



FBC, Hot Springs
21-22 Upward Basketball
Frequently Asked Questions (101321)

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 1st-2nd grades.
2. **How much does it cost?**
 - a. Pre-registration fee is **\$55** through November 13. Fee includes color tee-shirt, black mesh shorts, awards after each game and practice, end-of-season-award, and other learning activities.
 - b. Registration fee is **\$65** starting November 14 after \$10 early registration discount ends on November 13.
 - c. An additional \$5 shipping/handling fee applies **AFTER WE PLACE OUR INITIAL UNIFORM ORDER, typically around mid-November.**
 - d. We offer **multiple player family discounts**: \$10 discount for 2nd player, \$5 discounts for additional players. These discounts are automatically applied when registering online at www.fbcrecreation.com.
 - e. We also offer a **\$25 parent coach discount** per family. Register to coach online as you register your player. Parents must contact Wallace Yamauchi (624-3345; wallace@firsthotsprings.com) 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 Upward?**
 - a. We strongly recommend you **register online** because of the ease, efficiency, and accuracy of information. Follow the links from www.fbcrecreation.com.
 - b. You can print a copy of the registration form from 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 November 13. The official deadline is when there are no more vacancies in a particular league. We will have waiting lists.
5. **Does my child have to attend the orientation/evaluation?**
Yes, at least one parent/guardian and players must attend one orientation/evaluation to make sure you get the information you need and to help us ensure evenly created teams. We have scheduled evaluations as indicated below:
 - **Monday, November 15, anytime between 6:00-7:30 pm**
 - **Tuesday, November 16, anytime between 6:00-7:30 pm**Evaluations 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.
6. **When do practices and games begin? What time will they be?**
 - a. 1st-2nd grade practices will begin the week of January 3, 2022 on Monday or Thursday nights.
 - b. All games will be on Saturdays beginning January 22, 2022.
 - c. The kindergarten coed instructional divisions will have practices beginning Saturday, January 8, 2022. They will then continue practices and games within the same time period on Saturdays beginning January 22, 2022.
 - d. We cannot determine our exact practice times/schedule until a later date. Typically, the 1st-2nd 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.
7. **Where will practices and games be held?**
All practices and games will be at First Baptist Church.

8. **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.

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

Kindergarten basketball is a coed division. They will have practices beginning Saturday, January 8, 2022. They will then continue practices and games within the same time period on Saturdays beginning January 22. 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 will use a **27.5" (youth size 5)** ball with **7'-7.5'** goals.

10. **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

11. **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.

12. **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.

13. **Do you keep score?**

We do not keep score in the Kindergarten instructional and 1st-2nd 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.

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

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

15. **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 until we have filled all the coaching vacancies. We will provide training and resources to help you with your responsibilities.
- There is a **\$25 parent coach discount** per family. Parents must contact Wallace Yamauchi for the coach discount code.
- Go to www.fbc recreation.com to complete the online coach application and background check. You can also get a paper application from the church office or in the Fitness & Rec Ministry HQ.