

CFEF INTRODUCES THE CYPRESS HOOPS INVITATIONAL

The idea for the Cypress Hoops Invitational originated when Eric Burg and his father Robert wanted to create a great tournament in Cy-Fair.

"I grew up in the district and played basketball myself. I know many of the coaches and have stayed in contact with them," said Co-Chair Eric Burg. "There's a tournament in Pasadena that they've had for about 10 years that has become one of the best tournaments in the country, definitely in the state, and we questioned, 'why don't we have something like that?' with the facilities that CFISD has, mainly the attractiveness of the Berry Center....we just kind of got it started from there," he said.

"We're in the infancy stages, but the idea was just to create a great tournament," Burg said.

This year the second annual tournament runs Dec. 8, 9, and 10 with opening rounds at various high schools. Saturday's championship games will be at the Berry Center, according to Co-Chair Pam Wells.

"The Cy-Fair Hoops Invitational is the new, expanded, and updated version of the district's age old varsity boys CFISD basketball tournament. The Cy-Fair Educational Foundation plans to engage the entire community in order to promote basketball, generate community spirit, and raise funds for the Cy-Fair Educational Foundation," said Wells.

Wells said that all CFISD district teams will participate in the tournament. There are 14 other teams in the tournament for a total of 24 teams competing.

"Last year was the first year for the Cypress Hoops Invitational in this particular format. The event was a great success and we have received numerous positive comments from coaches about the level of commitment and attention to detail that was provided," said Nate Gordon, Assistant Athletic Director. "The teams that participated last year are all eager to return!"

"The proceeds from the tournament, which is a project of the Donate to Educate committee of the CFEF, will be used for innovative staff development programs for district teachers and instructional leaders and for scholarships for deserving high school seniors," said Wells.

For the second year North Cypress Medical Center will underwrite the event but we are still looking for sponsors at all levels, according to CFEF Executive Director Marie Holmes. "This is a great opportunity for a business to get involved and make a difference in the community."

For more information about ways to participate, contact Holmes at 281-807-3591 or visit the website at www.thecfef.org.