

## St Monica School 7th & 8th Grade Sports Tryout Information

**When: Monday *and* Tues (11/8 & 11/9)**

**7th grade Girls 3:30- 4:30 pm and 8th grade Boys 4:45-5:45 pm**

**Where:** SMS Gym

**Who:** 7th & 8th grade try-outs will be run by our basketball coordinator, Stephanie Dragani along with 3 independent judges (not coaching this group).

**Why:** It is the aim of the SMS Athletic Association, in compliance with the Archdiocese athletic code, to provide an opportunity for all participants to develop and share athletic knowledge and skills appropriate to their level. Like other area schools, SMS will be using a consistent A/B split format for 7th and 8th grade volleyball and basketball teams. The A/B format provides all 7th & 8th grade athletes the option of joining (without a try-out) the SMS "B" team or the option of trying-out for the more advanced "A" team. The SMS Athletic Association supports the A/B split as it accommodates various types of grade school athletes. The A/B split arrangement can help provide a better distribution of playing time, and can help players enjoy the competitive, social, and recreational benefits of SMS sports.

**What:** The SMS-B team(s) will continue to follow the progression of skills that has developed through the previous grades, and both recreational and competitive play will be emphasized. The SMS-A teams will provide a more competitive environment for practices and games with advanced skill development emphasized. Both teams will play in the Northshore Catholic League, as in the past. This year the league is offering A and B divisions (The "A" division being the more competitive group). A and B teams will play competition from within their division. Playing time and practice time for both teams will follow the same guidelines as in the past. (see handbook).

**How?** Over two sessions, 3 independent judges will rate the athletes on various skills related to the specific sport, athletic ability, and coachability. 7th & 8th grade try-outs are independent of the team coaches' selections.

Final team announcements will be sent by email on November 10.

Please refer to the attached SMS athletic handbook for further information.