

# WELCOME TO UPWARD BASKETBALL!

By partnering with local churches throughout the country and around the world, Upward Sports has become the world's largest Christian sports organization. Our desire is to provide the **best sports experience** for every child - including yours. A large part of doing so is making sure you, the parent, receive timely and accurate information. Below are answers to questions you may have as you begin your season with Upward Basketball. Also keep an eye out for additional information created especially for you that will be included among your child's sport-specific items.

## WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF UPWARD BASKETBALL?

- › Upward Sports aims to provide the best sports experience for your child. By best, we mean that at the end of the season, we want you to be thinking, "That is exactly what I wanted my child to experience." From the skills and drills, to the lessons on life, to the game-day experience, your child is the focus of what we do.

## WHAT IS THE PROCESS THAT YOU WILL USE TO PROVIDE THE UPWARD SPORTS EXPERIENCE TO MY CHILD?

- › Our volunteer coaches are trained to focus on your child's experience and development. They will equip each child with the athletic skills needed to participate at the next level as well as stress values like sportsmanship, teamwork, integrity and respect.
- › Coaches will focus on fundamentals, rules of the game, game-time experience and opportunities to improve for each participant.
- › During each practice, coaches will share values for life that are biblically-based.
- › Coaches will use a unique substitution system assuring equal playing time over the course of the season and opportunities for each player to be in the starting lineup.
- › Fun and competitive games result from equally matched opponents.
- › Upward Sports' unique rules insure that your child has an opportunity to play hard, enjoy the games and improve each week.



**UPWARD BASKETBALL**  
**PARENT ORIENTATION FLYER**

## WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS MY CHILD WILL RECEIVE FROM THIS UPWARD SPORTS EXPERIENCE?

- › A uniform that makes your child look like a pro along with other items that build team spirit
- › Family-friendly practice and game scheduling, with time commitments limited to a one-hour practice and one game per week
- › Belonging to a team and recognition of their accomplishments both at the end of practices and games
- › Fun practices and games
- › Opportunities to improve – no bench warmers
- › Experiencing healthy competition – winning and losing – with the overall focus of skill and character development
- › An exciting end-of-season award

## WHAT DOES THE “BIBLICAL VALUES” PART OF THIS PROGRAM MEAN?

- › Life lessons taught in Upward Basketball are based on truths from the Bible. Coaches will share Bible verses and personal stories to help each child grow in character and understanding of life from a biblical perspective.
- › Upward Sports has worked hard to deliver messages that teach values for life. These life lessons are applicable to people of all backgrounds.
- › Each game will begin with prayer. This is done to set the tone and atmosphere for the games. Starting with prayer helps to encourage participants and fans alike to cultivate good attitudes and sportsmanship.

## TELL ME ABOUT WWW.TEAMUPWARD.COM.

- › Upward Sports wants to make sure your child has the best opportunity to learn more about the sports and life lessons the coach shares each week. This website is designed to support what is shared at each week of practice.
- › One-minute skills videos will add to your child’s knowledge of the sport, while animated videos will entertain and encourage the player. Each week’s Bible verse also has a video that explains it in greater detail.
- › Each week your child will receive an unlock code to open up brand new areas of the site.

## HOW CAN I HELP IN PROVIDING MY CHILD WITH THE BEST SPORTS EXPERIENCE THIS SEASON?

- › Make sure your child is on time.
- › Look for opportunities to add positive input to your child’s experience.
- › Encourage your child to learn the skills for the sport and the Bible verses they review each week. Both will be valuable in life.
- › Keep in mind that these are volunteers who are serving your children, and accept their imperfections. Be sure to encourage them during practices and games.

Join us on  
**facebook**   
[www.facebook.com/UpwardSports](http://www.facebook.com/UpwardSports)



**FOR MORE INFO, VISIT**  
**UPWARD.ORG**