



Head Coach – Wheelchair Basketball Program

About the Program: BlazeSports is a 501(c)3 organization operating in the greater metro Atlanta area that provides sport and recreational opportunities for youth and veterans with physical disabilities. Our youth programs serve children ages 6-19 with varying disabilities including cerebral palsy, spina bifida, spinal cord injuries, amputations, and traumatic brain injuries.

The BlazeSports Wheelchair Basketball program has been in existence for over ten years and has had major success both on and off the court for the last decade. BlazeSports graduates seniors each year who move on to attend major universities with several participating in sport at the collegiate level. Our goal is provide student athletes with the opportunity to become part of a community, gain self-confidence, increase independence, increase their wheelchair basketball skills, learn leadership skills, and to make lifelong friendships.

Purpose of position: To provide coaching and guidance to (3) youth wheelchair basketball teams from August – April yearly.
Prep team - ages 6-13
Junior 10' team – ages 14-19
Recreational Team – outline of team TBD

Duties & Responsibilities: Position will provide leadership and support to three wheelchair basketball teams including assisting with the creation of practice plans and schedules, creating equipment needs list, assigning jerseys, and executing program work-plan as directed by BlazeSports Staff Manager.

Position will work with volunteer sport assistants to execute practice plans, load and unload equipment trailers, select tournaments in which to participate, evaluate player progress from start to end of season, and maintain attendance records. Position will provide a direct line of communication from the teams to the BlazeSports Staff.

Commitment: Program operates from August – April each year. The team plays under the National Wheelchair Basketball Association (NWBA) and follows all rules and guidelines according to their policies and procedures.

Position will be required to pass a background check to be shared with NWBA. Position is required to pass the NWBA coaches exam and provide a CPR/First Aid certification.

Practices are held once a week with each team practicing for approximately 2 hours. Position will be responsible for transporting equipment to and from practice using the BlazeSports vehicle and trailer. A valid Georgia driver's license is required.

Requirements:

- A valid Georgia driver's license
- First Aid/CPR certification
- Experience coaching basketball at the high school level for a minimum of 1 year
- Experience working with both beginner and advanced players
- Knowledge of leadership development strategies to implement during practices
- Knowledge of evaluation matrixes to provide beginning and end of season progress tests
- Ability to develop practice plans that can span varying levels of skill and ability
- Experience working with youth with physical disabilities a plus but not required
- Experience providing wheelchair maintenance (ie pumping tires, adjusting chair straps ect.) a plus but not required
- Two references must be provided

Application: Please submit letter of interest, coaching resume, and references to Jessie Romito at jromito@blazesports.org