



## **2025 MLK Tournament Manual**

### **Locations**

**Spooky Nook Sports** | 75 Champ Blvd. | Manheim, PA

**Lancaster Convention Center** | 25 South Queen St. | Lancaster, PA

**York Expo Center** | 334 Carlisle Ave. | York, PA

### **Team Registration**

Tournament registration is open in AES from August 1st, 2024, until January 10th, 2025, or until the event is full. <https://advancedeventsystems.com/37103>

### **Divisions & Age Groups**

- Open – Highly Advanced (*13s - 18s*)
- Premier – Advanced (*14s - 17s*)
- National - Intermediate (*13s - 18s*)
- American - Regional (*13s - 18s*)
- Club – Fundamental (*14s - 17s*)
- Girls U12 (*12s only*)
- Boys (*15/16s - 18s*)

### **Division Locations**

- Lancaster Convention Center:
  - 12 Girls
  - All 13U Divisions
  - 14 Premier
- Spooky Nook Sports:
  - 14 American, 14 National, 14 Open
  - 15 Premier, 15 Open
  - 16 National, 16 Premier, 16 Open
  - 17 National, 17 Premier, 17 Open
  - All 18U Divisions
- York Expo Center:

- ALL Boys Divisions
- 14 Club
- 15 Club, 15 American, 15 National
- 16 Club, 16 American
- 17 Club, 17 American

### **Entry Fee**

\$720 per team (3 Days)

\$520 per team (2 Days – 12's & All Boys Divisions)

### **Payment**

Entry Fees can be paid for by mailing a check OR online using our new payment platform through PlayerFirst.

You will receive a confirmation e-mail from AES for the team(s) you registered. You will also receive an email from PlayerFirst, within an hour of your AES registration.

The confirmation from PlayerFirst will contain a link that will allow you to log-in and pay online.

You are still able to pay by check if you wish to do so. Mailed checks can be sent to:

**3Step Sports**

**PO Box 458**

**Drexel Hill, PA 19026**

**Note:** All checks should be made payable to 3STEP Sports, LLC. Please send one check per club, and include your official event entry form.

**Complete payment is due no later than December 1, 2024.**

**Note:** *Payment does not guarantee acceptance. Teams are accepted based on order of payment received and room in the event. If the division is full by the payment deadline, the team(s) will be waitlisted until a space opens. If a space does not open, the waitlisted team(s) will be refunded.*

### **Refund Policy**

- Teams that withdraw before 11/30/24 will receive a full refund.
- Teams that withdraw after 11/30/24 but before 12/21/24 will receive a 50% refund.
- Teams that withdraw after 12/21/24 are not eligible for a refund.

See [Northeast Power Series Policies](#) for more refund and credit policy details.

### **Online Team Check-in**

Online team check-in will open on Wednesday, 1/15/25 at 12:00 PM (ET) and will close on Friday, 1/17/25 at 8:00 PM (ET) through AES. Club Directors must verify the rosters by 8 PM on January 17<sup>th</sup> to confirm that their rosters are accurate, and the team is ready to compete.

### **Player and Coach Credential Pick-up**

Tournament credentials are required for all athletes and coaches to enter the venues throughout the tournament. Coaches may pick up their credentials Saturday morning at their respective venue unless otherwise specified in email communications from 3Step.

Teams playing at SPOOKY NOOK or LANCASTER CONVENTION CENTER can pick up their credentials on Friday between 6:00 PM and 8:00 PM at Spooky Nook, during the showcase. Any teams that do not pick up their credentials during that time can do so on Saturday before their matches.

Teams playing at the YORK EXPO CENTER can pick up their credentials on Saturday before their matches start.

### **Admissions & Ticketing**

Tickets are ALL pre-sold through the MLK Kickoff Challenge Ticket page. Tickets will be available for purchase closer to the event.

Everyone entering the event over the age of 10, including siblings of players, MUST have a ticket. Spectator wristbands must be worn on the wrist.

Refunds must be requested within 30 days of purchase via email to [tickets@topcourtevents.com](mailto:tickets@topcourtevents.com). Refund requests should include the name of the event, name of the purchaser, and which ticket(s) the request is for. Tickets that have been scanned are NOT eligible for a refund.

Tickets are not able to be refunded after the 30 days post purchase due to our ticketing software.

### **Venue Details**

- Doors Open

- Doors open at each venue one hour before the first matches are set to start.
- Lost & Found
  - If you believe you lost something during the event, please connect with the tournament desk or venue staff. Any lost items left at our events will be given to the venue.
- Athletic Trainers
  - Trainers are available for preventative taping and injury response, evaluation, and treatment, as well as post-play treatment (ice/wrapping). **Athletes should bring their own tape.** Tape provided by the trainers is designated for injuries only.

### Venue Specific Information

- Spooky Nook Sports
  - Parking:
    - Parking is \$10/day and \$20/weekend
      - Carpooling is encouraged due to limited parking.
      - All cars MUST enter the parking lot via 75 Champ Blvd.
      - Cars will not be able to access the general parking lot from the main entrance on Spooky Nook Rd.
  - Outside Food
    - No coolers or outside food are allowed into the facility.
    - A Smoothie Bar, Food Court, and full restaurant are available on-site.
  - Spectator Seating & Team Camping
    - Spectator seating is available, but personal chairs are allowed.
    - Team Camping is available on the second floor mezzanine.
- Lancaster Convention Center
  - Parking
    - Garage parking is available for a fee
    - Street parking is also available in the area (may have fees)
  - Outside Food
    - Concessions will be available inside the venue.
    - Outside food is allowed in the hotel lobby but is not allowed inside the playing area. No large coolers are allowed inside the playing area.
  - Spectator Seating and Team Camping
    - Spectator seating is available inside the playing venue.
    - Team Camping is allowed on the lowest level of the venue.
    - Team Camping is not allowed inside the playing area.

- York Expo Center
  - Parking
    - Parking is available at no cost
    - If you are playing at **Memorial Hall**, it is easiest to enter through Gate 4 off Market St.
    - If you are playing at **UMPC Arena** (*formerly Weis Arena*), it is easiest to enter through Gate 6 off North Highland Ave.
  - Outside Food
    - No outside food or coolers are allowed. There are concessions available on site.
  - Spectator Seating and Team Camping
    - Spectator seating is available inside the playing venue.
    - There is no room for team camping. Please keep belongings tight to your group when your team is not playing.

### **Spectator Code of Conduct**

All Top Court Events and Northeast Power Series spectators must adhere to the following Spectator Code of Conduct:

- Spectators are an important part of the game and shall always conform to accepted standards of good sportsmanship and behavior.
- Be respectful of all athletes, coaches, officials, other spectators, and tournament staff.
- Taunting, foul and abusive language, and disrespectful signs and behavior have no place in youth sports and will not be tolerated. **This is a zero-tolerance policy.**
- Any physical or verbal altercations with athletes, coaches, officials, other spectators, or tournament staff will not be tolerated. Offending parties will immediately be escorted out of the venue and banned from returning to the premises for the remainder of the event.
- Be respectful of event staff, security, and rules of the event, along with the use of facilities and equipment provided, at all times.
- Spectators will observe the rules of the event venues concerning weapons, smoking, drugs, food/drink consumption, littering, and parking procedures.

### **Tournament Format**

#### **4 Team Pools (3 Day Event):**

The desired format for each division is four (4) team pools on Saturday and Sunday followed by at least one (1) scheduled match on Monday. The results of pool play will determine where the

teams will play on Sunday and then again on Monday. In the desired format, 1st and 2nd place from pool play on Saturday will go to Group 1 Pool Play and 3rd and 4th place from pool play on Saturday will go to Group 2 Pool Play.

- Brackets on Monday will be determined based on finishes in Sunday Pool Play.

As mentioned, this is the desired format. However, this is subject to change and also is subject to the amount teams in the given division. Uneven numbers may require us to have the following:

- A pool of 3 that is playing automatic 3 Sets
- Two three team pools, that will play normal best of 3 and then crossover between the two pools
- Additional Crossovers Needed

Please check with the tournament staff if you have any questions while looking at your schedule.