

***Get to know Minnesota's Spring Teams Coordinator, Blake Nicols...***

Blake began coaching and training at WOTN seven years ago as a Bethel player. His immediate impact on the program is still visible in the success of our ever-growing spring team program. Blake's loyalty in ensuring high level coaches and offering a top notch product with a belief that training the players of today the right way makes him priceless to our program. Blake is the New Prague Boys Head Basketball Coach and also spends time traveling the state watching WOTN players and investing in their growth as individuals and teammates. By far his greatest attribute is his mentoring through coaching, culminating in a mutual respect for his players as well as the game. He loves the game, works hard for his players and quantifies success in forming teams that are willing to simply outwork to outperform their opponents. Make no mistake; Blake is a blue-collar coach, demanding the practice of fundamentals and skills necessary to win games. He seeks those players willing to be great in a team setting, those whose accolades are not lost on just themselves. His ability to show college coaches how the best player on the floor can also be the best team player, willing to win the easiest smartest way, gets his players noticed. He is busy working on gathering players for WOTN spring teams again this year, where his passion for the game is infectious.

***Get to know Wisconsin's Spring Teams Coordinator, Jeff Berkhof...***

Jeff comes from a highly successful coaching background as UW-River Falls Head Men's Basketball Coach, building off of WIAC Season and Tourney Championships and focusing on the 2018 Falcons' rise in the D3 rankings. His desire to bring basketball training and spring teams to Wisconsin is a perfect fit for WOTN, expanding with quality coaches and never compromising on core beliefs. His demand for a fundamental approach and emphasis on team practices makes him a valuable asset to our brand. His vision to offer strong basketball opportunities in Wisconsin at all levels of the game, coupled with his ability to excite a growing number of players for our third year here, is sparking a new generation of competitive WOTN teams. Jeff understands the necessity of playing basketball in the off season, working on fundamentals and skill work and honing the team game. Although proud to be a seasoned NCAA D3 Coach of the Year, his finest accomplishment is teaching his son to love the game of basketball and steering him through the spring team process. In his understanding of what is needed at the youth level as well as being a parent of a player, he demands a quality product as well as a fair and fun process. Our goal at WOTN is to place players on teams where they can be successful. Jeff then meticulously oversees the coaches and practice schedules for all Wisconsin WOTN teams. It is our goal to establish WOTN MN and WOTN WI as a unified group of teams.

***We are Wear Out The Net***

