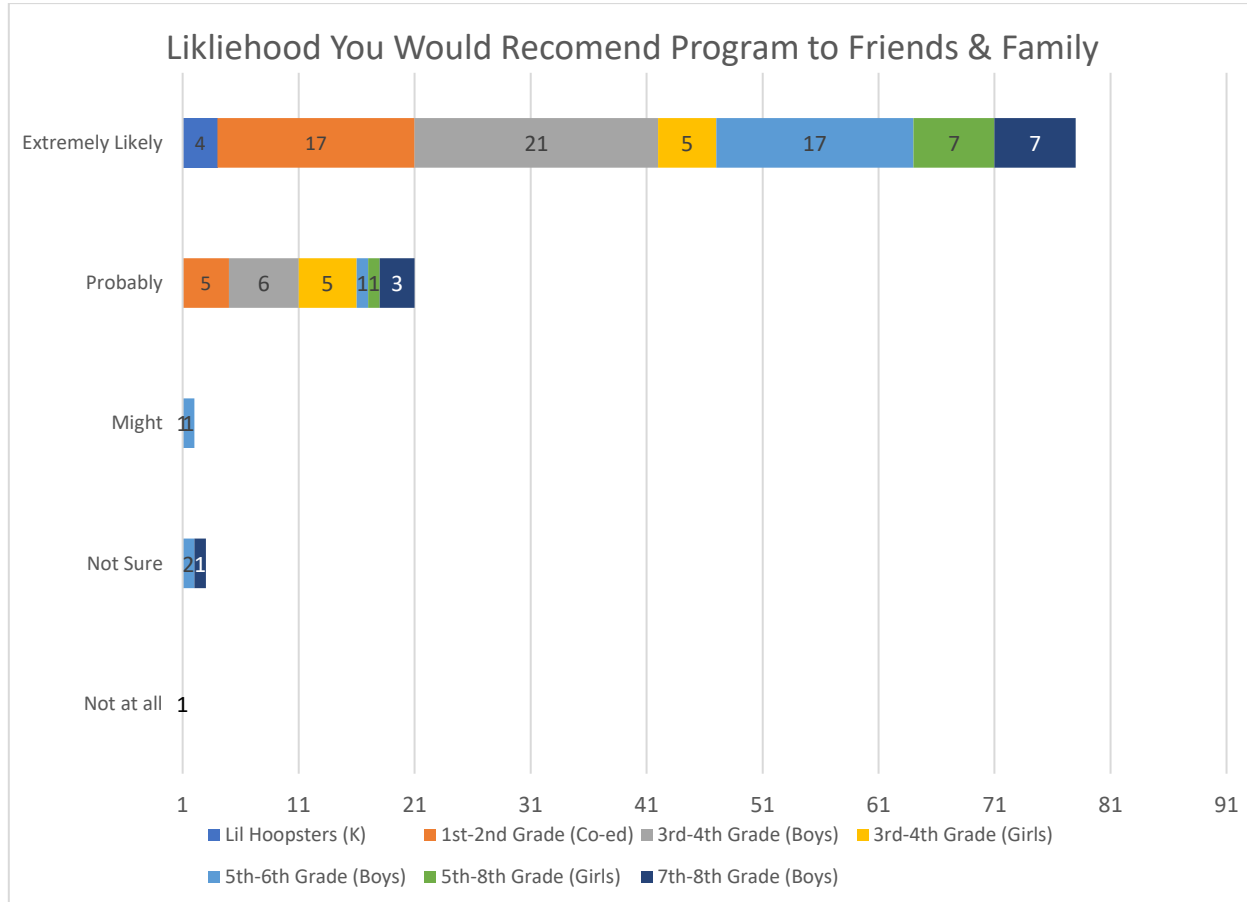


Table 2 Recommend to Family & Friends

Value

Question: Was the cost to play worth it?

Half of the respondents believed the price point to play in the league was excellent. 99% believed it was average or better, with only 1 person stating it was not worth the price (table 3). A total of 9 comments were made on this question, 5 were favorable, 2 were unfavorable, 2 were suggestions. A summary of the critical comments and suggestions are below:

- Would like to get medals for the players
- Consider adding sibling discount
- Had to drive to Milton for games, not getting home until after 9PM
- My player did not get equal playing time

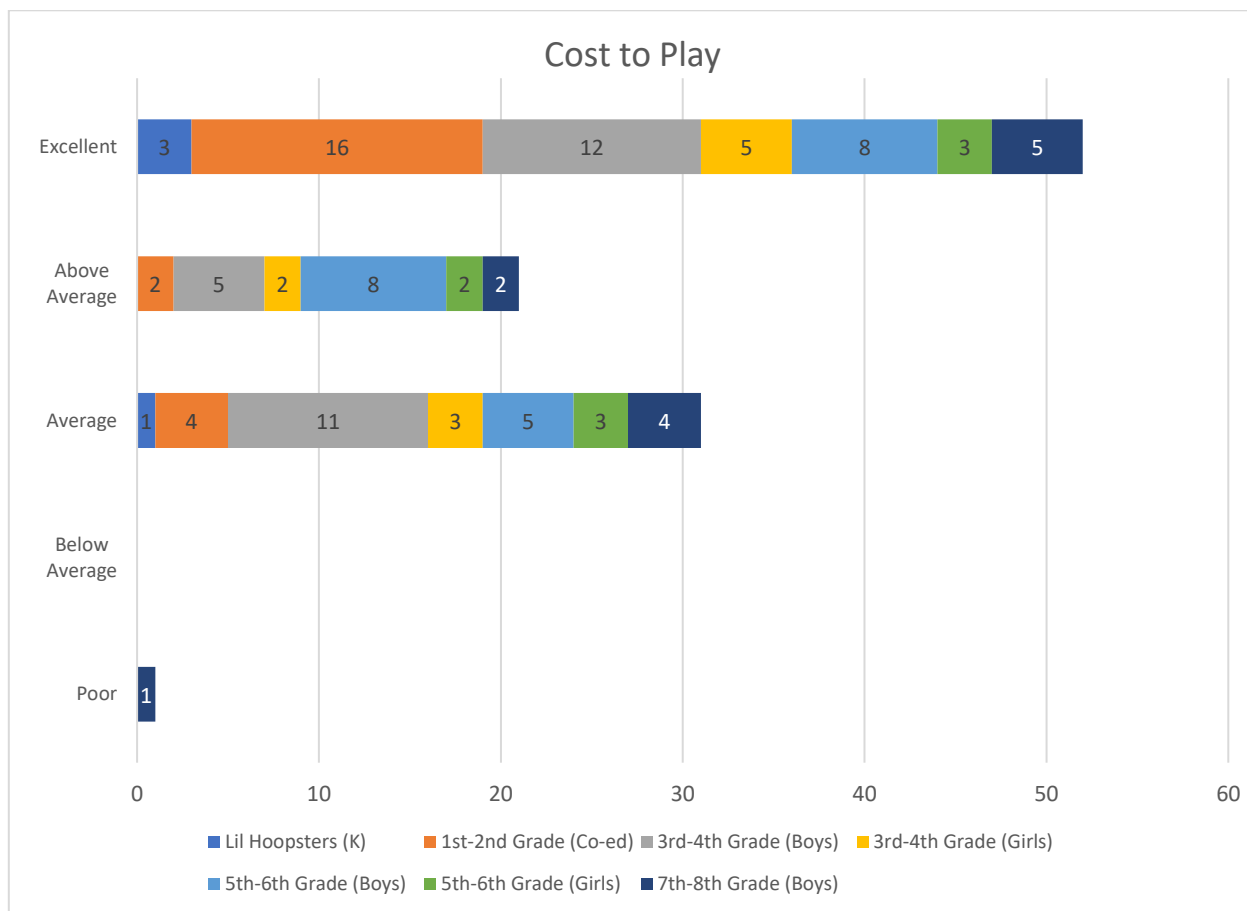


Table 3 Cost to Play

Practice Satisfaction

Question: Overall, how satisfied were you with the amount of practice your player got (# of days per week and # minutes each practice)?

88% of the respondents were at least satisfied with the number and length of practices, and 69% were extremely satisfied. 6% were dissatisfied with 5 of the 6 occurring in the 7-9th Grade (Boys) division (table 4). A total of 21 comments were made on this question, 6 were favorable, 3 was unfavorable, 12 were suggestions. A summary of the critical comments and suggestions are below:

- Would like to practice twice a week (Lil Hoopster and 1st-2nd Grade)
 - Assessment: The majority of coaches believed 1 practice day per week was enough at this age level. Coaches also stated having a full court is much preferred to half court. Next year, we will attempt to give every coach the option of having at least one (1) additional practice every month on a full court.
- Would like to practice for 90 minutes (3rd-4th Grade)
 - Assessment: Next year, we will attempt to run our early practices for 3rd-4th graders from 5:30 – 6:45. This will push the later practices for older players from 6:45 – 8:15. Coaches will always have the option of starting practices as early as 5PM, however, this is difficult for many coaches and parents. For comparison, the Fife/Milton Recreational Basketball League only guarantees one 50-minute practice per week.
- Probably need 3 nights a week after not having a season last year because of COVID
- Practice location not ideal
 - Assessments: All practices were either in Dupont or Steilacoom. For players 3rd grade & higher, player placement via a draft system to achieve fair teams was the top priority. Other factors impacting practice location was coach preference and gym space availability.
- Need make up practice from those canceled due to federal holidays.
 - Assessment: Gym space was available and offered for make-up practices, however, it was always on a different night, sometimes at a different time, and usually at a different location (for example, all season long Steilacoom High School was available for make-up or additional practices).
- Sometimes practices were cancelled at the last minute
 - Assessment: There were three times during the season the league had to cancel selected practices at the very last minute. The first time was the first day back from Winter Break and the custodians never opened Pioneer MS – all practices that night were canceled at the last minute. In the other instance, the league had scheduled a make-up game on a weeknight at Pioneer MS and failed to move the practice over to Chloe Clark until the last minute. The third time was a practice at Steilacoom HS Auxiliary gym when a select team was using the court when they should not have been. Any other practice cancellations would have been done by the coach.

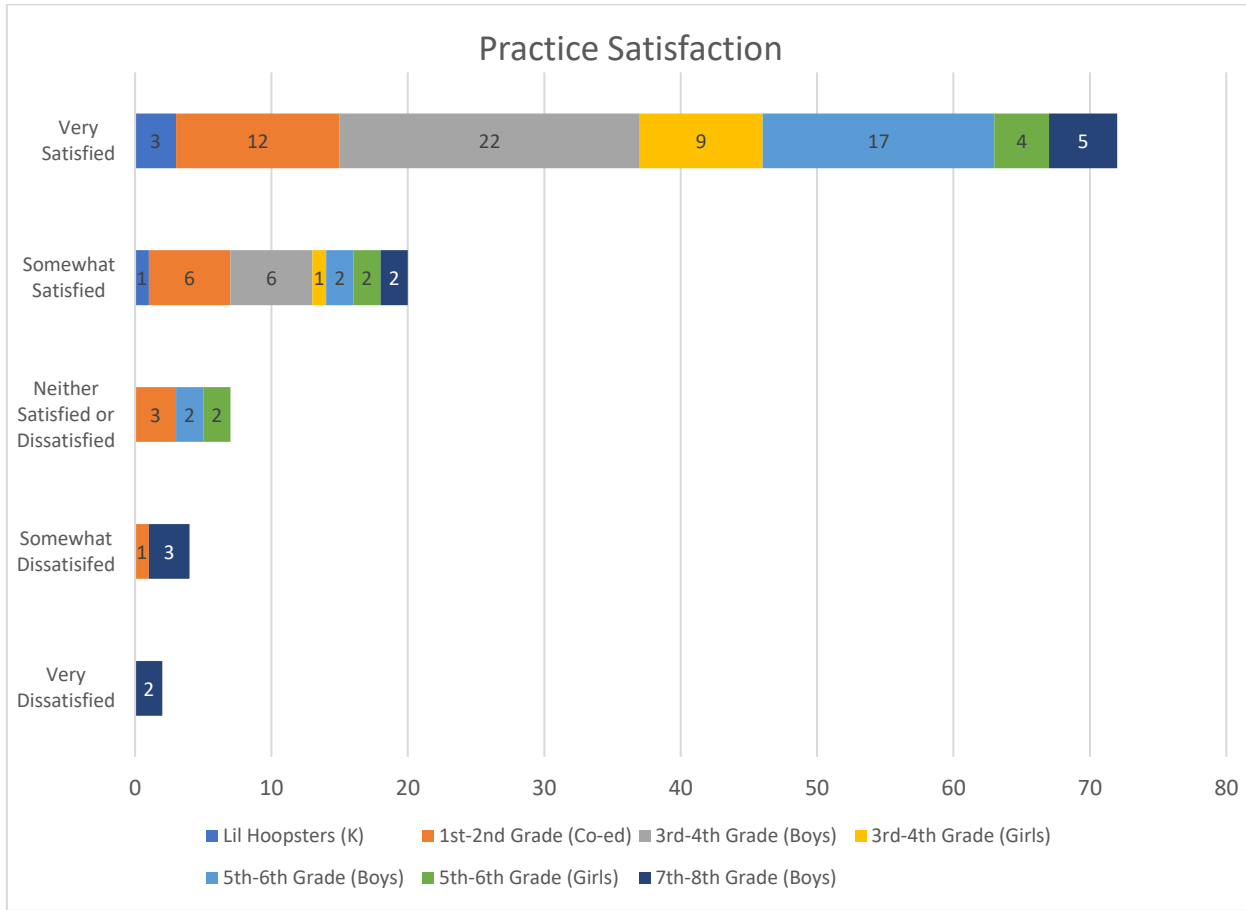


Table 4 Practice Satisfaction

Communication

Question: How would you rate the quality of the communication from the league?

87% of the respondents indicated the league communication was above average or better, with 75% stating it was excellent. Two (2) people thought the communication was below average. A total of 8 comments were made on this question, 6 were favorable, 1 was unfavorable, and 1 was a suggestion. A summary of the critical comments and suggestions are below:

- Email is hard, text is preferred, or both
- Did not receive some of the emails

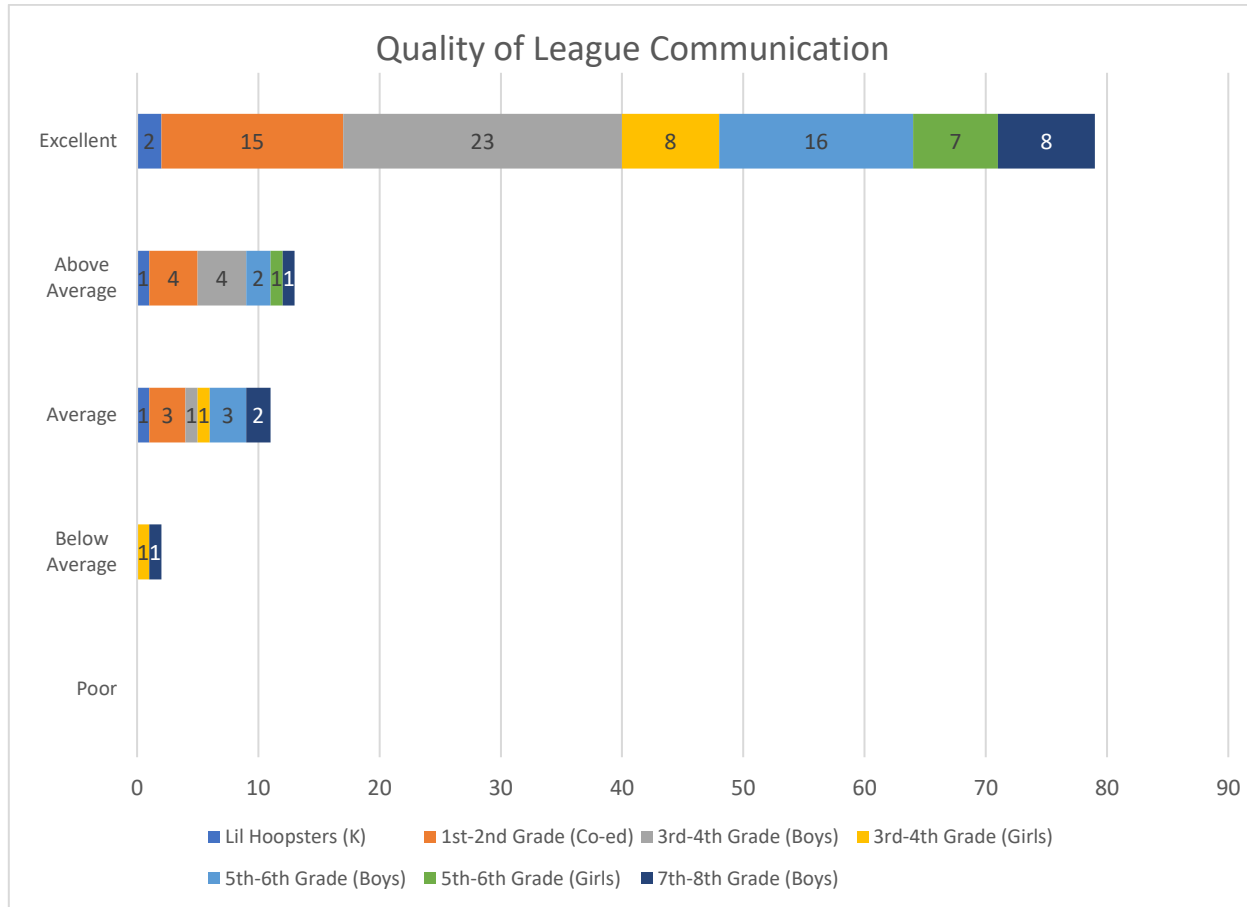


Table 5 Quality of League Communication

Coaches

Question: How would you rate the quality of the volunteer coaches.

80% of the respondents rated their coach as Excellent or Above Average, and only 3% thought their coach was below average or poor. A total of 13 comments were made on this question, 11 were favorable and 2 were unfavorable. A summary of the critical comments are below:

- Coach was fantastic, but only there 25% of the time
- Coach showed favoritism

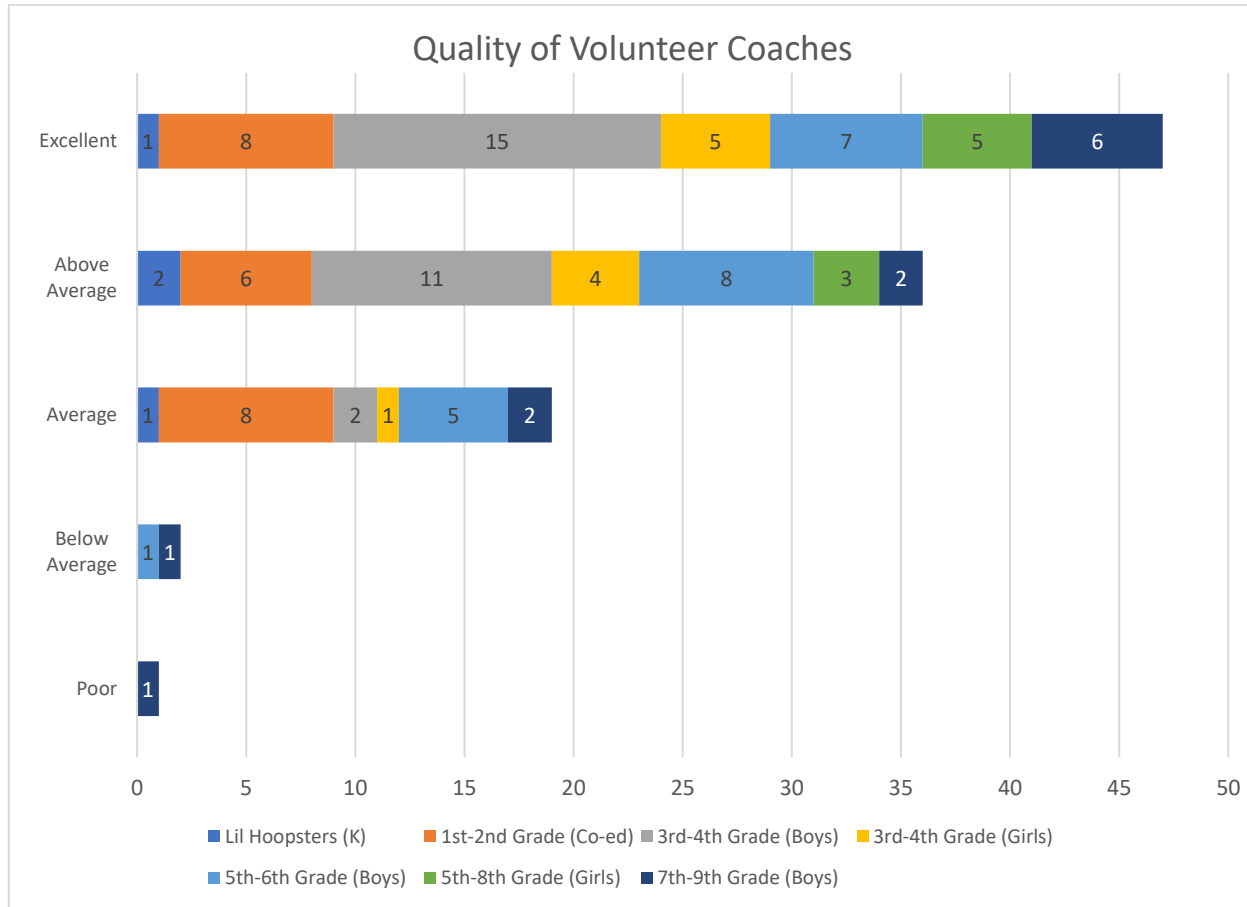


Table 6 Coach Satisfaction

Other Comments

The survey gave respondents the option of submitting additional comments. Below is a summary of the responses:

- There were 13 favorable comments
- There were 8 suggestions:
 - Two (2) games at once at Pioneer MS made it hard to hear the whistle
 - Would like a playoff system
 - Would like a longer season
 - Start games 15 minutes after previous one ends
 - Numbers on front of shirts so player knows who to guard
 - Play co-ed up until 7th grade level
 - If masks are worn again, don't threaten to cancel game if parents or players do not comply
 - Shoot free throws and only allow 3 secs in the lane
- There were 9 unfavorable comments:
 - Equal playing time (2 comments)
 - Mid-week games at Fife (2 comments), plus late games (7:30 start time)
 - Signed up for volunteer coach, but never contacted
 - Basic components of the game were not taught
 - Coaches should not talk negatively to opposing team players
 - Rules were a bit confusing; consistency with Fife and JBLM (2 comments)
 - Unhappy with referees and lack of engagement by DuPont Rec sports leadership when refs were disrespectful and unprofessional during games
 - Need to replace Rich
 - Manage the coaches who are disrespectful better

Joint Base Lewis-McChord (JBLM) and Fife-Milton Games

This year some of our 3rd-4th Grade (Girls), 5th-9th Grade (Girls) and 7th-9th Grade (Boys) teams played games against teams from Fife-Milton Recreation Basketball. Additionally, our 5th-6th Grade (Boys) and 7th-9th Grade (Boys) teams played games against JBLM team. The majority of games played against Fife-Milton were at their gyms at Columbia High School and Surprise Lake Middle School. Only a few Fife-Milton games were played on our home court. This is because the Fife-Milton program has more than enough teams on their own and do not need to play external leagues like ours. Their teams played us in order to help us get a variety of competition. The JBLM games were played at the Child Youth Services buildings on the base and our courts in Dupont. Games played at the base required families to gain access through the gates. The league coordinated with the base Visitor Center for families to check in and get a temporary pass to access the base. Families had to provide a driver's license and evidence of car insurance.

Games Against Fife-Milton

Satisfaction

Question: Overall, how satisfied were you with the games played against Fife-Milton Recreational Basketball League?

All of the respondents were either Very Satisfied or Somewhat Satisfied with the games played against Fife-Milton teams. A total of 6 comments were made on this question, 1 was favorable and 5 were unfavorable. A summary of the are below:

- Loved watching the girls play full court in Fife
- Too far and too late in the evening (2)
- Referees favored Fife (2)
- Rules were not well known

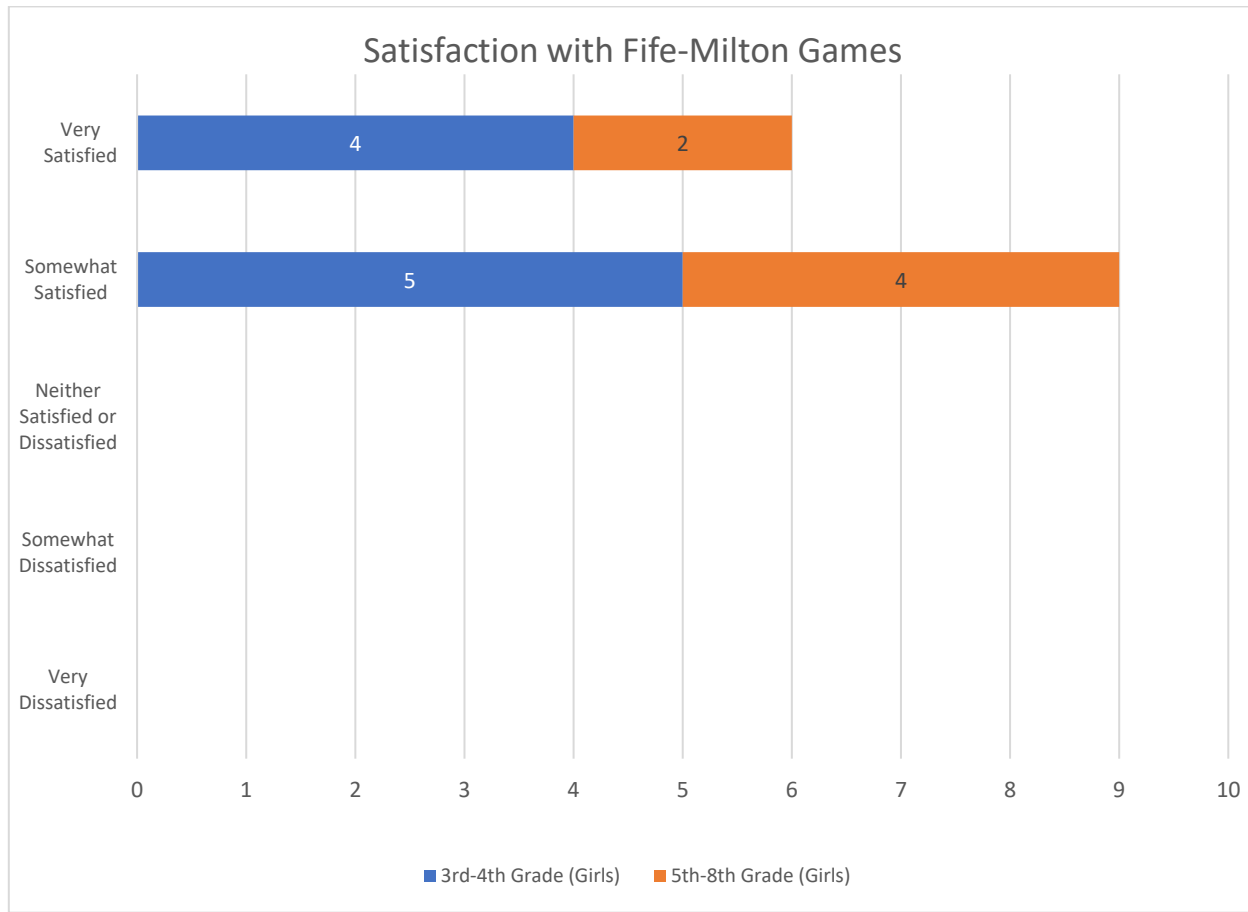


Table 7 Fife-Milton Satisfaction

Information

Question: Did you have enough information about your game(s) against Fife-Milton Recreational Basketball League?

All but one of the 15 respondents replied Yes. A total of 6 comments were made on this question, 4 was favorable and 2 were unfavorable. A summary of the are below:

- One scheduled game listed incorrectly
- Rules were not well known

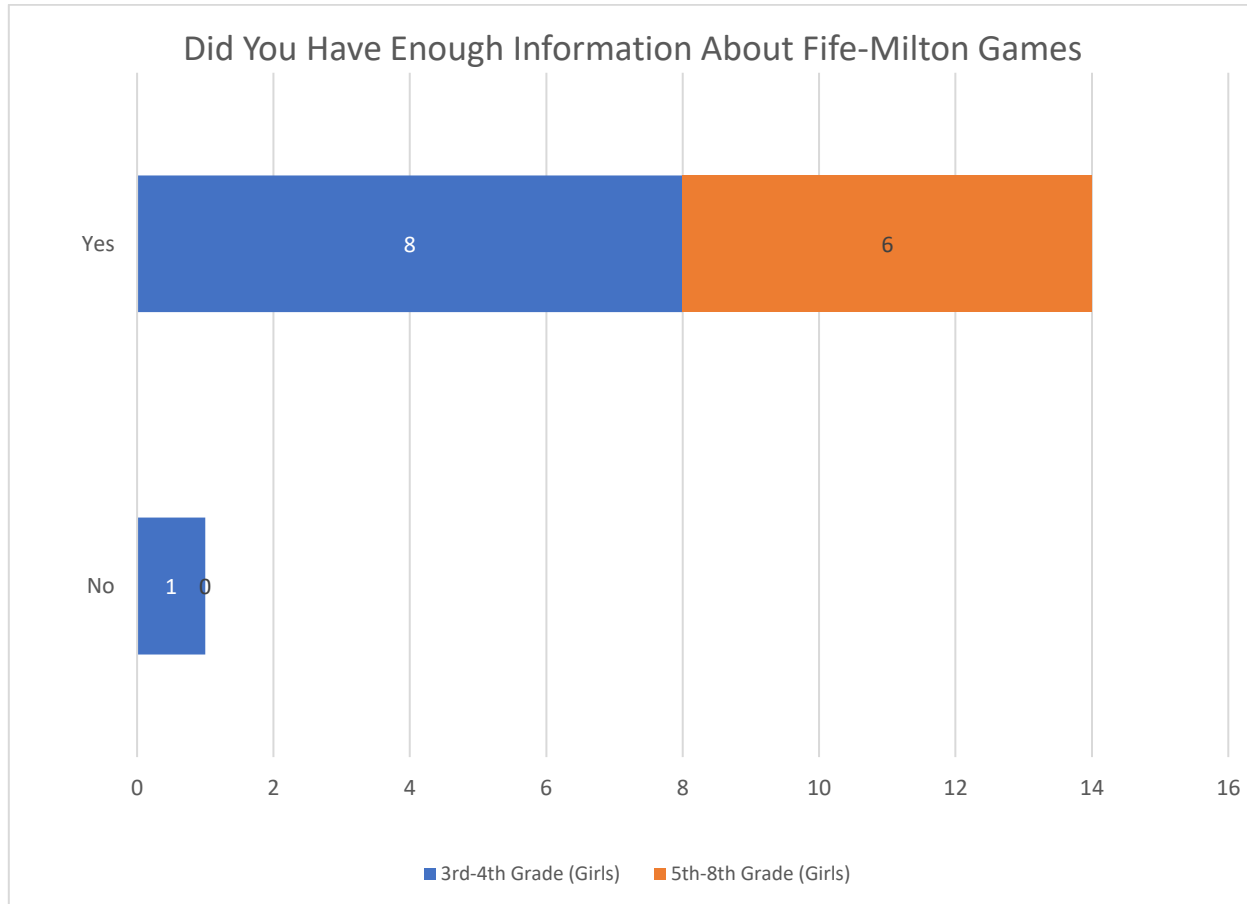


Table 8 Fife-Milton Information

Gyms

Question: How easy was it to find the Fife-Milton gyms?

All but one of the 15 respondents replied it was either Somewhat Easy or Very Easy. A total of 1 comment were made on this question:

- Access door was hard to find, but easy to find the gym

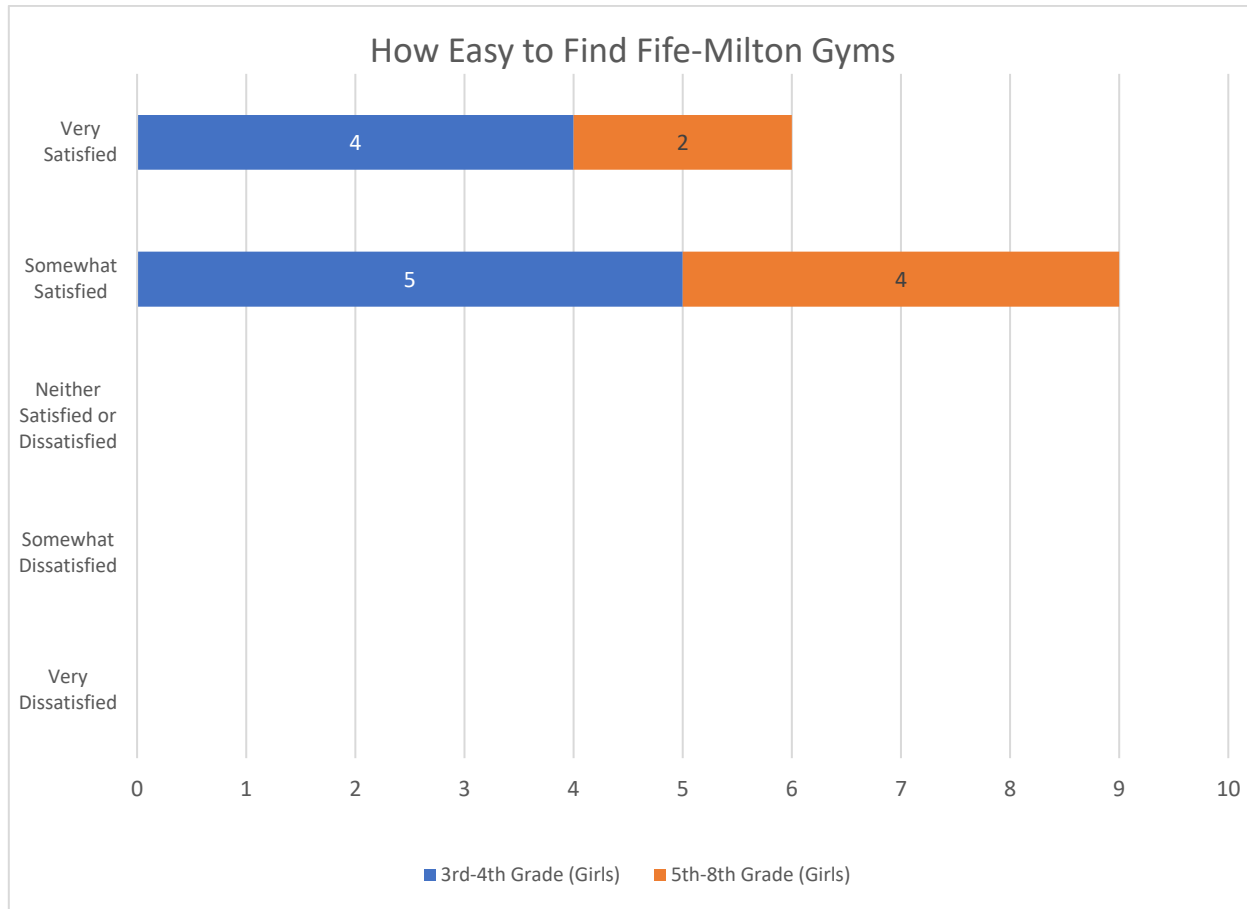


Table 9 Fife-Milton Gyms

Competition

Question: How would you rate the quality of the Fife-Milton teams your child played?

All respondents indicated they thought the level of completion was just about right. A total of 2 comments were made on this question:

- Their teams were competitive enough to improve our team’s skills without it being too one-sided
- They seemed a lot bigger in size. Not sure about the age ranges being the same

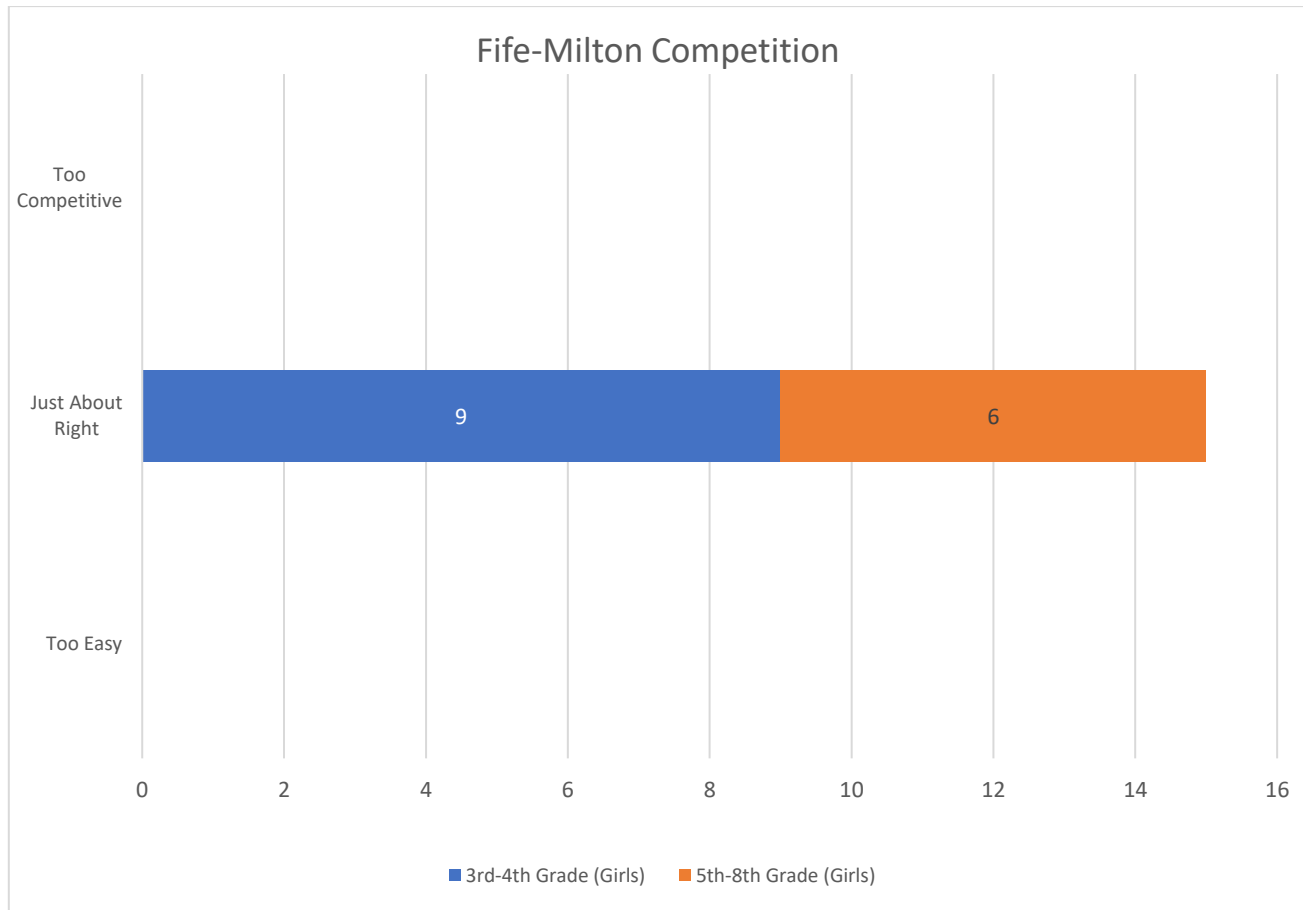


Table 10 Fife-Milton Competition

Trade-off

Question: If you had to choose between playing the same Dupont team 4,5, or more times or playing games against Fife-Milton which would you choose??

80% of respondents (11 of 14) want to play Fife-Milton teams for the challenge to the team and coach. 2 respondents recommended playing Fife-Milton only if there were not have enough Dupont teams. 1 respondent would rather play the same Dupont teams all season. A total of 3 comments were made on this question:

- Would love the competitive change if we had the information ahead of time
- Wouldn't mind a couple games in Fife for the challenge. Early time slot is ideal
- If we have more than 2 teams in Dupont, would rather stay here. However, playing Fife challenge our team and they improved

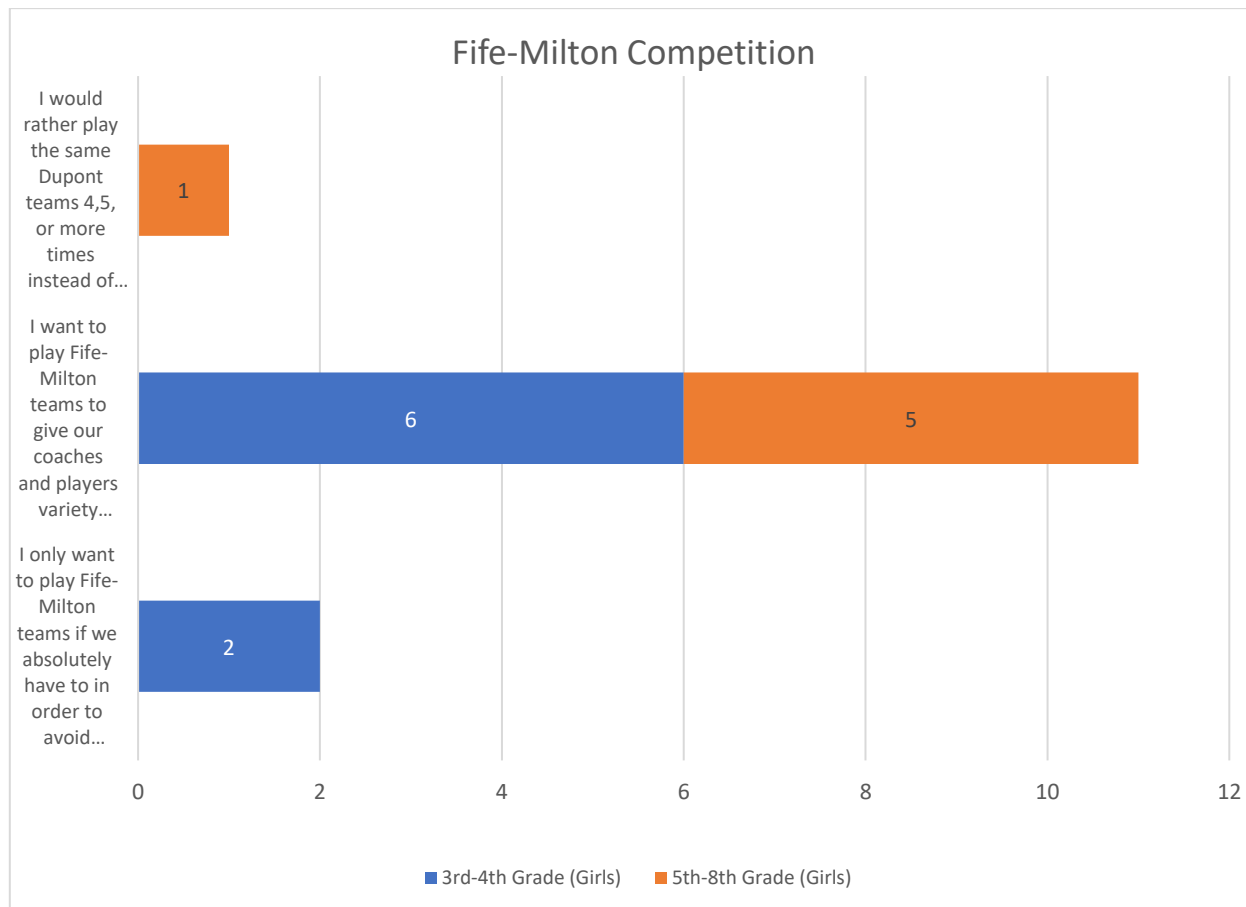


Table 11 Fife-Milton or Dupont Only Trade-off

Future

Question: Would you recommend we play games against Fife-Milton in the future?

All but one respondent replied Yes.

- Only if there aren't enough Dupont teams
- If we can play earlier in the evening

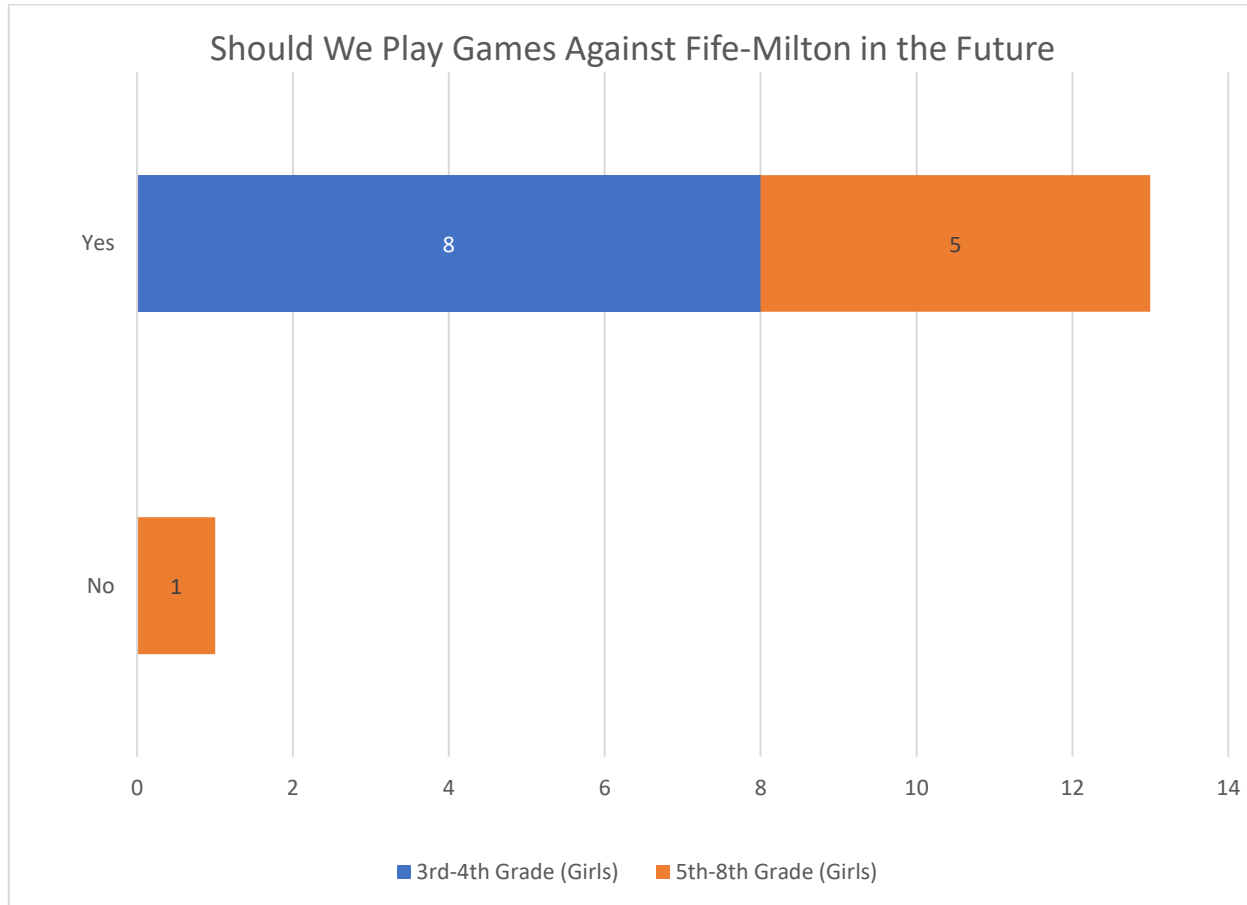


Table 12 Future Games Against Fife-Milton

Other Comments

Question: What recommendations do you have to improve the experience when playing Fife-Milton teams?

The survey gave respondents the option of submitting additional comments. Below is a summary of the responses:

- Start games in Fife earlier for the younger girls
- Try to avoid Friday games because of traffic

Games Against Joint Base Lewis-McChord (JBLM)

Satisfaction

Question: Overall, how satisfied were you with the games played Joint Base Lewis-McChord Basketball League?

91% of the respondents were either Very Satisfied or Somewhat Satisfied with the games played against JBLM teams, which were only the 7-9th Grade (Boys) and 5-6th Grade (Boys). Two (2) respondents were dissatisfied. A total of 5 comments were made on this question, 1 was favorable and 4 were unfavorable. A summary of the are below:

- Rules differences appeared to be a challenge for the players and coaches; Scorekeeping was inconsistent, but got better toward the end of the season
- Took a good amount of time to get on base
- Ages seemed different

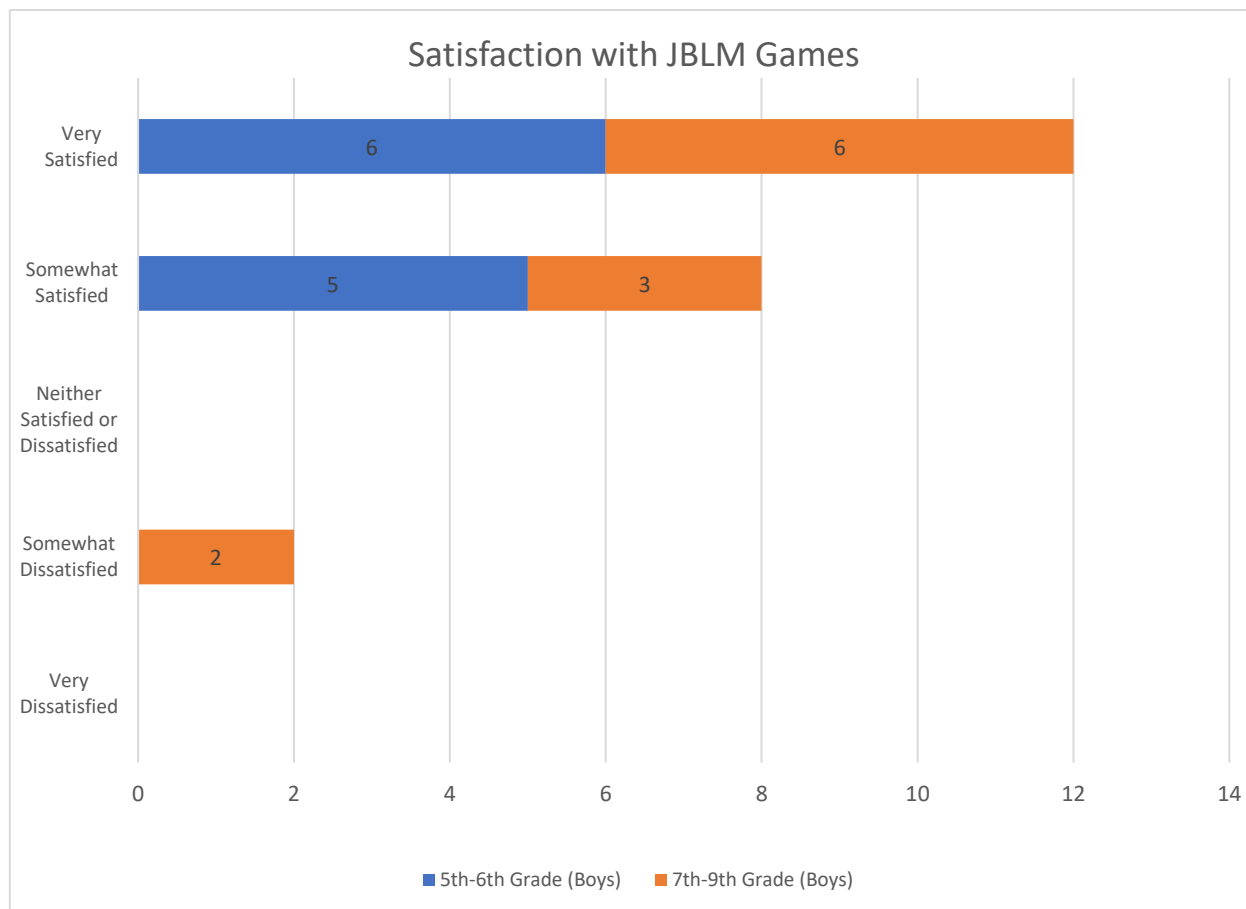


Table 13 JBLM Satisfaction

Information

Question: Did you have enough information about your game(s) against JBLM Basketball League?

All but one of the 22 respondents replied Yes. Two comments were made on this question:

- Rules were not known well
- Schedule did not reflect the actual JBLM team we played

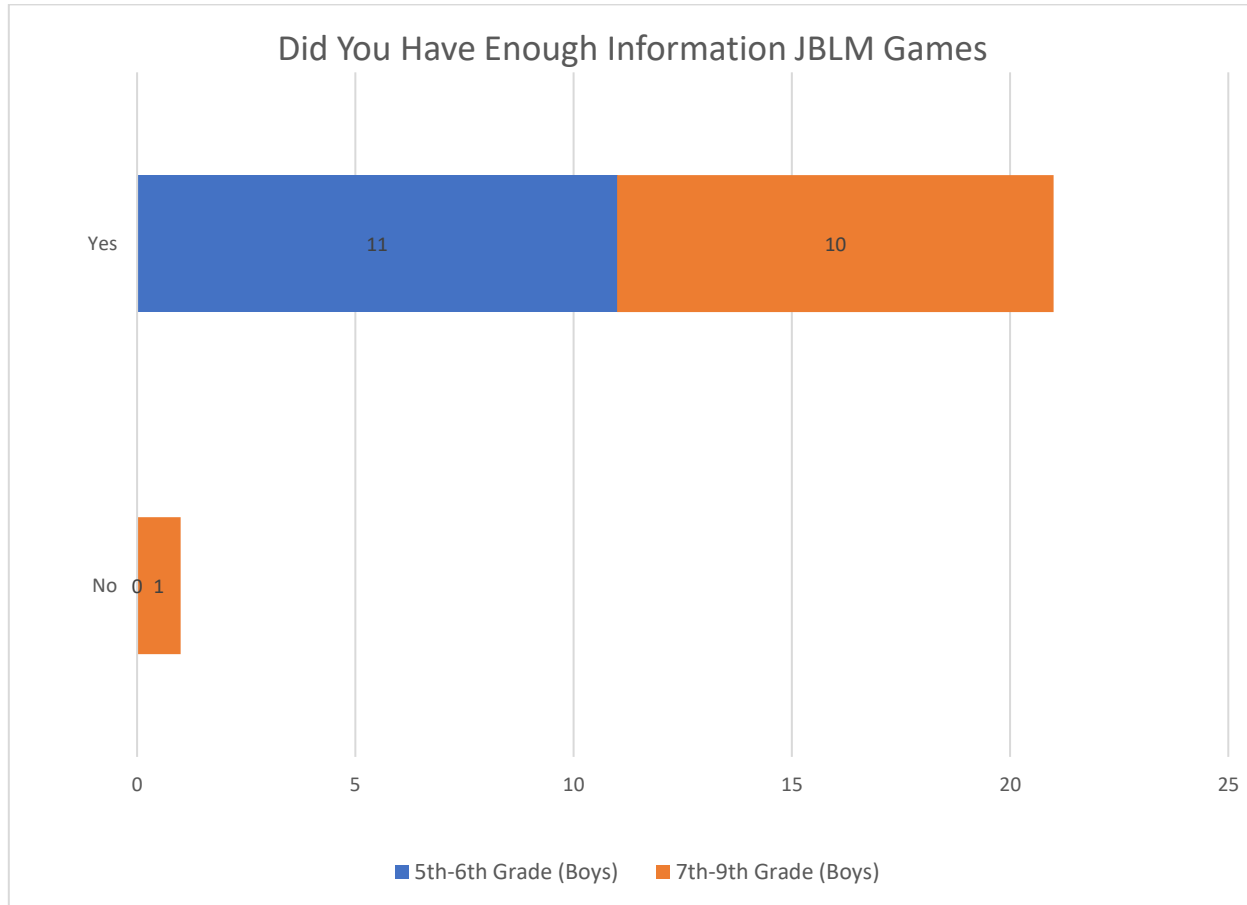


Table 14 JBLM Information

JBLM Base Access

Question: How easy was it to access JBLM?

All but one of the 22 respondents replied it was either Somewhat Easy or Very Easy. One critical comment was made on this question:

- Took a bit longer than expected

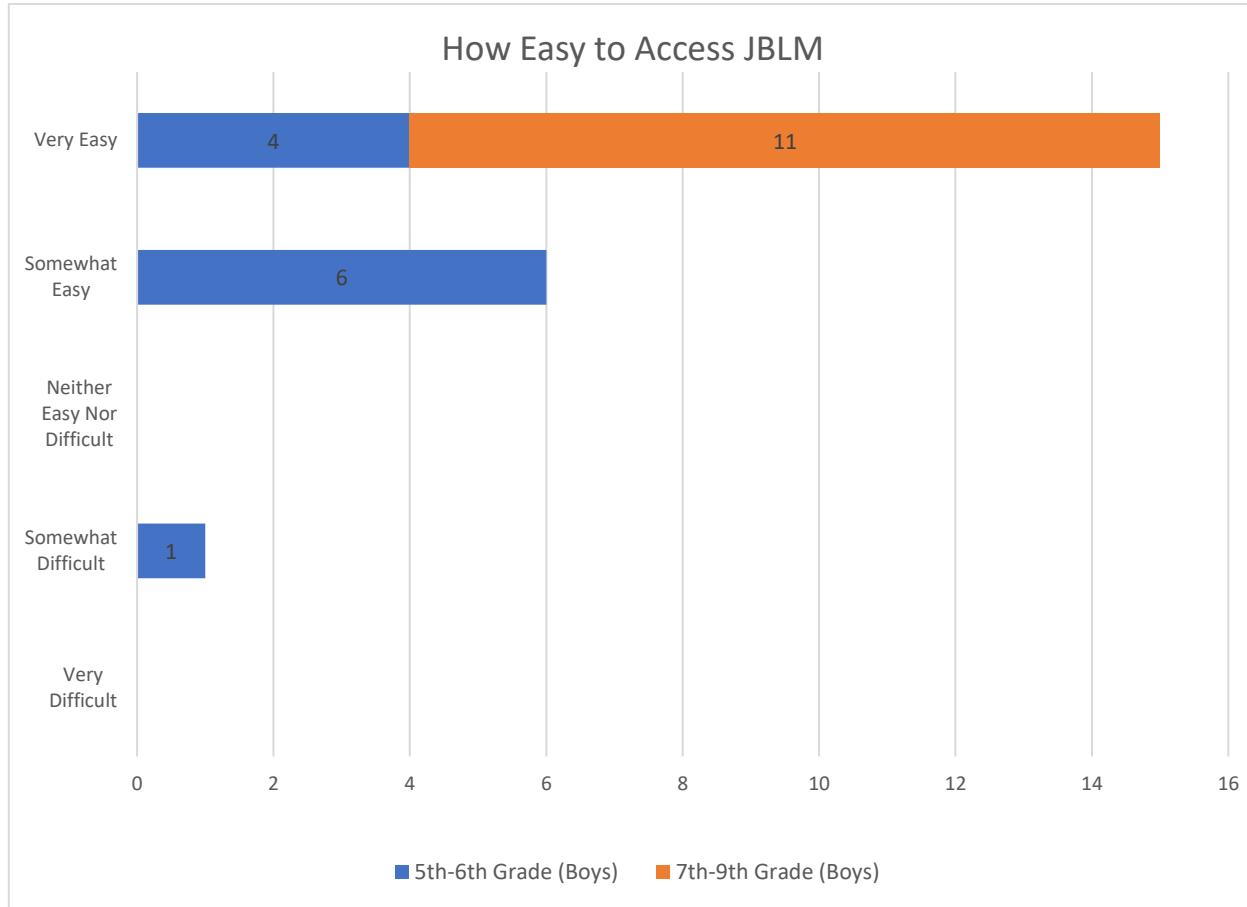


Table 15 Access to JBLM Base

Gyms

Question: How easy was it to find the JBLM gyms?

All but one of the 22 respondents replied it was either Somewhat Easy or Very Easy. One critical comment was made on this question:

- One gym was hard to find

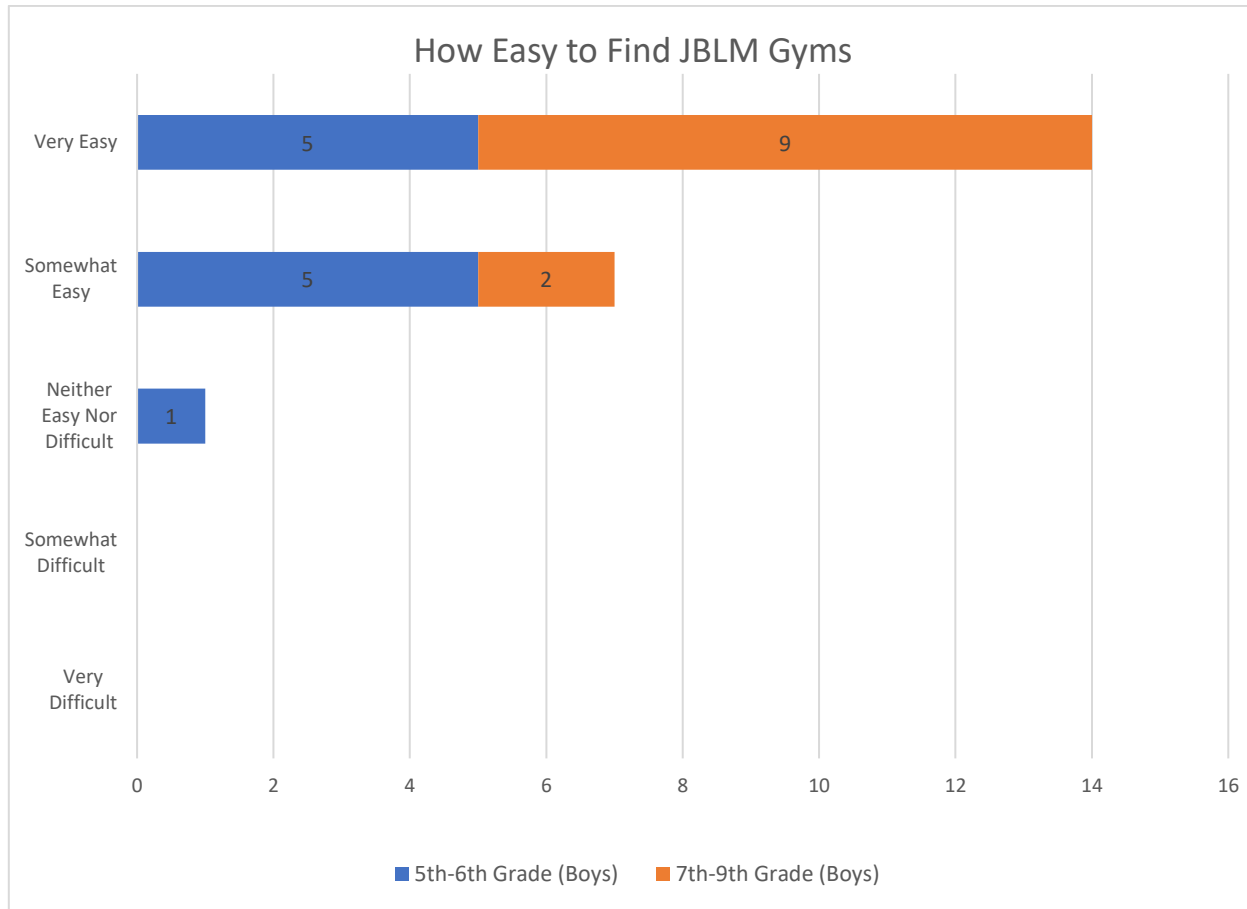


Table 16 JBLM Gyms

Competition

Question: How would you rate the quality of the JBLM teams your child played?

All but three (3) of the respondents indicated they thought the level of completion was just about right. A total of 2 comments were made on this question:

- A couple of the teams were too easy
- Seemed to be a difference in age

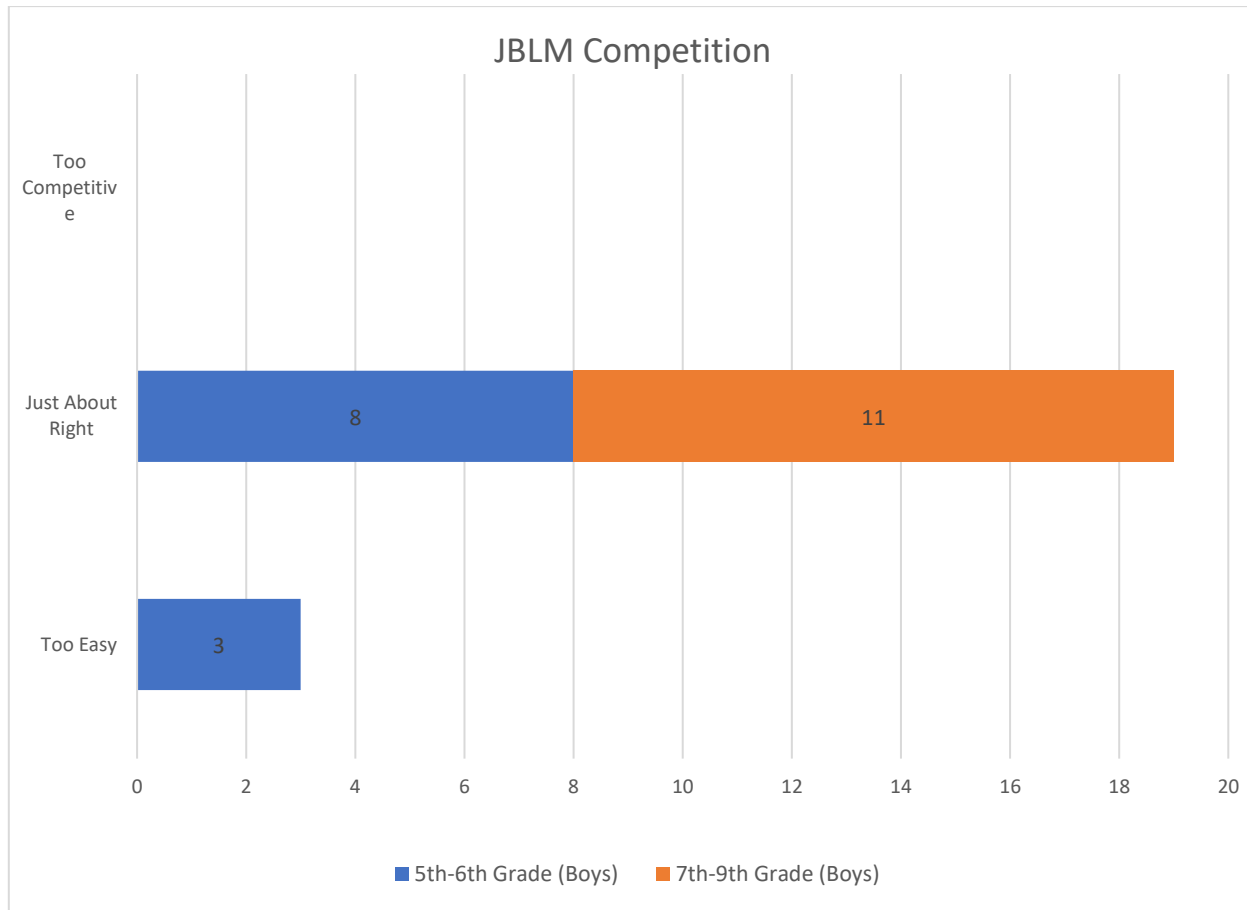


Table 17 JBLM Competition

Future

Question: Would you recommend we play games against teams from Joint-Base Lewis McChord in the future?

All respondents recommended the league play games against JBLM in the future

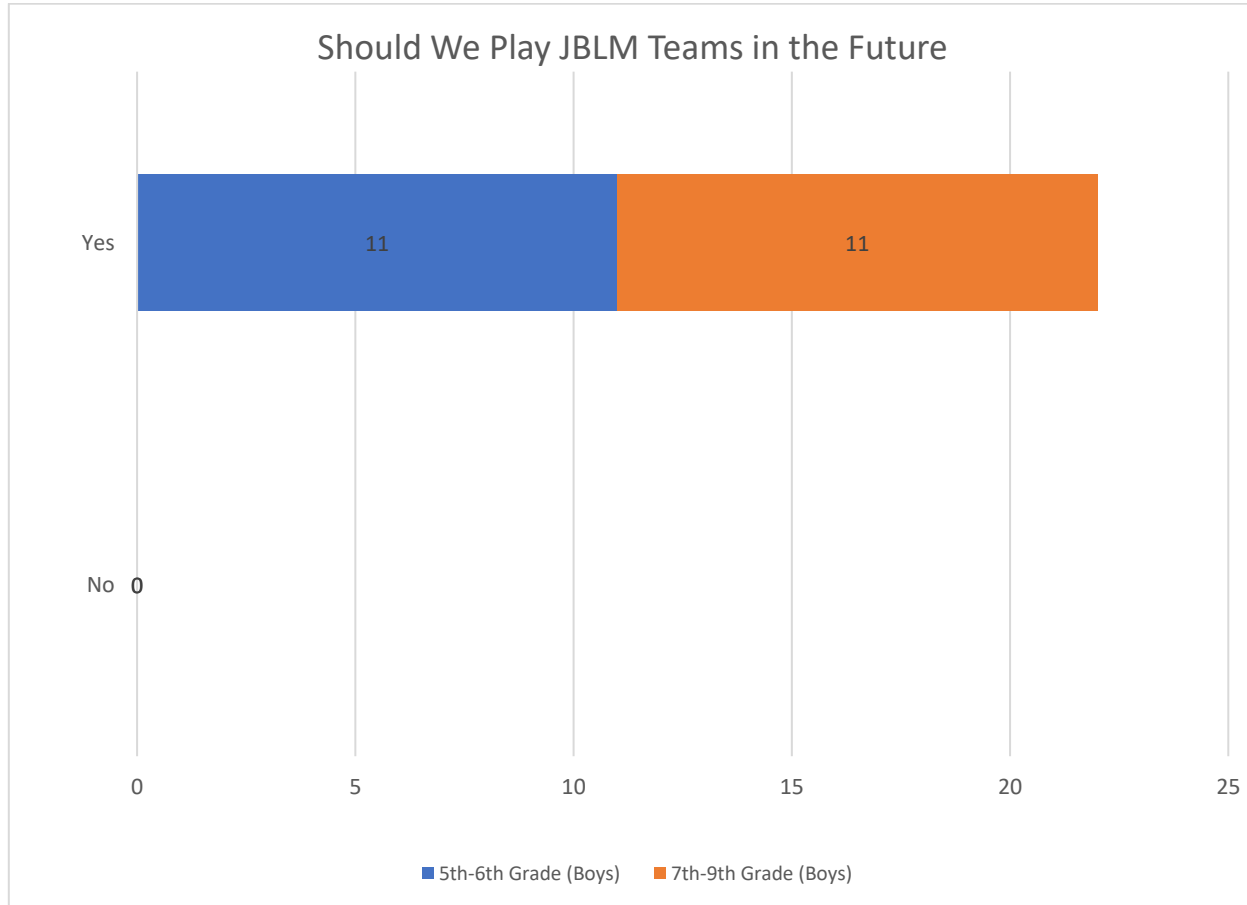


Table 18 Future Games Against JBLM

Trade-off

Question: If you had to choose between playing the same Dupont team 4,5, or more times or playing games against JBLM, which would you choose?

82% of respondents (18 of 22) want to play JBLM teams for the challenge to the team and coach. Three (3) respondents recommended playing JBLM only if there were not have enough Dupont teams. One (1) respondent would rather play the same Dupont teams all season. A total of two (2) comments were made on this question:

- Ensure each Dupont team is played twice
- Try to match up the competition

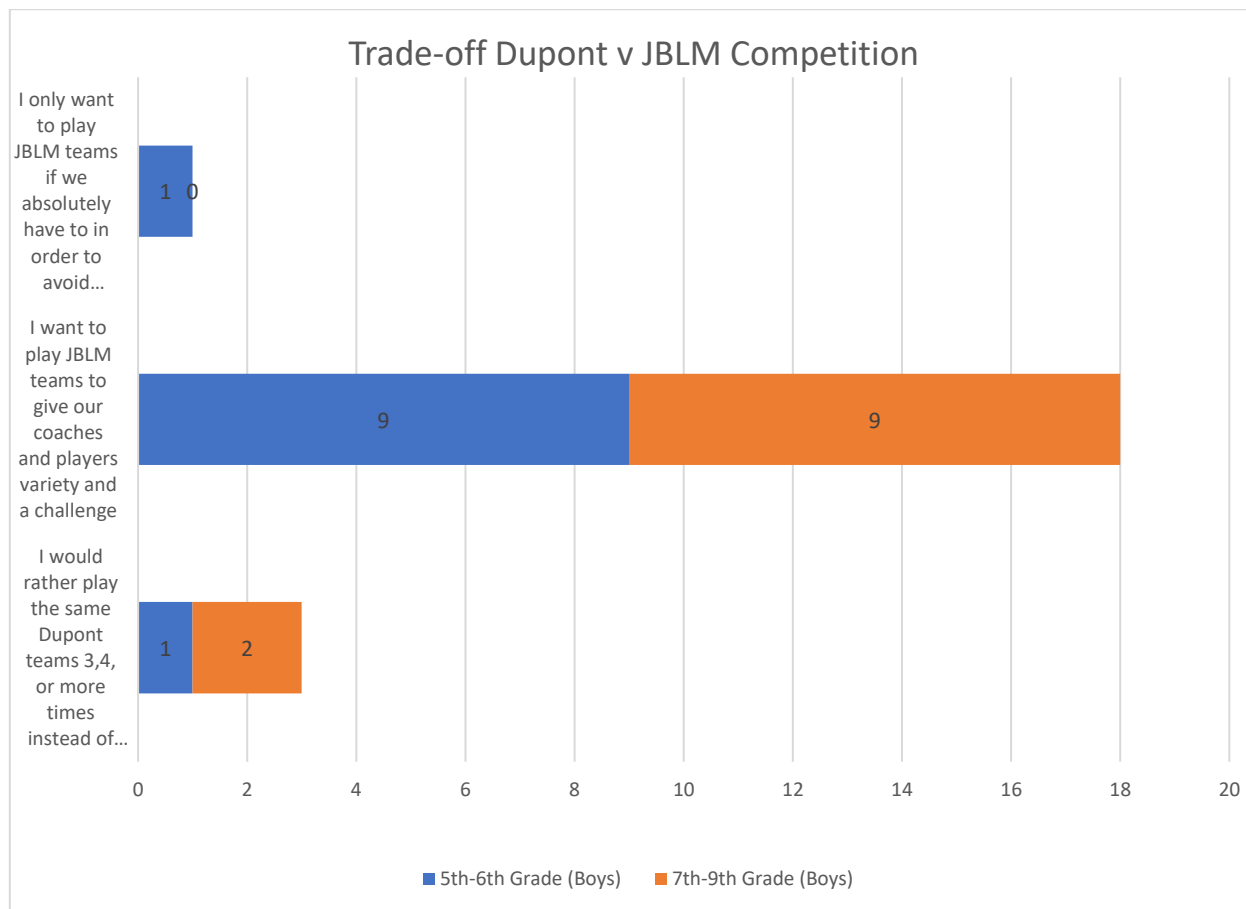


Table 19 JBLM or Dupont Only Tradeoff

Other Comments

Question: What recommendations do you have to improve the experience when playing Fife-Milton teams?

The survey gave respondents the option of submitting additional comments. Below is a summary of the responses:

- Communicate the rules differences (4 comments)
- None. This was a great experience and worthwhile for all involved.
- This year was another good one. Coaches and ref were awesome.
- None, it was fine. Getting on base is a process, but one we are willing to go through.
- Better Refereeing

Recommendations

A series of improvements and new initiatives are discussed in this section. These ideas are a result of several end of the season activities aimed at gathering feedback from different groups of people. The league administrator hosted an after-action meeting with coaches from every division, the President of Northwest Officials, and the City of Dupont Parks and Recreation Director. The league also conducted an end of season survey among participating families. Lastly, the league is continually learning from other programs and trying to implement best practices.

Improvements

Practices

- Find ways to give 1st-2nd grade coaches option for 2nd practice each week, or 2-3 additional practices per month
- Find ways to lengthen practice for 3rd-4th graders (currently 1 hour); for Pioneer Middle School and Saltars Point ES:
 - Early Practice (3rd-4th Grade) run 5:30 – 6:45
 - Late practice (5th grade & up) run 6:45 – 8:15
- Use non-divisional coaches to assess players. In other words, 7th-9th grade coaches assess 5th-6th grade players
- Involve Middle School and High School teams/players in running the assessment
- Work with Cub scouts to move their meetings to another location during basketball season so we can use Chloe Clark Elementary School gym on Monday & Tuesday

Games & Game Rules:

- Generally, align league rules with the external leagues we play (Fife-Milton and JBLM)
- Conduct virtual sessions before the season begins to review modified rules with parents
- Consider full court length, 5 v 5 for 3rd-4th grade divisions
- Find a way to mark the correct out-of-bounds under the basket at Chloe Clark
- 15 minute gap between games
- Free-throws for 3rd grade & up. Clock will stop for the first two games of the season, then running clock rest of season
- Call moving violations for 1st-2nd grade all season. First half of season, violating team gets the ball back; second half of season the violation creates a turn-over
- Consider tracking fouls for 1st-2nd grade players to prevent unsafe play
- Consider allowing girls that do not make their middle school team register for our league without late penalty
- Consider games against Fife-Milton for 3rd-4th grade divisions (both boy & girl)
- Try to find a way to get matched up teams when we play JBLM

Game Facilities:

- Playing 3rd-4th grade games full court will allow the bleachers at Pioneer MS to be used for spectators

Administration:

- Improve quality of officiating
- Have the ability to send leagues messages by text

New Initiatives. The following are new ideas to consider implementing in the upcoming 2022-2023 season:

Governance

- Establish an Advisory Group to support decision making regarding the program;
- Draft a charter outlining the purpose and composition of the Advisory Group
- The Advisory Group would likely consist of a coach from each division who would represent that division when making recommendations or providing input to the league administrator or the City of DuPont Parks and Recreation director
- Establish a Player Agent for the league at the beginning of the season. Purpose of the Player Agent is to act as an intermediary for players and parents to resolve issues with their coach, league administrator, etc.

All-Stars

- Consider a single all-star game for the 3rd grade & up divisions;
- Games will be played Friday after the regular season end

Girl Participation

- Organize a working group in to discuss ways to improve promotion and participation of girls in the league; promote the league to girl fall sports teams like soccer, cross-country, etc.
- Build teams at 3rd-4th grade, 5th-6th grade, and 7-9th grade even if just a single team. Teams will be able to compete against Fife-Milton
- Provide girls who are not selected for the Pioneer MS basketball team the opportunity to sign up late without penalty

Open Gym & New Player Clinic

- Consider hosting an open gym in November for experienced players 3rd grade & up
- Consider running a basketball clinic for kids entering 1st grade who did not participate in the Little Hoopster program or any 5th grade and younger player who has never played basketball

Contact Information

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League Information

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