



Upward Basketball – Frequently Asked Questions



When is the Deadline to register my kids for participating in the 2019-2020 Season?

The last day for participants registering to play the 2018-2019 Upward Basketball season is Thursday, October 31, 2019.

What is the purpose of player evaluations and what happens if we miss the set evaluation dates?

ONLY NEW PLAYERS ARE REQUIRED TO ATTEND A PRE-SEASON EVALUATION....

Upward strives to create teams that are equally divided with kids competing against players of similar skill levels. Attendance at evaluations is important to the process of team selections and balanced competition.

If your player cannot make any of the evaluation dates, a representative from the Upward Leadership Staff will contact you to gather player information and determine skill level.

This is not the best way to ensure proper placement of your player with a team, so please note the dates for the evaluations and please plan to attend.

Can I request a certain coach or player for my kids to be placed with?

In order to create a fair and balanced basketball program with players of all skill levels, Upward does not allow players to select teams or coaches that he or she wishes to participate with. Coach's kids will be automatically placed with that coach's team. Upward typically only allows 2 Coaches per team unless there are extenuating circumstances.

Can I request a certain night for my player's practice that works with my schedule?

During the on-line registration process you will have the opportunity to select which night does **NOT** work with your schedule. Certain age groups also practice on certain nights of the week. So, we cannot accommodate a practice night for your player if that night is not available for his or her age group. We cannot coordinate the practice times and days for siblings that are at different grade.

What can I do if I need to coordinate with another family for carpool?

During the on-line registration process, you will be asked if you have a carpool request. You are allowed one carpool request. The other participant's parents should request a mutual carpool in order to ensure the carpool request. Carpool requests are only applicable for players that are in the **same division**.

How old does my child need to be in order to play or cheer?

The cut off for first year players and cheerleaders is January 1st. If your player or cheerleader turns 5 before January 1st, they are eligible to play and cheer.

What is the practice schedule?

Practice starts the week of December 2nd for grades 1st-5th. The practice schedule will be issued by the first week of December. Practices will be held on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday at Trinity between 5:30 - 7:30. Practices will be held at St. Andrews on Thursday and Friday at 5:30 & 6:30. More times may be added based on the number of teams that are entered into each level.

Which teams practice during the week?

Only the 1st – 5th grade levels will practice during the week. K5 will NOT practice during the week. K5 will practice for the first 15-20 minutes of their Saturday schedule followed by the game. Cheerleaders will practice twice before the season starts and then only practice prior to the start of each game. If a 1st Grade group is grouped with a K5 group, they will not practice during the week.

What if my daughter/son cannot attend practice but still wants to play games on Saturdays?

Upward does not want to say that your player could not play in spite of not being able to attend practice; however, we highly encourage you to consider the challenges that presents to the team and coach with regards to team chemistry.

How long do practices last?

Practices are held once per week for one hour. Parents are encouraged to stay for practice. Please DO NOT drop off your player outside the gym. Parents are expected to bring players in to the gym prior to the start of practice and pick up from the coach at the end of practice.

How will I know if practices are cancelled due to inclement weather?

Upward follows the Henrico County Public School cancellation schedule. If HCPS are cancelled due to inclement weather, there will be no Upward practices. The Upward Inclement Weather Number is: 804-288-6057 X 322



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How will I know if games are cancelled due to inclement weather?

An email will be sent out prior to games notifying parents of cancellations to games due to inclement weather. A notification will also be posted on the Upward Facebook page. Please like our page @Trinity.Upward.Richmond

Are practices held on school holidays?

Upward practices will not be held during school holidays.

Where are games played?

All games are played on Saturdays at both Trinity and St. Andrews. K5-3rd grade teams play at Trinity UMC and 4/5th grade teams play at St. Andrews UMC.

Do teams make up games that are cancelled?

Upward does not make up games that are cancelled. For teams that practice during the week, coaches have the option to replace practice for a game make-up.

Does Upward do team and individual pictures?

Yes. Our 2020 Upward Picture Dates are as follows:

Trinity Teams and Cheerleaders: TBD

St. Andrews Teams: TBD

(Times for Pictures: 1 hour prior to games on the date of picture)

Does Upward have “Make-Up” picture dates?

No. Make-Up pictures will only be held if the original date is cancelled due to inclement weather.

How do I know what size shorts, jerseys or cheer uniforms to select?

Please use your own judgment. Look at you player’s current sizes for gym shorts, tee-shirts or other jerseys. The jerseys are youth sizes so girls in particular sometimes need a smaller size than usual.

What happens if you receive your uniform and it doesn’t fit?

Please inform your coach as soon as possible if you have a uniform that does not fit.

What if I want to coach or volunteer to help Upward?

When you register your player, you will have the opportunity to indicate your interest in coaching, assistant coaching or volunteering in any capacity with Upward. If you forgot to indicate your willingness to volunteer when you registered your child, please contact us (upward@trinityumc.net).

Thank you for your service!

Can I coach my own kids when I volunteer to coach?

Yes, you will be linked to your own kids when you volunteer to be a head coach or assistant coach. Each team is allowed a coach and an assistant coach. We CANNOT allow more than two coaches per team to manage the equal placement of players.

How do I pay?

You can pay on-line when you register.



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If the practice or game schedule does not work out with our family schedule, can I get a refund?

Upward can certainly refund your registration money should the schedule for the league not work out with your family schedule.

Refund policy:

Full Refund – September 1st. – Nov. 20th

40% Refund – After Nov. 20th

Does Upward provide scholarships or financial aid to parents?

Yes, Upward has a minimum amount of resources to provide some level of financial aid. In order to spread the financial aid, we have available to us, we ask that parents at least cover the cost of the league and uniform. (\$70.00)

Can I make payments to Upward over the course of the season?

Yes, Upward asks that you make the payments in such a manner that payment for the league is made In-Full by December 31, 2020. We cannot extend any discounts on the registration when payments are being made. Payments can only be broken out for the full cost of registration.