

FYIs for this weekend's tournament at Norfolk.....

Our GOYA will be participating in our first "away" basketball tournament for this year. It is this weekend – (November 7th and 8th) hosted by the Annunciation Cathedral of Norfolk, Virginia. This has always been a fun-filled weekend for our GOYA and the community of Norfolk is looking forward to having us participate in their tournament yet again this year.

With that said, GOYAns (and accompanying parents/families) please remember that, throughout the upcoming weekend, we are guests, representing our St. George parish, and we will move between the various events of the tournament as **one group** (referring to the GOYAns) **at all times**.

We have reserved a chartered bus to transport the GOYAns to/from the various activities/events throughout the weekend. All GOYAns (and adults) who have indicated that they intend to travel on the bus to Norfolk this Saturday **must be at the front of the church/parking lot** by and no later than **5:30 am on Saturday morning** (please note this IS NOT "Greek time"). We will not be able to wait on lingering arrivals and risk teams having to forfeit games. PLEASE be considerate of your fellow GOYAns and be ON TIME!

The following individuals have notified me that they will not be traveling on the bus to Norfolk:

Nikki Avgeropoulos

Christine Anderson

David Chenevey

Christine Nikitakis

Peter Nikitakis

The following parents/**adults** are planning **NOT** to travel on the bus and will be driving on their own (but you must have your kids at the church by 5:30 am)

Mr. and Mrs. Avgeropoulos,

Mr. Anderson

Mr. and Mrs. Bournas

Mr. and Mrs. Cohen

Mr. and Mrs. Hangemanole

Dr. and Mrs. Michael

Mr. and Mrs. Mikalis

Mrs. Nikitakis

Mr. and Mrs. Tzamaras

Mr. Xeron

Boys B Coaches (Coach Haris, Coach Alex and Coach Michael)

Boys A Coaches (Coach Doug and Coach Spiro)

The games will be played at: **Norfolk Collegiate Upper School**
7336 Granby St. Norfolk, VA 23505

The school is located one block from the Annunciation Cathedral. Games are scheduled throughout the day on Saturday. We have requested that our teams start play as late in the morning on Saturday as possible.

Once all St. George teams have completed play on Saturday, **ALL** the St. George GOYAnS will be transported via the bus to the hotel : **The Virginia Beach Resort Hotel and Conference Center
2800 SHORE DRIVE
Virginia Beach, VA 23451**

Saturday evening events will be held at the church (this is different than in recent past years when they held the dinner and dance at the hotel). I have been informed that the theme of the evening is Mardi Gras and the dress code is **dressy casual** (jeans permitted BUT NO ripped/wholes jeans, midriffs and other inappropriate/provocative attire). Parents please check to make sure your children pack appropriate attire.

Depending on what time the dance ends, the GOYAnS will be returned to the hotel again via bus, where they will be permitted some “wind down social time” until the curfew. At curfew, all GOYAnS are required to return and remain in their assigned rooms – that means *no more “ins ‘n outs for this ‘n that” for the rest of the night.* (it is preferred that by that point they get some sleep but we all know kids are like the “energizer bunny” they keep going and going BUT in their rooms! – parents this is where we will need everyone’s help)

On **Sunday morning** there will be a light breakfast available for the GOYAnS and parents. They must pack all their belongings and bring down to be loaded on the bus. The GOYAnS, then, will be transported (via the bus) to the Cathedral for Divine Liturgy. PLEASE make sure to pack **appropriate church attire** for Sunday morning services- Lunch and games to follow at the church.

We are anticipating to be back at St. George around 8:30 Sunday evening. As we near the church, we will have the GOYAnS call their families to arrange for pick-up. Please make sure to pick up your GOYAn in a timely manner.

On a final note, most of our GOYAnS are fortunate to have the tremendous support of their parents accompanying them this weekend to Norfolk. The responsibility of 40+ teenagers can be daunting for any adult. Since we have such an extensive parental support system going down to Norfolk, it is presumed that **parents: you will “keep an eye out” for your childrens’ well being & safety and (throughout the weekend) reinforce/ensure their compliance to the meeting times/curfews/rules etc. as stipulated by your priests and GOYA Advisors.** GOYAnS (whose parents will not be coming to the tournament) will have a designated adult/chaperone assigned to them. For Saturday evening events at the Cathedral, we have “designated” chaperones who will be accompanying and representing all the St. George GOYAnS.

Looking forward to a weekend of Orthodox Christian fellowship and healthy athletic competition.

Any questions please feel free to call me

Melina Assimakopoulos- Cohen
Cell- 301.775.8028