



**FBC, Hot Springs**  
**2019 Upward Basketball**  
**Frequently Asked Questions** (101518)

1. **How old does my child need to be to play?**  
Our Upward **introductory and developmental** basketball leagues are open to children in Kindergarten and 1<sup>st</sup>-2<sup>nd</sup> grades.
2. **How much does it cost?**
  - a. Basketball costs **\$70** (includes reversible mesh jersey, reversible mesh shorts, tee-shirt, awards after each game and practice, end-of-season-award, and other learning activities).
  - b. \$10 early registration discount ends October 28.
  - c. An additional \$5 shipping/handling fee applies **AFTER WE PLACE OUR INITIAL UNIFORM ORDER, typically around mid-November.**
  - d. Multiple player family discounts include: \$10 discount for 2<sup>nd</sup> player, \$20 discount for the 3<sup>rd</sup> player. These discounts are automatically applied when registering online at [www.fbcrecreation.com](http://www.fbcrecreation.com).
  - e. There is a \$30 parent coach discount per family. Parents must contact Wallace Yamauchi for the coach discount code.
  - f. We offer partial scholarships to qualifying players if we have funds available. Upward leadership must approve.
3. **How do I register my player for the Kindergarten Coed, 1<sup>st</sup>-2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Girls, or 1<sup>st</sup>-2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Boys division?**
  - a. We prefer you register online because of the efficiency and accuracy of information. Follow the links from [www.fbcrecreation.com](http://www.fbcrecreation.com).
  - b. You can print a copy of the registration form from [www.fbcrecreation.com](http://www.fbcrecreation.com), complete it and bring it and the fees to FBC.
  - c. You can pick up a copy of the registration form at the FBC office, or at the FBC welcome center, complete it and bring it and the fees to FBC.
4. **When is the deadline to register?**  
Online registration ends October 28. The official deadline is when there are no more vacancies in a particular league. We will have waiting lists.
5. **Are Upward basketball shorts required?**  
Shorts are included in the registration fee.
6. **Does my child have to attend the evaluation?**  
Yes, all players must attend one evaluation to ensure they receive the proper uniform sizing and to help us ensure evenly created teams. We have scheduled evaluations as indicated below:
  - Thursday, November 1, between 6:00-7:30 pm: Kindergarten through 2<sup>nd</sup> grades
  - Saturday, November 3, between 10:30 am – 12:00 pm: Kindergarten through 2<sup>nd</sup> gradesEvaluations will take place at First Baptist Church. Doors will not open until scheduled start time. Our goal is to get you in and out within 20 minutes.
7. **When do practices and games begin? What time will they be?**
  - a. 1<sup>st</sup>-2<sup>nd</sup> grade practices will begin the week of January 7, 2019 on Monday or Thursday nights.
  - b. All games will be on Saturdays beginning January 26, 2019.
  - c. The kindergarten coed instructional divisions will have practices beginning Saturday, January 12, 2019. They will then continue practices and games within the same time period on Saturdays beginning January 26, 2019.
  - d. We cannot determine our exact practice times/schedule until a later date. Typically, the 1<sup>st</sup>-2<sup>nd</sup> grade practice times start at 5:30 and 6:25 for one hour. The kindergarten coed division practices will be on Saturdays between 9:30 am-12:00 pm.
8. **Where will practices and games be held?**  
All practices and games will be at First Baptist Church.  
(over please)

9. **Will the coach have extra practices?**

No. Practice days and times do not change once they are established. A team will practice at the same time on the same day every week for the entire season. Practice is limited to one hour per week for a total of 8 practices. Typically, we will not make up practice if we must cancel a practice for any reason.

10. **Please tell me about the Kindergarten practices/games.**

Kindergarten basketball is a coed division. They will have practices beginning Saturday, January 12, 2019. They will then continue practices and games within the same time period on Saturdays beginning January 26. Teams will practice and play on Saturday mornings (between 9:30 am-12:00 pm). The tentative schedule for the practice/game hour includes approximately 30 minutes of practice time, approximately 23 minutes of game time (4 periods of 5 minutes each with a 1-minute substitution period between playing periods), approximately 7 minutes of game-preparation time, and 15 minutes of post-game activities. We anticipate using a **25.5" (youth size 4)** ball with **7'-7.5'** goals.

11. **Can my children practice on the same night so I don't have to be out every night of the week?**

We cannot guarantee this, but we promise we will do our best to coordinate practices so families with multiple players do not have to be at Upward practices several times a week. Several factors are involved in scheduling practices, including:

- The number of teams in each division
- The availability of coaches for practicing
- What division your players are in
- When your players are available for practicing
- If you have more than two children participating in Upward

12. **Can I choose which coach I want my player to have?**

The teams are determined by a computer draft. The computer assigns players to a team based in part on what night and time the coaches are available to practice. Manually assigning players to a coach can compromise the team parity.

13. **Can my player be on the same team as his friends?**

For most of the players, we do not assign them to teams, so we cannot guarantee that a player will be on the same team with his/her friends. The exception is for families with siblings who are in the same division. We will do our best to place family members on the same team unless they state otherwise. We are committed to making sure teams are drafted as evenly as possible. The draft is by computer, so teams will be fairly even at the start of the season. A player is assigned to a team based on several factors, including years of playing experience, height, evaluation drills, number of players in the league, and nights available for practice.

14. **Do you keep score?**

We do not keep score in the Kindergarten instructional and 1<sup>st</sup>-2<sup>nd</sup> grade developmental divisions. We have determined that keeping score at these younger levels is not as important as the other goals we have established for Upward at First Baptist (fundamentals, skills, character development, discipline, and teamwork for example). We understand the value of the lessons to be taught in losing as well as in winning. We will strive to demonstrate an attitude of being humble in victory, gracious in defeat. We have zero tolerance for belittling any other persons.

15. **Why do the players wear different color wristbands?**

The wristbands simply indicate who they are guarding when we play man-to-man defense.

16. **Can I coach or be an assistant coach for my child's team?**

Every season we rely on parents and grandparents to help fill our coaching vacancies. You are welcome to join the coaching ranks. We will provide training and resources to help you with your responsibilities. You can get a coach application from [www.fbcrecreation.com](http://www.fbcrecreation.com) or in the Fitness & Rec Ministry HQ. All coaches must complete a background check at <https://www.ministryopportunities.org>.