



ALGONA RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Algona High School & Bishop Garrigan High School Alumni Basketball Tournament

We will host our **6th annual AHS & BGHS Alumni Basketball Tournament** on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, April 4, 5 & 6. This tournament is organized by our department however all proceeds after expenses are donated to both schools athletic booster clubs. That has amounted to over \$7,500 since the first tournament was held in 2003.

This is one of those “feel good” programs that bring back classmates and their families to Algona every year for the chance to relive those high school days. The stands are filled with parents of former players getting the chance to all huddle together again to watch their “kids” play but this time many are preoccupied with babysitting while Mom or Dad are on the court. It has also proven to be an especially positive event for area restaurants, hotels and bars.

Our first year we solicited the help of both high schools to get names and addresses of potential team captains. We started sending out information and advertising in the early winter for our late March/early April event. That year 21 teams registered for the tournament, representing teams from as far back as 1957. We have continued to average around 21 teams per year. Divisions are split by age and each plays a double elimination tournament format. Typically we have 3 men’s divisions and one women’s 5 on 5, plus a women’s 6 on 6 division. Championship t-shirts are given to all division winners.

Our refereeing is provided by area officials who are paid only \$10 per game. A game is played in two, 18 minutes halves with continuous clock except for the last 2 minutes of each half. We ask each team to provide one person to sit at the scorers table prior to their game.

Entry fee is \$120 per team. Spectator admission is \$2 per day. The Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) provides volunteers to take admission. Programs with all the brackets and team rosters with year of graduation listed are available at the door. Brackets are also available for 2 weeks prior to the tournament on our website. Games begin Friday evening and conclude with finals at approximately noon on Sunday.

Although this is definitely not a money maker for our department it is a chance for us to provide a quality community event that draws hundreds of people to Algona for the weekend while benefitting the local schools.