



# BIG LEAF BASKETBALL FULL COURT PRESS

POWERED BY THE NATIONAL BASKETBALL ACADEMY



3...2... 1... Team! Shaker Heights Raiders are ready to roll into the Big Leaf League Tournament and make some noise in the 6th Grade Boys A Division.

## TOURNEY TIME!

JANUARY 21, 2022

### IN THIS ISSUE...

- Big Leaf's Very Own Selection Sunday
- TNBA's Most Popular Camp is Back! Register Now!
- Every Bracket. Every Division Broken Down.
- Last Week of League Play in Pictures
- Big Leaf Public Service Announcemnt
- Buzzing About the Honey Bucket
- Return of the President's Day Elementary Showcase
- LeagueOhio Championship and Super Bucket
- #Followus on Social Media @bigleafhoops

### This Is How We Do It...

We know! It's hard to believe but this weekend kicks off the Big Leaf Basketball League Tournament! Over 150 teams from nine different counties will compete for 15 different championships!

What makes our tournament unique is we break up brackets fairly to give all teams a chance to win a game and most teams a legitimate chance to bring their team, their school and their community a championship.



WWW.BIGLEAFSPORTS.COM



@BIGLEAFHOOPS



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# BIG LEAF'S VERY OWN JANUARY MADNESS

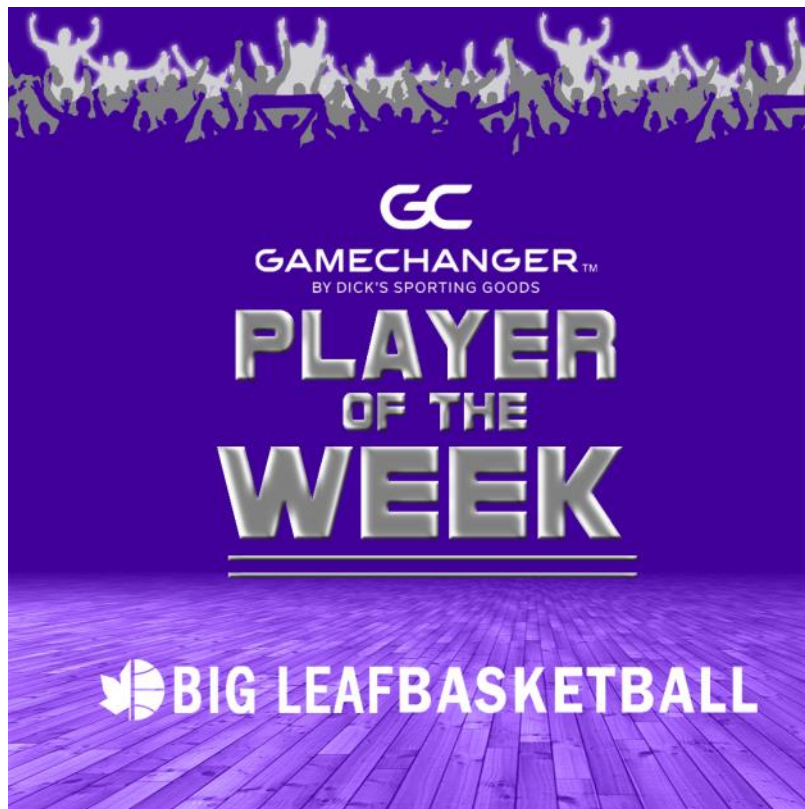
## LOOKING FORWARD TO ALL THE MAGIC MOMENTS TO COME...

Just like on the hardwood, perfection is tough to obtain when assembling a bracket. Let's face it. We all question the NCAA each March. Here at Big Leaf, we feel we did the best we could without having a 12-person selection committee, no analytics and without hours of film on each team.

We hope everyone enjoys the ride. Remember, while there's only one winner in each bracket, it's the magic of a tournament run that often falls short of the prize that players, coaches and fans will never forget.

We will follow this Full Court Press Tournament Preview issue up with a Week One recap issue, complete with a week two preview and, finally, a Big Leaf Basketball League Tournament recap issue.

And remember, as you see players playing their heart out, make sure to nominate them for the GameChanger Player of the Week. Following the tournament, we will compile our All-Tournament Teams. Don't let your player down and forget to nominate him or her.



Nominate a player at [bigleafsports.com/player-of-the-week-nominations](http://bigleafsports.com/player-of-the-week-nominations)

# CHECK OUT THESE BIG LEAF TOURNEYS

REGISTER AT [TNBABASKETBALL.COM/BIGLEAF](http://TNBABASKETBALL.COM/BIGLEAF)



February 5-6, 2022



February 12, 2022



February 24-27, 2022



March 1-6, 2022

# Our most popular camp is back!

Camp will sell out! Register early to secure a spot!!



# TNBA

**20% Early Bird Discount  
for Big Leaf Players!  
Use Code: 22SONCEBBL  
(good thru 2/15/2022)**

## OVERNIGHT BASKETBALL CAMP

### SUMMER 2022

June 19-23, 2022

Boys and girls ages 8-17

@ Ursuline College

2550 Lander Rd., Pepper Pike, Ohio 44124

\$545 for Overnight camper  
\$345 for Commuter camper



Camp directors



Shane Kline-Ruminski  
shane@thebasketballacademy.com  
440-725-6449

Kelsey Michaels  
kmichaels@thebasketballacademy.com  
419-603-2732

#### Basketball Highlights

- Film breakdown of shot, skill work and games
- (3) 5-on-5 games per day
- Different skill focus breakdown each session
- Camper leaves with evaluation on strengths, weaknesses; and how-to improve
- Great instruction in a fun and exciting atmosphere

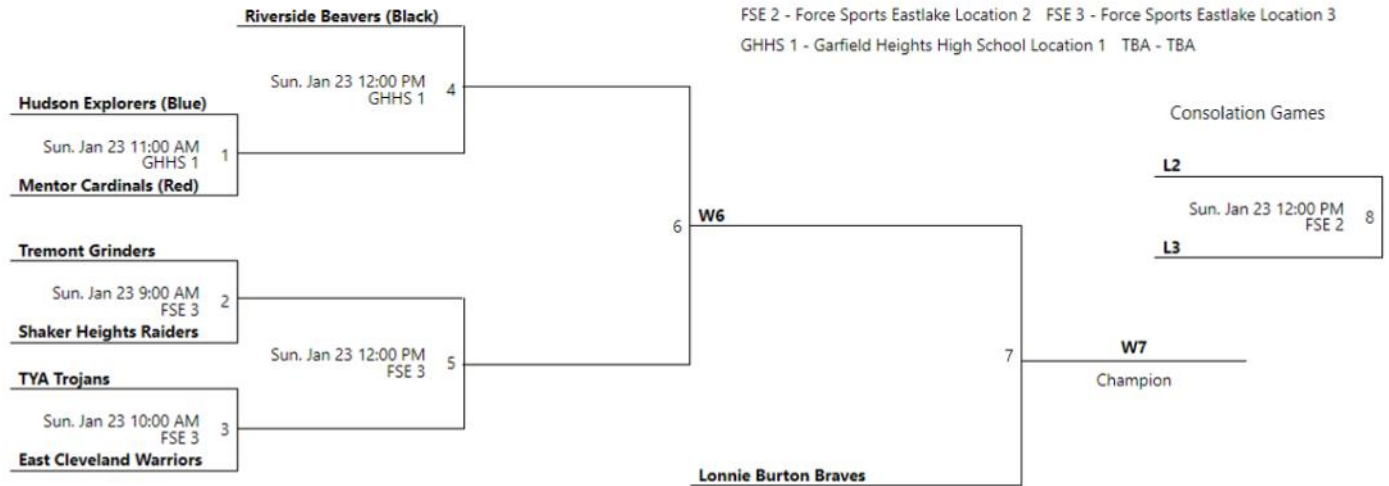
#### Other Camp Highlights

- 4 night stay at Ursuline College
- All you can eat meals (great food!)
- 24 hour security
- Classroom sessions on nutrition and strength
- Ice cream truck last night of camp!



REGISTER: [TNBABasketball.com/TNBAOhio](http://TNBABasketball.com/TNBAOhio)

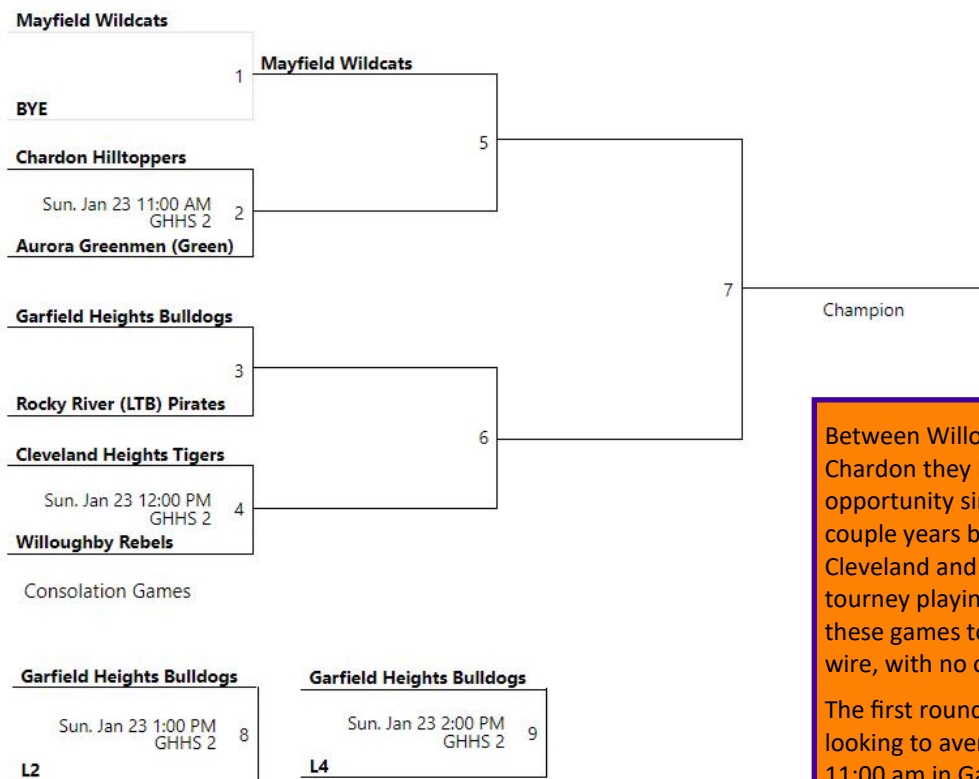
# 6<sup>TH</sup> GRADE BOYS A DIVISION



Obviously the strongest batch of teams in Big Leaf, what always makes this group special is their familiarity with each other. Over the last two years these top teams have played each other several times and all know each is capable of beating each other on any given day. No two teams come into the tournament hotter than Riverside Black and T.Y.A. Trojans. Both teams have won seven of their last eight with their only loss coming at the hands of the Lonnie Burton Braves. Lonnie Burton will meet the winner of this bracket for a league championship game.

What also makes this bracket special is each team has the elite talent to take home the hardware. Watch out for the winner of Hudson Blue and Mentor Red to give top seeded Riverside Black all they can handle as they carry the momentum in Garfield Heights for the noon semi final game on court one.

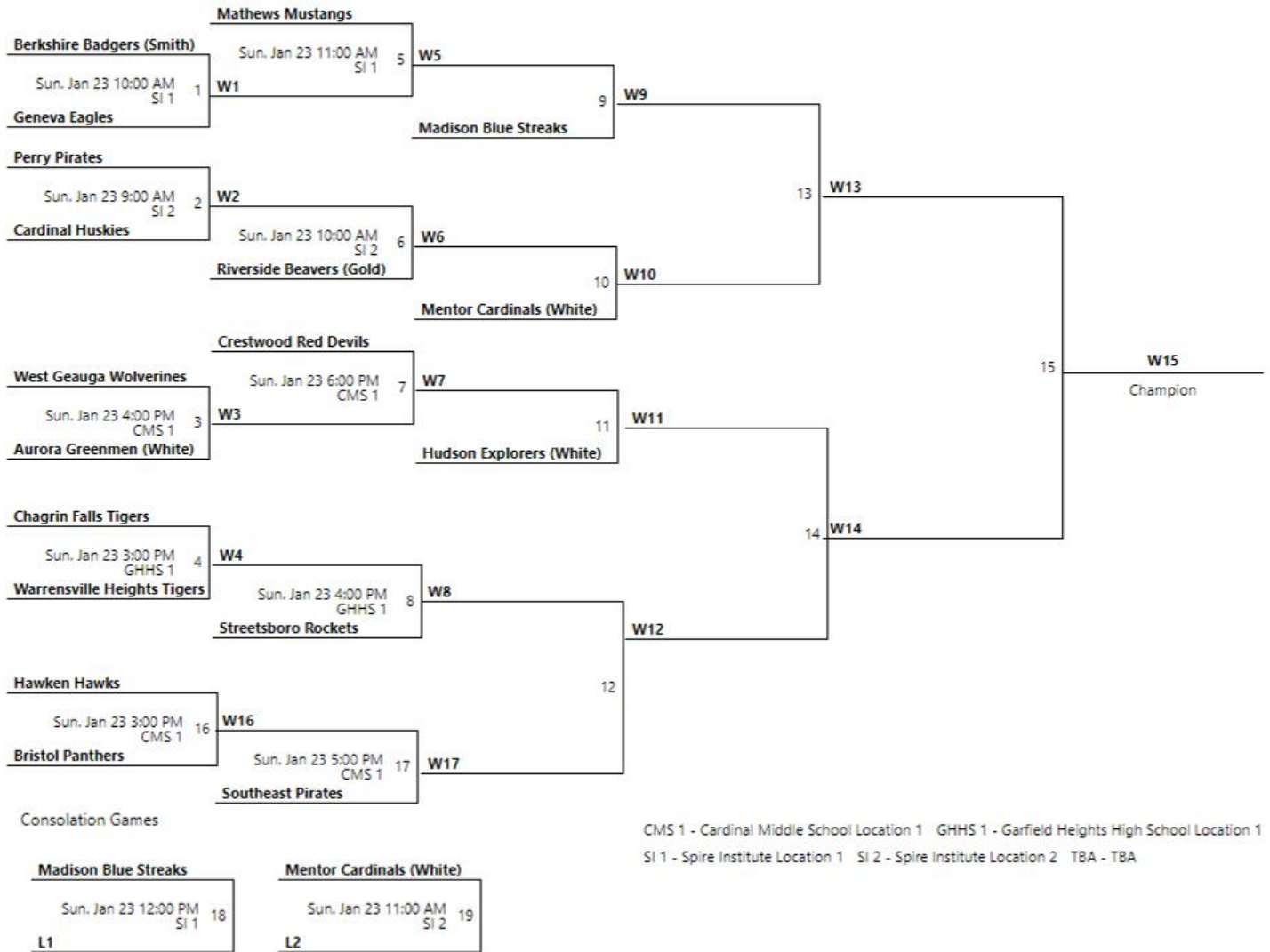
# 6<sup>TH</sup> GRADE BOYS B DIVISION



Between Willoughby, Aurora, Mayfield and Chardon they have been waiting for this opportunity since before they all joined Big Leaf a couple years back. That being said Rocky River Cleveland and Garfield Heights all come into the tourney playing solid basketball. We expect all of these games to be coin flips and come down to wire, with no overall favorite.

The first round game to watch out for is Chardon looking to avenge an early loss to Aurora Green at 11:00 am in Garfield Heights.

# 6<sup>TH</sup> GRADE BOYS C DIVISION



This bracket is going to be a ton of fun. Eighteen teams from seven counties, with a make up of Big School B Teams and our smaller school districts are all going to have their work cut out for them to reign supreme. With a bracket so large with some discrepancy in talent we went to the bye and double bye bracket. This gives some of the teams a chance and build some momentum before playing the bracket favorites.

What also makes this bracket unique is the top bracket are the schools from the north with the bottom being our teams from the south. We would love to see a classic big school vs small school in the C Bracket Final. The opportunity for a dark horse is looming, watch out for the winner of Chagrin Falls, Warrensville Heights and Streetsboro part of the bracket to possibly be that team.





◀ Aurora Lady Greenmen 3<sup>rd</sup> graders with an impressive 2-0 final weekend including a resounding 31-11 win over Cardinal.



▶ Aurora 4<sup>th</sup> grade boys break the huddle at the MLK Mid Season Madness.



▲ TYA 6<sup>th</sup> grader Jake Grygier with the huge block in a 46-27 win over the Tremont Grinders.



▼ Shaker Heights 6<sup>th</sup> grade dynamo Dylan Zeigler boxes out and leads his team to a 6-2 league record.



▲ Third grade Cardinal Huskies get their hands up on D versus the Aurora Lady Greenmen.



▶ Battle of the northeast 4<sup>th</sup> graders! The Geneva Eagles with the drive on the Riverside Beavers in a defensive slugfest.



▲ Fifth grade Chardon girls proudly pose with their hard-fought Jingle Bucket tourney trophy!

▶ Chardon Lady Toppers 6<sup>th</sup> grade girls team just hangs around after an exciting 21-19 win over the Berkshire Badgers.



▼ Hudson Explorers' 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> grade drives to the hoop against the Perry Pirates.



▲ Big Leaf tie up of the week! Madison Blue Streaks 5<sup>th</sup> grader Connor Valitsky wrestles with Riverside Beavers Gold Joe Humphreys.

▲ Robbie Grygier of the 6<sup>th</sup> grade TYA Trojans finishes his drive to the basket with a layup.



▲ Hudson 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> grade girls ended the regular season with a 4-4 record and are ready to show off their hard work in the league tourney!



◀ Aurora 4th grade boys taking a quick rest between games.



▲ Fifth grade Maple Heights Vultures putting in the practice time to get ready for tourney time!

► Battle of the 6<sup>th</sup> grade heavy-weights: the Shaker Heights Raiders squared off with the Mentor Cardinals Red in the final week of league play.

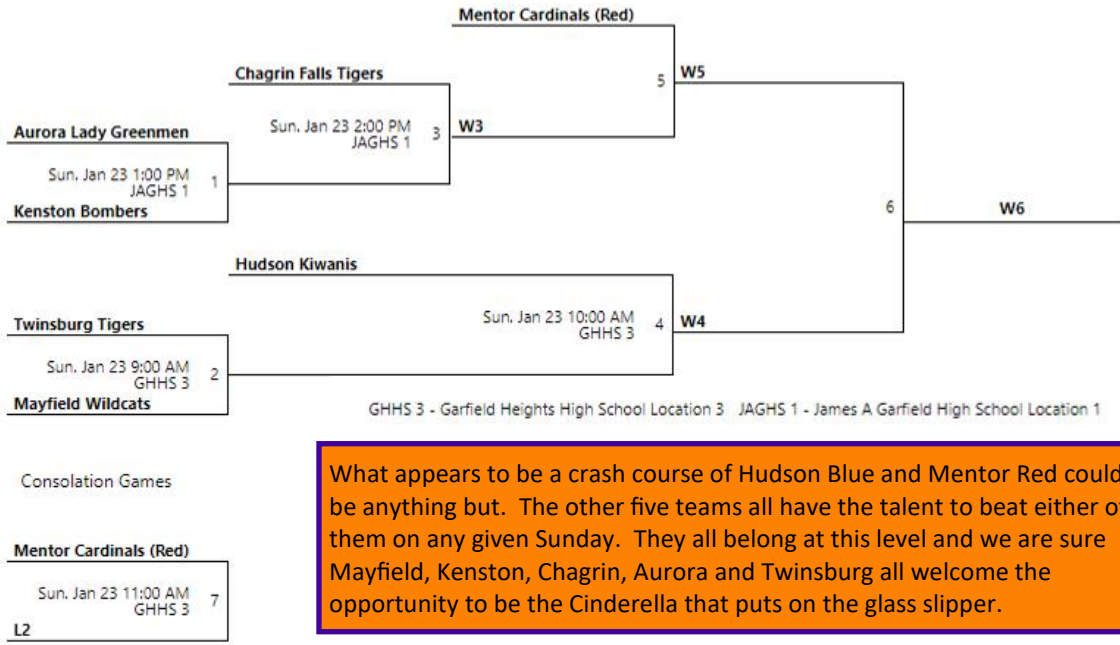


► Willoughby Rebels are off and running and ready to storm into the Big Leaf league tournament.



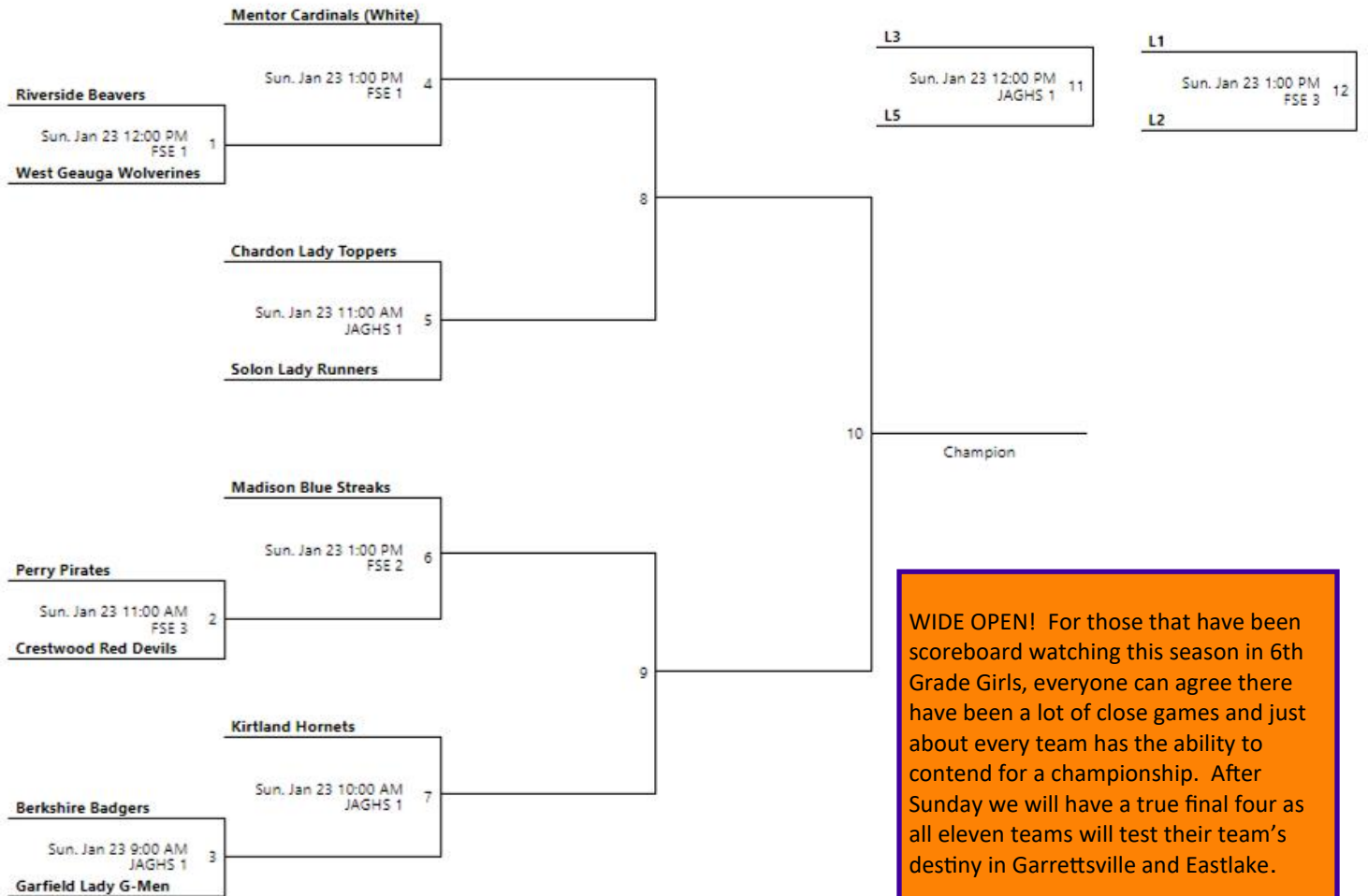
▲ Chardon Lady Toppers 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> graders put their game face on! Surely no one will want to mess with these ferocious ladies who compiled an impressive 8-3 league record!

# 6<sup>TH</sup> GRADE GIRLS A DIVISION



What appears to be a crash course of Hudson Blue and Mentor Red could be anything but. The other five teams all have the talent to beat either of them on any given Sunday. They all belong at this level and we are sure Mayfield, Kenston, Chagrin, Aurora and Twinsburg all welcome the opportunity to be the Cinderella that puts on the glass slipper.

# 6<sup>TH</sup> GRADE GIRLS B DIVISION

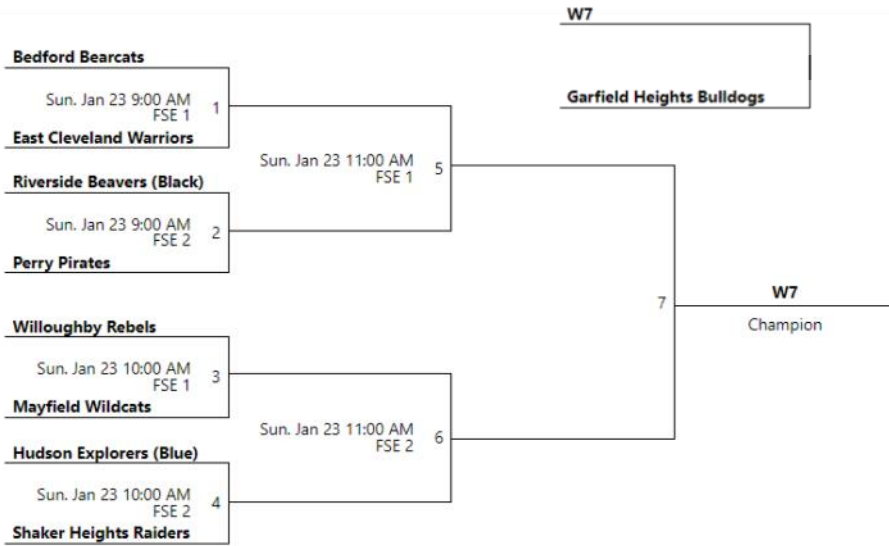


**WIDE OPEN!** For those that have been scoreboard watching this season in 6th Grade Girls, everyone can agree there have been a lot of close games and just about every team has the ability to contend for a championship. After Sunday we will have a true final four as all eleven teams will test their team's destiny in Garrettsville and Eastlake.

FSE 1 - Force Sports Eastlake Location 1 FSE 2 - Force Sports Eastlake Location 2 FSE 3 - Force Sports Eastlake Location 3  
JAGHS 1 - James A Garfield High School Location 1 TBA - TBA  
Consolation Games



# 5<sup>TH</sup> GRADE BOYS A DIVISION

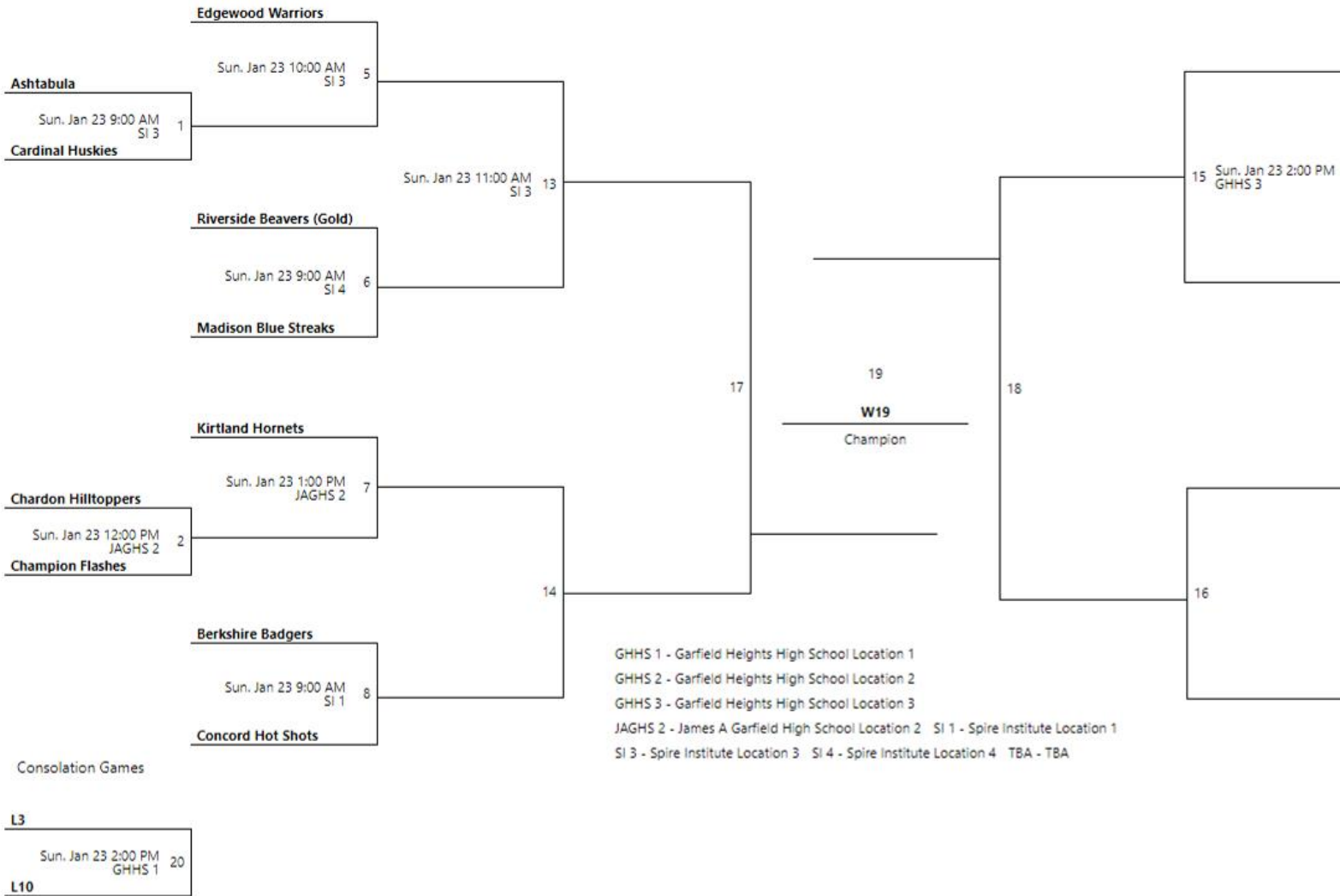


The loaded 5th grade boys division starts early Sunday and by noon we will know who is facing off in the final. It was deemed last year that this division is deep and talented, every game should have a championship feel. A possible rematch in the semis of Perry and Bedford who played two very competitive in the Jingle Bucket is one to watch for. Who wins this bracket is anyone's guess. But what we do know is the winner will take on a loaded Garfield Heights team for an opportunity to double up their winnings in the league championship.

FSE 1 - Force Sports Eastlake Location 1 FSE 2 - Force Sports Eastlake Location 2



# 5<sup>TH</sup> GRADE BOYS B DIVISION



LET'S TALK

## Basketball on GameChanger

**GC**  
GAMECHANGER  
BY DICK'S SPORTING GOODS

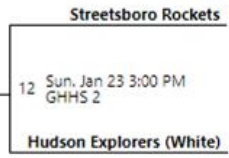
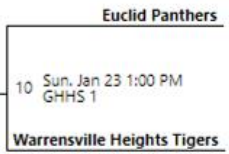
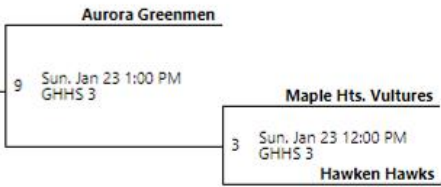
## Bring the Game to Anyone, Anywhere

Stream your games live from GameChanger Team Manager and bring the action straight to everyone. It's free to stream and watch on iOS and Android devices.

## Easy-to-use Scorekeeping Tools

+2 PT FG

Our intuitive scorekeeping experience makes scoring your games easier than ever. You'll gather stats allowing you to make informed decisions to help your team win.



The one word to describe this bracket is...

# MONSTROSITY.

Twenty teams, many of them have a solid shot of making a magical postseason run starting this Sunday with fourteen games that will get us down to six. More than any bracket we suspect some upsets, thrillers and suspense as each game unfolds. Watch out for the Hudson White vs. Streetsboro winner at Garfield Heights Sunday at 3:00. We suspect defense to be the narrative in all of these games. A lot of teams in this bracket pride themselves on great defense.



## Animated GameStream Experience



- Live Animated GameStream
- Live play-by-play with GameStream Radio
- Box scores

## Streamline Team Communication



- Keep track of events with scheduling & calendar sync
- Share exciting moments with photo sharing



## Download GameChanger Today



**BIG LEAF BASKETBALL**  
powered by The National Basketball Academy

# 2022 HONEY BUCKET "B" Teams Only



**FEBRUARY 5-6, 2022**

Boys Divisions: grades 3, 4, 5, 6  
Girls Divisions: grades 4, 5, 6  
"B" Teams Only

**Cost: \$245 per team**

4 Game guarantee

**Games will be played at:**

Big Leaf gym locations throughout NE Ohio  
Pool games will be played closer to your location



For more information contact: **Matt: (440-321-9334) || bigleaf@thebasketballacademy.com**  
**Shane (440-725-6449) || shane@thebasketballacademy.com**  
**Office: 216-378-0932**

TNBABasketball.com/BigLeaf



It's getting to the time of year where the newness of the season has worn off. It's the time of year when you really can see teams improving and you see kids having fun creating memories from a game they love with their friends and families. The one thing these teams have in common is a coach who gets it. They respect their players, referees and their opponents. They understand its not about winning and losing and set the example parents and communities want their children to be apart of.



## A BIG LEAF PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT...

# LET'S NOT FORGET SOMETHING IMPORTANT

However, it's also the time of year where coaches and adults partake in buffoonery. Without going into detail on coaches we have observed and who have been brought to our attention...

**It is not okay to swear in front of other people's children!**

**It is also unacceptable to demean other people's children as an individual or as a team!**

**It is also against league rules to curse out officials!**

Even though it's a small percentage of coaches and parents that act this way on a regular basis, it doesn't make it okay to act the fool.

Represent your community the way you are expected to, as a parent or as a coach. If you can't handle it, let someone else coach and keep score, spectate or help out in another way... Don't bring your baggage into the gymnasium. Use the games as an escape where you can watch your child play a game he or she loves and you can make a positive impact that your child will remember.

### KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR MORE INFORMATION COMING SOON ABOUT THIS GREAT EVENT!

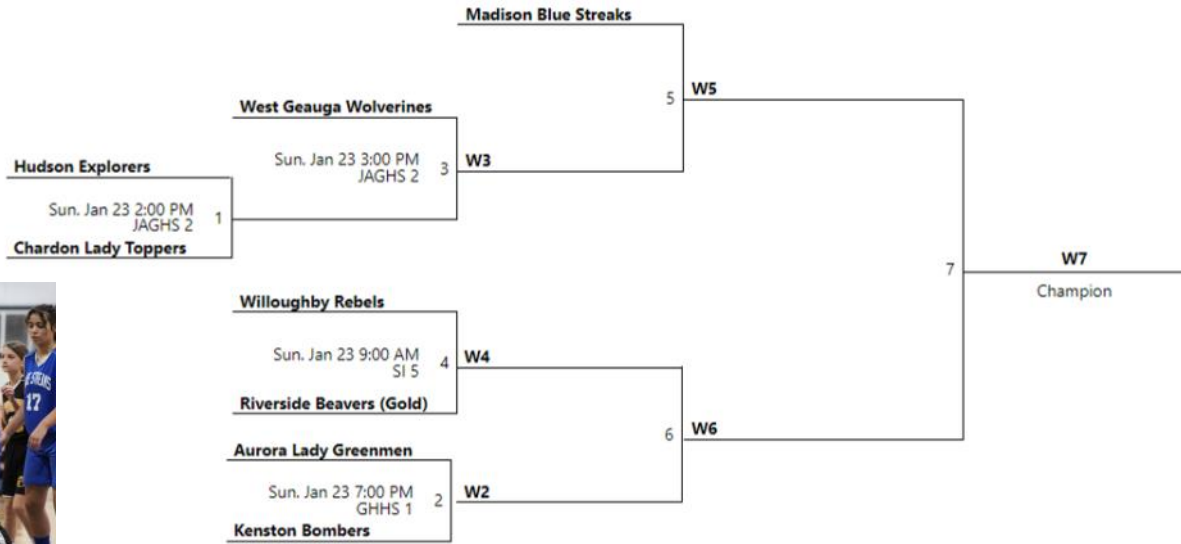
This President's Day will mark the return of the Big Leaf Basketball Elementary School Showcase! On February 21<sup>st</sup>, close to 200 Big Leaf players will participate at Berkshire High School and will show off their skills in an All Star Game format that will be livestreamed. All players will receive a shirt and a program. Most importantly, this is a fundraiser for a local family in need, as well as for ALS. We will be sharing more details, including the all-important nomination process, game times and ways to donate in next week's Full Court Press! Stay tuned!



Check out previous issues of Big Leaf's Full Court Press

[BIGLEAFSPORTS.COM/FULL-COURT-PRESS-2021](http://BIGLEAFSPORTS.COM/FULL-COURT-PRESS-2021)

# 5<sup>TH</sup> GRADE GIRLS A DIVISION



GHHS 1 - Garfield Heights High School Location 1  
 SI 5 - Spire Institute Location 5 TBA - TBA  
 JAGHS 2 - James A Garfield High School Location 2

It appears Madison is the team beat. The Lady Blue Streaks have had an incredible season thus far going perfect in league play and winning the Jingle Bucket. Unfortunately for them there is a batch of teams that have played them tough and down to the wire. Going into a tournament at 13-0 with several close games is no easy task. The other seven teams are more than capable of stringing together some wins and taking them on when it counts.

# 5<sup>TH</sup> GRADE GIRLS B DIVISION



CMS 2 - Cardinal Middle School Location 2 JAGHS 2 - James A Garfield High School Location 2 SI 4 - Spire Institute Location 4

# 4<sup>TH</sup> GRADE BOYS A DIVISION

Rocky River (LTB) Pirates

1

Cleveland Heights Tigers

Perry Pirates

Sun. Jan 23 1:00 PM

SI 2

2

East Cleveland Warriors

Garfield Heights Bulldogs

Sun. Jan 23 10:00 AM

GHHS 2

3

Chesterland Basketball Team

Hudson Explorers (Blue)

Sun. Jan 23 3:00 PM

GHHS 3

4

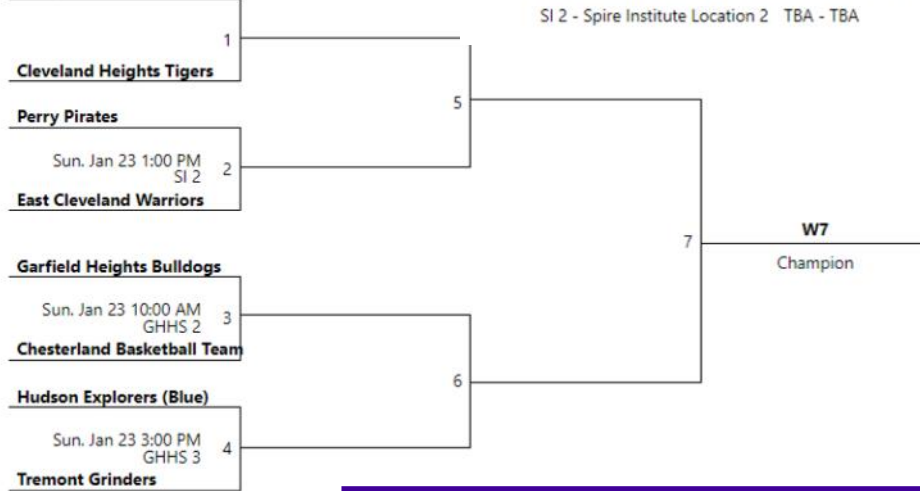
Tremont Grinders

GHHS 2 - Garfield Heights High School Location 2 GHHS 3 - Garfield Heights High School Location 3

SI 2 - Spire Institute Location 2 TBA - TBA

W7

Hillcrest Stars



Nothing beats an eight-team bracket where all eight teams basically have the same odds to advance each game and eventually to a title. Watch out for smaller schools Perry and Chesterland (West Geauga) to battle the big schools to the end. We are excited to see this bunch of teams duke it out for the next three years. By the time these kids get to the high school level they will have been tested every which way.

# 4<sup>TH</sup> GRADE BOYS B DIVISION

Riverside Beavers (Black)

Sun. Jan 23 11:00 AM

SI 5

5

Mentor Cardinals

Sun. Jan 23 10:00 AM

SI 5

1

Willoughby Rebels

Mayfield Wildcats (Green)

Sun. Jan 23 7:00 PM

GHHS 2

6

Hawken Hawks

Sun. Jan 23 5:00 PM

GHHS 3

2

Shaker Heights Raiders

Crestwood Red Devils

Sun. Jan 23 3:00 PM

CMS 2

7

Hudson Explorers (White)

Sun. Jan 23 1:00 PM

CMS 2

3

Streetsboro Rockets

Chardon Hilltoppers

Sun. Jan 23 5:00 PM

CMS 2

8

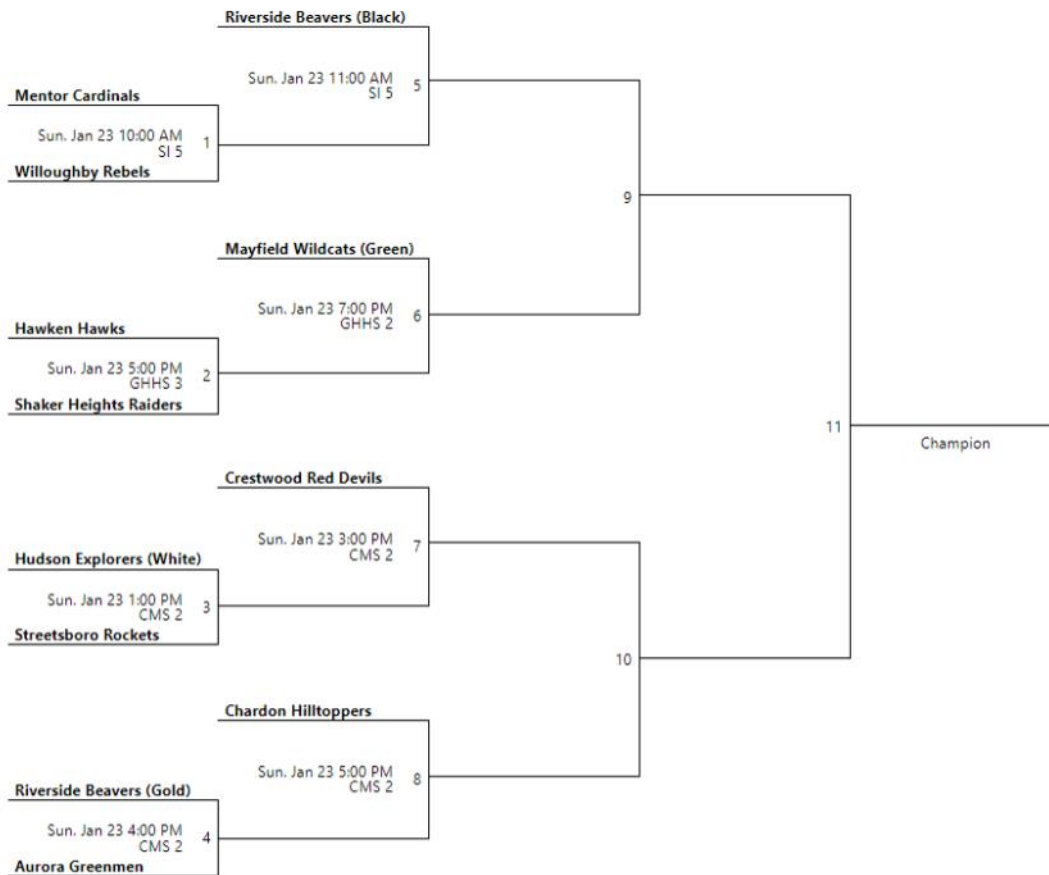
Riverside Beavers (Gold)

Sun. Jan 23 4:00 PM

CMS 2

4

Aurora Greenmen



CMS 2 - Cardinal Middle School Location 2 GHHS 2 - Garfield Heights High School Location 2

GHHS 3 - Garfield Heights High School Location 3 SI 5 - Spire Institute Location 5 TBA - TBA

This was not an easy bracket to create. All teams could make an argument for a bye which means all teams have an opportunity to win it all. It is all but guaranteed that we are gonna see a lot of games come down to the wire and be decided by which team executes when it matters most. This bracket is another that will be stripped down to a final four after Sunday. This bracket will help end the age-old debate: is it better to play one and carry that momentum or is it an advantage to come in fresh and beat the team that could be a little fatigued.



## FREE TOURNAMENT ENTRY FOR BIG LEAF LEAGUE CHAMPS!!

### WHAT IS LEAGUE OHIO?

A "State Championship," end of year youth basketball tournament designed to bring teams from across Ohio together for a fun and competitive weekend of basketball.

### GRADES AND DIVISIONS

League Ohio is open to any team in grades 3rd-6th, boys and girls

- D1 (top competition) level
- D2 (lesser competition) level

### THE TOURNAMENT

- 3-game guarantee
- 16 teams per bracket (4 per region)
- A League Ohio Champion receives automatic FREE AT-LARGE next season

### DATE & LOCATION

- February 18-20, 2022
- Hosted in Columbus, OH at Fieldhouse USA, inside the beautiful Polaris Fashion Mall

### COST/REGISTRATION

- Each region (NW/SW/NE/CEN) receives at least one FREE AT-LARGE BIDS into tournament based on region league championship
- Cost for general entry is \$255/team
- Register your team today! Go to: [www.leagueohio.com](http://www.leagueohio.com)



The LEAGUE OHIO tournament is a "Stay-to-Play" tournament. Hotel Information:

<https://groups.reservetravel.com/group.aspx?id=54803>

League Ohio tournament registration is open to all boys and girls teams in grades 3rd-6th!



# BIG LEAF BASKETBALL

powered by The National Basketball Academy

## SUPER BUCKET

# 2022 SUPER BUCKET

**FEBRUARY 12, 2022 - ONE DAY ONLY!**

Boys Divisions: grades 3, 4, 5, 6

Girls Divisions: grades 4, 5, 6

"B" Teams Only

1 Day Tournament

10 minute games, tournament style

5 game minimum!

**Cost: \$245 per team**

**Games will be played at:**

Big Leaf gym locations throughout NE Ohio

Pool games will be played closer to your location



Matt: (440-321-9334) || [bigleaf@thebasketballacademy.com](mailto:bigleaf@thebasketballacademy.com)

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Office: 216-378-0932

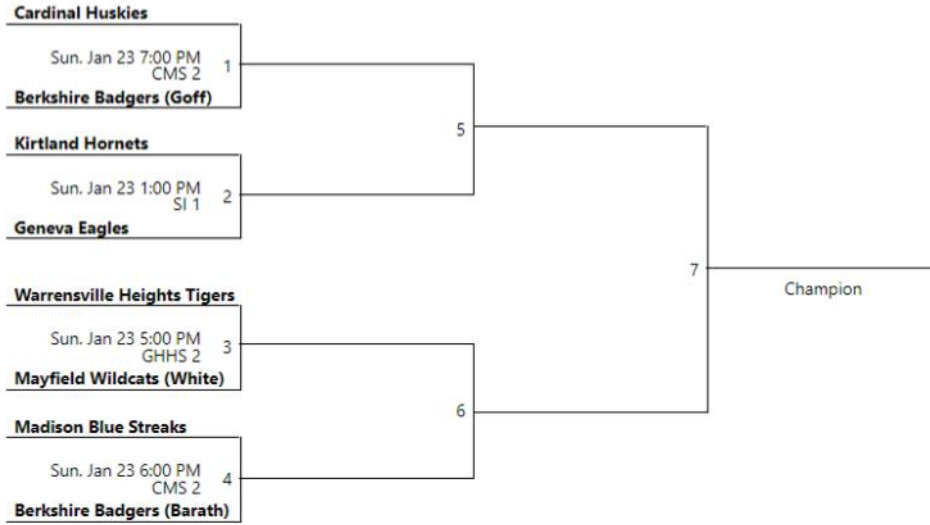
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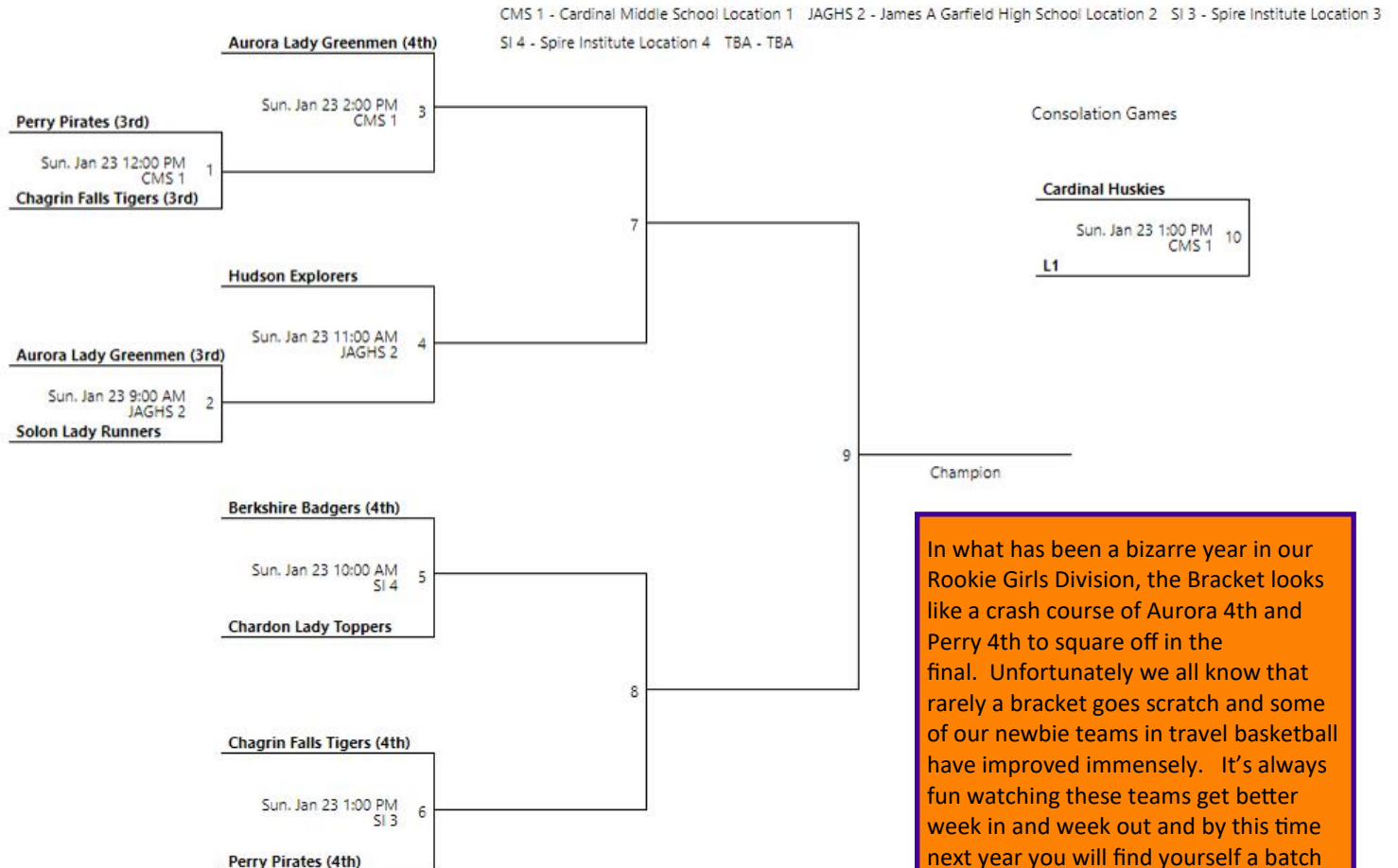
# 4<sup>TH</sup> GRADE BOYS C DIVISION



All eight of these teams have had their fill of growing pains as they get their feet wet in travel basketball against some of the A teams and larger schools. However this is a perfect example of sorting it out in the end. Not all age groups get a 3rd bracket but when there is a perfect line drawn at the perfect number of eight, let's give the developmental teams a shot at a championship and something they will never forget. We are especially excited for this pool of teams.

CMS 2 - Cardinal Middle School Location 2 GHHS 2 - Garfield Heights High School Location 2  
SI 1 - Spire Institute Location 1 TBA - TBA

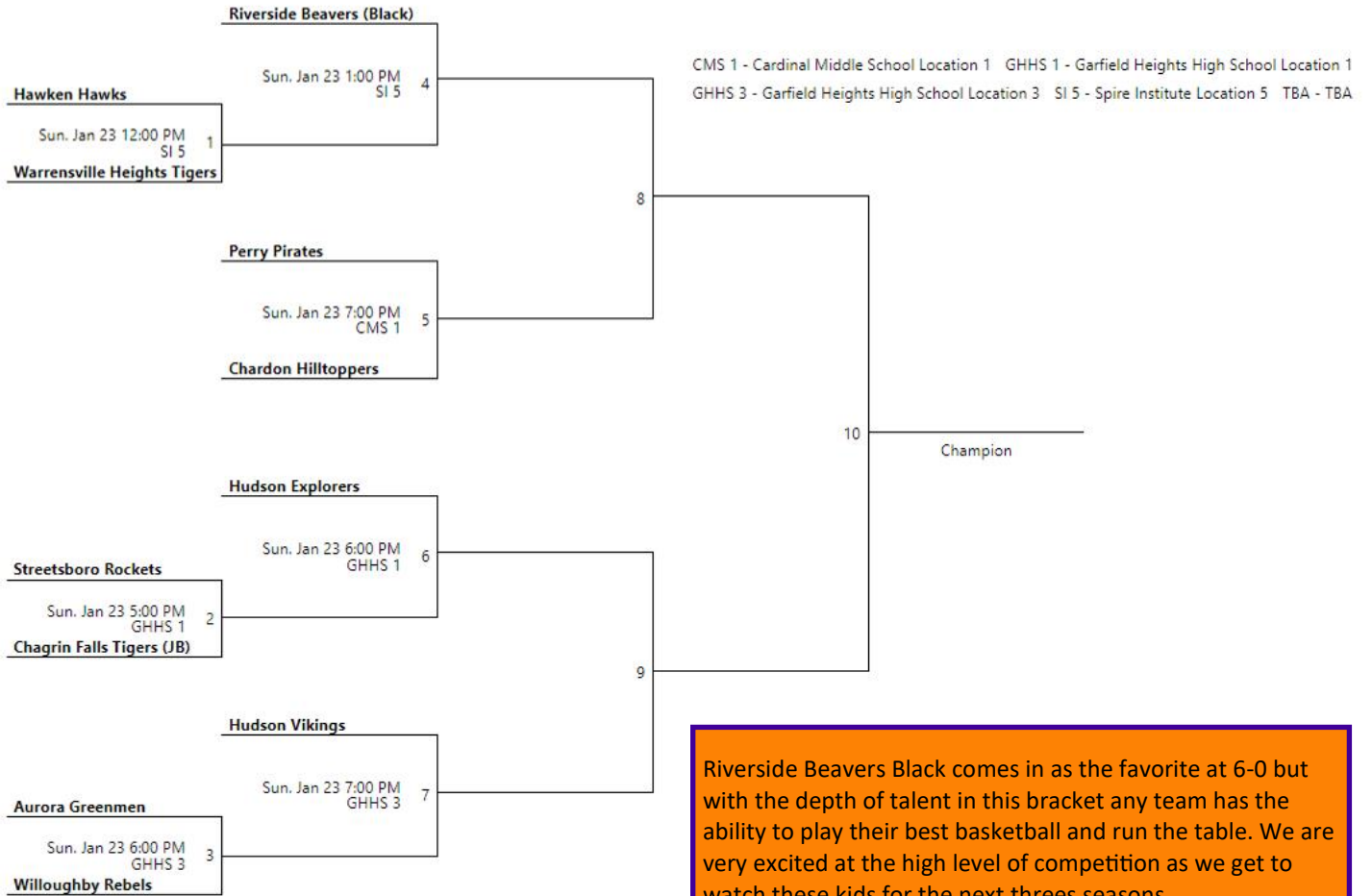
# 3<sup>RD</sup>/4<sup>TH</sup> GRADE GIRLS B DIVISION



CMS 1 - Cardinal Middle School Location 1 JAGHS 2 - James A Garfield High School Location 2 SI 3 - Spire Institute Location 3  
SI 4 - Spire Institute Location 4 TBA - TBA

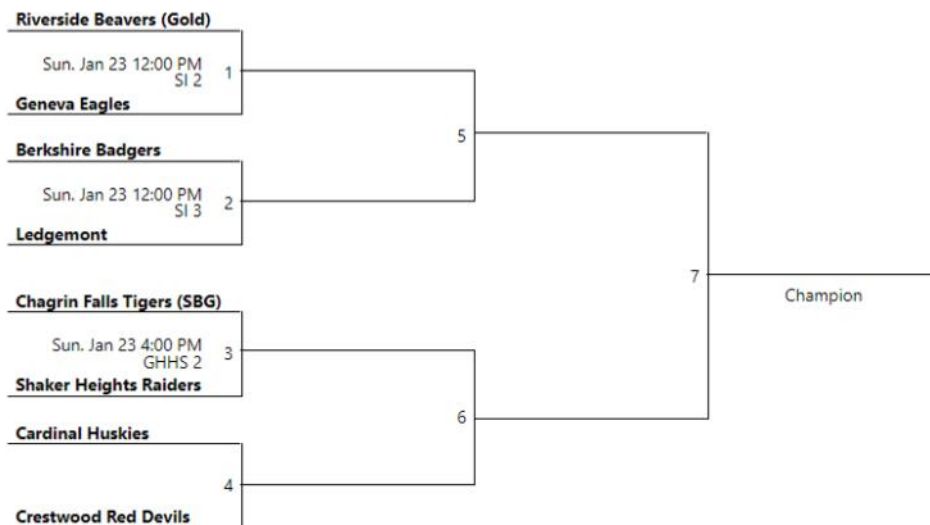
In what has been a bizarre year in our Rookie Girls Division, the Bracket looks like a crash course of Aurora 4th and Perry 4th to square off in the final. Unfortunately we all know that rarely a bracket goes scratch and some of our newbie teams in travel basketball have improved immensely. It's always fun watching these teams get better week in and week out and by this time next year you will find yourself a batch of highly competitive teams.

# 3<sup>RD</sup> GRADE BOYS A DIVISION



Riverside Beavers Black comes in as the favorite at 6-0 but with the depth of talent in this bracket any team has the ability to play their best basketball and run the table. We are very excited at the high level of competition as we get to watch these kids for the next three seasons.

# 3<sup>RD</sup> GRADE BOYS B DIVISION



With some teams taking their lumps early in their careers as we sorted out the level of competition, the 3rd grade B bracket should give these teams an even playing field and allow them to grow against teams at their level. Watch out for Crestwood but Geneva and Riverside Gold have been playing pretty good ball.

# K-3

## PRESIDENTS DAY

# “WEEKEND” CLINIC

*presented by Big Leaf Basketball*

Session 1: February 19, 2022 \* 9:00 AM to 11:30 am

Session 2: February 20, 2022 \* 9:00 AM to 11:30 am

*Cardinal Middle School, 16175 Almeda Dr, Middlefield, OH 44062*

## BOYS & GIRLS IN GRADES K-3

### CAMP HIGHLIGHTS:

Skill Stations || Games and contests || Clinic T-shirt

Cost: \$40 attend one session, \$60 attend both sessions



POWERED BY THE NATIONAL BASKETBALL ACADEMY

**For more information contact:**

Matt (440-321-9334) or Shane (440-725-6449)

email: [bigleaf@thebasketballacademy.com](mailto:bigleaf@thebasketballacademy.com)

Register: [TNBABasketball.com/BigLeaf](https://TNBABasketball.com/BigLeaf)