

# 2010 Great Four-State Championships

Update July 1, 2010

*Target Center  
Minneapolis, MN*

Team coordinators:

I just met with the Minnesota Lynx to discuss various questions and procedures for the upcoming Great Four-State Championships. We have worked out several aspects such as lowering fees for kids that will be helpful for fans. I will try to be as thorough as possible in outlining how the things will work. This is the first year, so we are creating the path as we go.

## **REGISTRATION**

Almost all teams have committed to playing, so the field of 8 teams is complete or almost complete in every age and gender group. Some teams have paid their entry fee of \$110. All other teams that have committed should send the team entry to Pacesetter, P.O. Box 222, Paynesville, MN 56362. Make the check out to "Pacesetter" and send ASAP. If any teams need a registration form, please email Tracey in our office at [bearhaines@gmail.com](mailto:bearhaines@gmail.com), and she will send you one. The \$110 team entry fee goes directly to cover the cost of the officials, the timers, the Pacesetter tournament directors, and the awards.

## **ORDER FORMS**

Teams have been sent an order form to order for their group: 1) gate passes for players, 2) gate passes for fans, 3) meal vouchers, and 4) Great State T-shirts. We are hoping as many of these items as possible can be ordered on the team order form. We will be making our T-shirt printing order according to the number of T-shirts ordered via these forms. That is the main reason we wanted a reply by July 3. We will finalize our T-shirt order by approx. July 8 or so. See T-shirt designs attached.

## **GATE PASSES – PLAYERS**

Each player is required to pay \$15 for a gate pass that will include access to all Great State games and the Lynx game and allow players to participate in a variety of special fan experiences: pre-game party zone, halftime fan tunnel, team photo at mid-court, autograph session with Lynx players after the game, and for the girls' teams, the ball exchange for 1-2 players from each team. A letter from the Lynx will be sent that outlines more details on each of these special activities. The Lynx will coordinate these activities with the teams and players. The \$15 gate pass paid by the players goes directly to the Lynx to pay for the cost of the Target Center facility rental fees.

## **GATE PASSES – FANS**

"Special rates for kids under sixth grade in 2009-2010"

Each fan "older than a fifth grader" is required to pay \$15 for a gate pass that will include access to all Great State games and the Lynx game. Half of this fee goes to the Lynx and half to Pacesetter for admission fees. Children two and under are FREE. Children from age three through students attending fifth grade or below during the 2009-2010 school year will receive a reduced rate of \$8.00/ticket. Children who were in sixth grade and older in 2009-2010 must purchase a \$15 gate pass. If team coordinators have already sent in their forms, they should contact us to let us know which fan passes are for ADULTS and which ones for KIDS. We will provide a refund for the difference in these fees for all who have already pre-paid. Those who still have their order form, should indicate on the form how many passes are for adults and how many are for kids. Then send \$15/adult and \$8/kid age three through fifth grade.

## **COACHES – FREE PASS**

Two coaches from each team will receive a coaches' wristband that will allow access to all Great State games and the Lynx game. Coaches are invited to watch the Lynx game from one of two suites.

## **PICKING UP PASSES**

Gate passes will be in two parts: 1) a Great State wristband, 2) a Lynx ticket. These will be provided to the team coordinators at the meeting at the Marriott Hotel on the night prior to the tournament. For any teams or individuals that are not able to pick up their passes prior to game day, a special table will be set up in the main Target Center lobby. Team coordinators will be asked to provide a list of names for any pre-paid passes that need to be picked up in the lobby on game day.

## **SUITES**

Any teams interested in renting a suite for their team for the day should contact Jeff McCarron at [info@psmbbn.com](mailto:info@psmbbn.com).

## **WRISTBAND FOR GREAT STATE GAMES**

The Great State wristbands must be worn at all times and will allow players and fans to move throughout the Target Center during the Great State games sitting in any open seats available. Fans may also enter and leave the Target Center during the Great State games with the wristband. Since players can not play with a wristband, players will be asked to wear their band on one ankle.

## **TICKET FOR LYNX GAME**

All players and fans will be issued a Lynx ticket that will provide a specific reserved seat for each person. All Great State fans and players will be seated in one section.

## **MEAL VOUCHERS**

Meal vouchers will allow fans to purchase a special meal from the concession stand for \$5 which includes a hot dog, soda, and chips. These vouchers are best used during the Lynx game itself as there will be better deals available during the two hours before the game at the party zone, etc. All concession meal vouchers will be distributed along with the game passes to team coordinators as outlined above. Meal vouchers that need to be picked up at the door with the passes will be included with the pass in an envelope marked with the person's name at a special table in the lobby.

## **T-SHIRTS**

Youth and adult sizes S-XL: \$10    XXL & larger: \$12

The Great State T-shirt designs are attached. T-shirts will be colored coded by state, and the name of each state will be written across the back of the T-shirt. The T-shirt colors in the attached designs will be available in all adult sizes, but the exact same colors may not be available in the youth sizes. For all youth orders, a t-shirt will be printed on a colored shirt as close as possible to the same color as the adult shirts. The earthquake in Haiti has caused some t-shirt shortages.

T-shirts will be distributed to team coordinators at the meeting at the Marriott Hotel the night before the tournament. We would like team coordinators to distribute all prepaid T-shirts to their fans.

## **LATE TICKET PURCHASE**

Fans may purchase tickets online through our website at [www.pacesetternet](http://www.pacesetternet) through the night before the game. Tickets purchased online will be slightly higher at \$18/ticket for adults and \$10/ticket for age three through fifth grade. All tickets purchased online will be made available in the lobby of the

Target Center on the morning of the tournament under the name of the purchaser. The late tickets may not be available in the same section as the Great State players and fans.

### **FOOD AND DRINKS**

The Lynx are looking into the possibility of a concessionaire operating during the Great State games. As of now, the Target Center concessions do not open until two hours before the Lynx game. The Great State games take place during a 7-9 hour time period before the Lynx game. Fans may leave the building at any time. There are many restaurants around the Target Center, and there are some vending machines. Bottled water and drinks for players may be brought in, but no other food or drinks for fans should be brought in. This is a contractual agreement between the Lynx and the Target Center, so we ask all Pacesetter fans to abide by these guidelines. We will encourage the Target Center to offer some type of drinks and snacks for fans during the Great State games, but if this is not available, fans will be on their own to eat and drink in areas outside the Target Center when their team is not playing.

### **COURTS**

There will be three courts used for the Great State games: 1) The main Target Center floor, 2) The Timberwolves and Lynx practice court, and 3) The Lifetime Fitness court. Both the practice court and the Lifetime Fitness court are located in the lower section of the Target Center just a flight of stairs below the main court area. All courts have square glass boards, scoreboards, and seating for fans. Not all teams will play on the main floor. Teams that win their first game will play on the main court since all semi-final games and championship games are scheduled on the main Target Center floor.

### **OFFICIALS**

A staff of three officials will rotate to each court with each officiating two of every three games. One official will assist the scorekeeper at each court. All officials will be certified and highly experienced.

### **TIMERS**

Scorekeepers will be provided by the Timberwolves' staff.

### **ANNOUNCER AT MAIN COURT**

An announcer will announce all players' names when playing on the main court, so all coaches should prepare a roster and preferably a pronunciation guide for the possibility of playing on the main court.

### **TOURNAMENT FORMAT**

Each tournament will be a straight 8-team format with a complete consolation round except for the 7<sup>th</sup> place game. So all teams will play three games except the teams losing their first two games. There will be times that back-to-back games are required, so teams and fans should be prepared for this possibility and move to their next court efficiently. Due to a compact period of time available, some back-to-back games were unavoidable.

### **GAME TIMES**

Here is the time frame for each Great State tournament day. Exact starting times will not be available until they are posted on our website. Please do not call to ask for starting times if they are not posted on our website.

**Saturday, July 17**

9<sup>th</sup> grade

Great State games: 7:30 a.m. through 12:30 p.m.

Lynx game: 2:30 p.m.

Great State 3<sup>rd</sup> place and championship games: 4:50 p.m through approx. 7-8 p.m.

**Saturday, July 24** 8<sup>th</sup> grade  
Great State games: 10:00 a.m. through 5:00 p.m.  
Lynx game: 7:00 p.m.

**Sundays, August 1, August 8, August 15**  
Great State games: 9:00 a.m. through 4:00 p.m.  
Lynx game: 6:00 p.m.

### **TRAINER**

A trainer will be available in the main arena and available by radio contact for the other two courts.

### **ICE**

Ice and some basic first aid supplies will be available at courtside. Teams should bring their own tape for any taping that their players may require. Basic first aid supplies should be brought by each team.

### **PRACTICE BASKETBALLS**

Practice basketballs will be provided for warm ups.

### **GATORADE ON MAIN COURT**

Gatorade will be provided “pro-style” on the main court, but please do not dump on your coach upon winning the Great State championship!

### **UNIFORMS**

Players should bring two colors, so they can be either a light color or dark color upon request. A reversible jersey would be ideal. All players must wear jerseys with numbers.

### **ROSTERS AND WAIVERS**

Rosters and waivers are not required EXCEPT for any new players that did not turn in a waiver form for the regional or state tournament.

### **CAMERAS**

Fans may bring a camera and take photos at any time, but the lens may not be longer than one inch. Fans may also film the Great State games.

### **PHOTOGRAPHER**

Pacesetter is planning to provide a photographer who will take high quality action photos of each team and offer them to fans for sale on a website after the games.

### **TEAM PHOTO**

The MN Lynx will coordinate the team photo of each team at center court during pre-game warm ups the first weekend. If that doesn't work efficiently enough, the team photos will be taken after the game the following weekends. The Lynx photographer will take this photo and email it to each team.

### **PRE-GAME PARTY**

The Lynx will provide a letter explaining this activity for all players...and fans?

### **FAN TUNNEL AT HALFTIME**

All players will be invited to line up in the player hallway at halftime to high five the Lynx players as

they head back for the second half.

### **BALL EXCHANGE**

Girls' teams only

During the player introductions, one player will be stationed in a spotlight at center court as each Lynx player is announced. The Lynx player will then run to center court and give the Pacesetter player a ball, which she can keep. Eleven players will be able to do this for each game. Coaches should select one player from their team...perhaps a special Sportsmanship Award and secretly nominate a second player – 3 of 8 of these nominees will be selected based on team performance, sportsmanship, etc.

### **POST-GAME AUTOGRAPH SESSION**

Pacesetter players will get an exclusive autograph session after the game with two of the Lynx players. This autograph session should be complete within 35-40 minutes after the end of the game.

### **GREAT STATE AWARDS**

The Great State champion will receive a Championship Ball for the team and each player will receive a Championship plaque – max. 15. The runner-up team, the third place team, and the consolation championship team will each receive a team plaque. All players playing in the Great State tournament will receive a Pacesetter medal with a neck ribbon – max. 15.

### **MARRIOTT HOTEL RESERVATIONS**

Call 1-800-266-9432 or reserve online:

<a href="https://resweb.passkey.com/go/pacesetter1">https://resweb.passkey.com/go/pacesetter1</a>	Arrival 07/16/2010
<a href="https://resweb.passkey.com/go/pacesetter2">https://resweb.passkey.com/go/pacesetter2</a>	Arrival 07/23/2010
<a href="https://resweb.passkey.com/go/pacesetter3">https://resweb.passkey.com/go/pacesetter3</a>	Arrival 07/31/2010
<a href="https://resweb.passkey.com/go/pacesetter4">https://resweb.passkey.com/go/pacesetter4</a>	Arrival 08/07/2010
<a href="https://resweb.passkey.com/go/pacesetter5">https://resweb.passkey.com/go/pacesetter5</a>	Arrival 08/14/2010

### **PARKING**

Parking is available in the Marriott ramp for \$19/day on week days and \$8/day on Saturdays and Sundays. Various ramps are also available in the downtown area. If it is a Twins game day, parking rates will be higher at all ramps. Free parking is available at the Mall of America. People can then take the light rail to downtown.

### **MARRIOTT TO TARGET CENTER**

The Marriott Hotel is connected to the City Center Shopping Center, which is connected by the skyway to the Target Center, so players and fans do not need to walk outside. It is only a block and a half from the Marriott to the Target Center through the skyway.

### **MARRIOTT MEETING – NIGHT BEFORE TOURNAMENT 8:00 p.m.**

We would like to meet with a member of each team the night before the tournament at the Marriott Hotel. If a larger meeting room is available, we will include each team and introduce players and coaches. If an even larger room is available, we will invite all parents and fans as well. The size of the meeting room will depend on what has not been rented yet by the Marriott. We may have to wait until 3-7 days before each tournament before announcing what type of meeting will take place. At minimum, we would like to meet with the coaches or a representative from each team.

This meeting will be used to greet teams, to go over the schedule and rules, and to discuss any final

details. We will also distribute tickets, wristbands, meal vouchers, and T-shirts at this time.

If teams are planning to attend a Twins game or have another team activity planned, I do not want teams to cancel their plans to attend this meeting. It is not going to be a formal event or involve any type of meal or beverage. It will simply be a time and place to greet coaches and teams and take care of some final details. Andrea Olson of the Minnesota Lynx front office will also be on hand to greet teams.

### **TWINS GAMES**

New Target Field – outdoor ballpark

There will be Twins games on three of the weekends:

July 15-18	Chicago White Sox
July 30-August 1	Seattle Mariners
August 13-15	Oakland A's

Though many games are sold out, I have been told that standing room only tickets are available for most games for \$20 and that these tickets are a great buy since the stadium is designed for fans to walk around and watch the game from various vantage points. There are various bars and restaurants available to these fans as well.

### **TARGET CENTER TOUR – day before tournament**

The Minnesota Lynx will provide a tour of the Target Center to all coaches and teams at 5:00 p.m. on the day before the tournament. The tour will include all three game courts and a general tour of the Target Center. Team coordinators should let us know if they intend to participate, so the Lynx can make plans for the size of the group.

### **BRACKETS**

The Great State brackets will be made as soon as all teams have paid their entry fee. Brackets will be placed on our website at [www.pacesetternet.com](http://www.pacesetternet.com).

### **TEAMS**

Teams will be coming from as far as Rapid City, Minot, and Des Moines, so this event promises to be an exciting gathering of the top youth teams in the Upper Midwest.

Let me know if you have any further questions by emailing me at [info@psmbbn.com](mailto:info@psmbbn.com).

Thank you for all of your efforts to make this tournament a success.

Jeff McCarron  
Director  
Pacesetter Sports