

HAPPY THANKSGIVING!!!!

The 2021-2022 Season is quickly heading out way, so let's kick it off in style!!

As is IGNITE tradition, we will start off the full club season with a night of family and giving, two things that are extremely important to us! Families should plan on attending the **IGNITE Christmas Party and Missions night on December 3rd!** Practices starts December 5th!

We do this annual event so that everyone can meet and get to know each other before the tournament season begins! This is a mandatory event for ALL players, and we ask that at least one family member attends with them as well but would love to have the whole family join us! Please do your best to have at least one guardian there so your team's families can get to know each other as well as hear some important club information!

At the event we will raise money for the IGNITE missions fund which helps local families and ministries in need within our communities and around the world. The money raised from past events has gone to area families in need, various charities. The gym floors are currently being redone over this Thanksgiving Break, so we are asking everyone to wear comfortable shoes and please no high heels or anything that could damage the new floor.

- **DATE and TIME:**
 - Friday, December 3rd 5:30pm-9:30pm. 5:30-8:00pm will be our time to gather and socialize with a player only GLOW BALL from 8:00-9:30pm (It's a great time for the team parents to go out and mingle from 8:00-9:30 while waiting to pick up kids!)
- **MISSIONS FUNDRAISER:**
 - Raffle Baskets will be provided by each team (The club also do a 50/50 raffle) with money going to missions. Every year these are amazing! Their creativity is truly awesome to me! Many are filled with hundreds of dollars' worth of items or gift cards, so make sure you attend to get a chance to win! The more creative the better!
 - There will also be an "IGNITE basket" consisting of spirit wear and a certificate worth \$200 off your fees!
 - If your team has not yet started its basket, please make sure to drop an email or text to your team and start coming up with a theme and gathering items now!
 - Raffle baskets should be dropped off between 10am-4pm December 3rd. Please do not bring them with you to the event!
- **FOOD AND FELLOWSHIP:**
 - Each team will have a table to meet at so that you all can get to know each other while having a bite to eat!
 - **Please plan on bringing to share: IGNITE staff and 11-12's teams- Drinks (please nothing that requires cups! bottled water, canned pop or individual items please), 13-15's Appetizers (please do not bring anything that requires being plugged in and bring serving utensils if needed), 16-18's Desserts**
 - If your item needs a plastic utensil to eat, we ask you bring those as well. We will provide plates and napkins
 - We suggest that you do not bring plates or platters that are valuable, but if you do want your item returned please make sure it has your name on the bottom!

- **IGNITE INFO:**
 - There will be a brief meeting about the upcoming season to discuss some information that will be important to ALL IGNITE Families and players. During this meeting, there will also be a brief introduction of all staff/coaches. It will last about 30 min and then the raffles will be pulled right after! We will need everyone's help to put the tables away so we do not scratch the floor. We won't be able to roll them like we normally do.
 - First 1/2 of remaining fee after deposit will be due this evening, please bring a cash, check, or set up payment with Pat Kavulic prior to the evening! If you wish to make payments, or pay in full via credit card please fill out the attached form, and bring it with you. That will make everything go smoother. Feel free to email her pat kavulic <pjk0867@gmail.com> with any questions.

- **MISSIONS NIGHT:**
 - **FOOD PANTRY DRIVE:** With so many people struggling around the Holidays, we want to help out the best we can. Our first missions project is our canned food drive. We are partnering with the Twinsburg Food Bank to donate our canned goods. In the past we have had to bring the cans in and count them. This year we do not need to do that. All I need from each team is a total amount of canned food items they are donating. The Food Bank is just down the road from the Edge, so we are asking one family per team to go and drop the items off when we wrap up the parent portion of the night. Encourage your kids to take charge and ask a few trusted neighbors or family for donations instead of just raiding your pantry or sending mom to the store! Give them ownership! In previous missions' night, we have donated OVER THREE TONS OF FOOD!
 - **GIFT DRIVE.** In addition to the canned food drive, we were asked to partake in a gift drive. This drive will allow underprivileged kids to earn "money" by doing chores and other small jobs. With this "money" they get to shop and buy gifts for their entire family. It helps the kids to think less about themselves and more about being responsible for earning enough to get gifts for their family. These kids get to be the gift givers instead of everyone always donating to them. These gifts are not just toys, but can be for any age and any gender. (Think gifts for mom, dad, grandparents, and siblings) Most of us have something in our house we were going to regift anyway or use for a white elephant party anyway. Please help us bring some added joy during the Christmas Season.

There is a lot of stuff that we will be doing throughout the Glow in The Dark Volleyball portion of the night. We have some fun games that teams can do when they aren't playing, Christmas cards for the Nursing Home, and maybe even an appearance from Santa.

I am so excited to be one step closer to the start of the season and look forward to seeing everyone next Friday. I hope everyone has a Happy Thanksgiving with their Friends and Family. I am thankful for each and everyone one of my IGNITE families, players and coaches! If there are any question, do not hesitate to ask. (Text is always faster, 330-475-4369)