



**KROC**  
**MS GULF COAST**

**575 DIVISION ST, BILOXI, MISSISSIPPI 39530**



# **PARENT'S PACKET**

## **Contact Information**

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**Parents Welcome** to the Salvation Army Kroc Center's Youth Basketball League. Below are excerpts from our Youth Basketball League rules and regulations that will help you navigate through our season.

## LEAGUE REGULATIONS

### SAFETY

Safety is the number one priority for all participants of the Youth Basketball League. In a concerted effort with our employees, athletic staff, coaches and referees; it is each participant's responsibility to ensure that any hazards to safety are identified, reduced or eliminated before an accident occurs. By abiding by the rules and regulations of the Salvation Army Kroc Center, the Mississippi State High School Federation rules and common sense, we can ensure we have a safe season.

### PARTICIPANTS

- The Youth Basketball League has adopted a non-discrimination policy that ensures participation for all coaches and players regardless of race, creed, sex, economic status or ability
- All children who live on the Mississippi Gulf Coast or surrounding communities who are the appropriate age are eligible to participate in the league
- All participants must have parental authorization (this authorization for players is identified on the registration form)
- Players must be between the following ages of 5 and 15 as of 1 September of the year of registrations
- Siblings in the same division *will* play on the same team unless otherwise requested in writing prior to the draft
- Middle school basketball team players and High school basketball team members are eligible and encouraged to participate in our league
- Players wishing to move up to the next level after turning the appropriate age, will not enter the draft unless requested by parents
- Players with *exceptional athletic* ability who clearly dominate their Division may move up with the Athletic Coordinator's approval. This may require the player attend evaluations with the age group they are moving up to.
- Returning players are normally returned to their last season's team
- During registrations *only*, parents may request for their child not to return to the same team; if this occurs:
  - Players must attend Evaluations and reenter the draft
  - His/her old team *will not* be able to select that player in the draft

### DIVISIONS

The Youth Basketball League will do its best to have both a boys and girls teams per division. If registration's does not support at least 3 teams for boys and girls, the division may be co-ed.

- 6U: children are 5 and 6 years old
- 8U: children are 7 and 8 years old
- 10U: children are 9 and 10 years old
- 12U: children are 11 and 12 years old
- 15U: children are 13 to 15 years old

### REGISTRATION

- The place and time for registration and evaluations will be set by the Athletics Coordinator
  - Registration forms must be filled out
  - Registration fees must be paid
  - Parents Code of Ethics must be initialed and signed
  - A copy of the child's Birth Certificate will be required for all first-time players *only*
  - If these items are not received, the player(s) is registered
- Each player (s) must be a registered player prior to participating in any practices or games
  - Players not registered in the league *will not* be allowed to participate in practices or games
- Parent Request:  
The Youth Basketball League will do their best to accommodate parental team placement requests. However, all requests must be made during registrations; this does not guarantee that all requests will be honored
  - Parental requests *must* be made during registrations
  - Request made after registrations may be denied

### SELECTION OF PLAYERS

- Established teams are welcomed in the KROC league as long as each player completes the league registration

- There will be no more than ten (10) players on a team
- Existing Teams that do not have 10 players may be given additional players until the team has a total of 10 players
- Players not on an existing team will be placed in a pool of players and once registration is done the Athletics Coordinator will place the pool players on teams
- The place and time for registration and evaluations will be set by the Athletics Coordinator
  - Registration forms must be filled out
  - Registration fees must be paid
  - A copy of the child's Birth Certificate will be required for all first-time players
  - If these items are not received, the player is ineligible until all registration requirements are met
- Coaches moving up in divisions may retain the players that are also moving up in division with them; unless parents request otherwise
- Coaches children will play for their parent
- Siblings in the same age group will be placed together on the same team *unless*
  - Parents request siblings play on different teams
  - One sibling is playing on a team from the previous year that already has 10 returning players, in this case we will give the parent an option to move both players to a different team
- A parent may elect to not to play for a particular coach. If a parent does not agree with a particular coach; when returning from a previous year, they may write a letter requesting their player be put back in the draft
  - This request must be done in writing during registrations
  - The Athletic Coordinator will review and have final decision making authority on all requests
  - In situations where a player may have quit the previous year and does not desire to play for the same team, the player will be placed on another team upon request
- Expansion teams (new teams/coaches) will receive all available players from the pool until they have the same amount of players as existing teams

#### **PARENTS GUIDELINES**

- Model sportsmanship, teamwork, and respect for all participants at all times, including teammates, coaches, players, opposing players, officials and parents
- Be humble in victory and courteous in defeat
- Make no demonstrable protests about officiating during games
- Arrange for appropriate, timely transportation for their child to/from practices and games
- Ensure that coaches are notified in the event that their daughter/son will be late or absent from a practice or a game
- Provide positive support and encouragement for their teams and opposing players
- Assist coaches and the league as needed, including volunteering support as scorekeeper, timekeeper, team parent, concession stand or other volunteer positions
- Ensures spectators, parents, and fans remain outside the confines of the basketball court and are seated in the designated bleachers
  - There will be no standing permitted around the court during games
- Ensure outside foods or drinks are not brought into any gyms during games
- Ensures balls are not brought from home during practices and games
- Responsible for their child's uniform and any replacements costs
- Ensures children and accompanying adults are in their best behavior during games and practices
- Ensures all trash is discarded prior to exiting the gym
- Assist the league with the control of spectators
  - Ensures young children are under parental control
  - Ensures there is NO RUNNING and PLAYING in the areas surrounding the court
- No Profane Language, Unsportsmanlike Conduct or Trash Talking will be tolerated
  - If a spectator/parent violates this rule, the coach of the team they are supporting will receive a technical foul
  - A second offense will result in a second technical foul for the coach and ejection from that game
    - The spectator/parent will then be removed from the gym and the Local police notified
    - The Sports Staff reserves the right to adjust this penalty on a case by case basis

#### **PARENTS RESPONSIBILITIES**

Coaches may solicit help from the parents to be assistant coaches, team parents, bookkeepers, operate the game clock, and or to perform other jobs that may come up during the season. Through our collective efforts and your assistance with the above-mentioned tasks we will have smooth transitions during games and a successful season.

## **BOOKKEEPERS AND CLOCK OPERATORS**

When leagues do not have designated book keepers and clock operators, parents may be asked to perform these duties. Each team is required to have at least two parents ready to perform bookkeeping or clock operator prior to each game. If there is a volunteer that does not know how to perform these duties, instructions will be provided.

- If no volunteers are present to perform these tasks:
  - Coaches will be asked to provide their assistant coaches to conduct these duties.
- Instruction on how to keep the books and run the clock will be given prior to the first game
  - Date and time to-be-determined
- ✓ Both will be positioned at the scorer's table
- ✓ These personnel are a neutral entity and are not to be cheering from this position

## **SPECTATORS**

Spectators are expected to show courtesy to all the players of all the teams as though each player was their own child. Our basketball program is designed solely for the kids to have fun, learn basketball fundamentals and exercise good sportsmanship. Spectator interference with these objectives will not be tolerated and offenders will be asked to leave and/or offspring removed from the game in which they are playing.

There will be times when the team you are rooting for will receive what you may deem a bad break or official's "Call" (this is part of the game), while you may be highly upset this is not the end of the world or the last game of the universe. Five days or five minutes from the time this happens the "kids" will not remember what transpired and will be too busy playing with each other to care. This is the example we wish to follow and teach.

## **PLAYERS GUIDELINES**

- Model sportsmanship, teamwork, and respect for all participants at all times, including teammates, coaches, opposing players, officials and parents
- Be humble in victory and courteous in defeat
- Make no demonstrable protests about officiating during the game
- Shake hands with opposing coaches, players and referees at the conclusion of each game
- Attend all games and practices; notify the coach in the event you will be absent or late for a game or practice
- Follow the directions of the coaches, realizing that the coaches are volunteering their time to help make this league possible
- Any player storming off the bench or playing area during a game will be ejected for the remainder of the game
  - The player may be ineligible to play in the next league game
  - The Sports Staff reserves the right to enforce this penalty on a case by case basis
- Any player who's grades fall below a 2.0 Grade Point Average ("C" Average) GPA, who is suspended, or expelled from school during the course of the season, will immediately be banned from participating in any of the Youth Basketball League activities, including, but not limited to, practices and games
  - The player will be banned from participation in the Youth Basketball League. until his/her GPA reaches a 2.0 ("C" Average)
  - The player will be banned from participation in the Youth Basketball League until he/she is able to return to school
  - Youth Basketball League Sports Staff reserves the right to overrule on a case by case basis
- Any player who is charged and or convicted of an unlawful offense, excluding minor traffic offenses, during the course of the season, will immediately be banned from participating in any of the Youth Basketball League activities, including, but not limited to, practices and games
  - They will be permanently banned from future participation in The Youth Basketball League from that point forward
  - The Youth Basketball League Sports Staff reserves the right to overrule on a case by case basis
- No Profane Language, Unsportsmanlike Conduct or Trash Talking will be tolerated
  - If a player violates this rule, he/she will receive a Technical Foul
  - A second offense will result in a second Technical Foul and an ejection from that game
  - The player will then be ineligible to play in the next league game
    - The Sports Staff reserves the right to adjust this penalty on a case by case basis. If the coach cannot discipline a player, the Sports Staff may invoke a suspension

## **REFEREES**

The Youth Basketball League will have contracted paid referees in all divisions.

## **CONDUCT**

All league representatives are required to conduct themselves in a manner that reflects credit upon them self and The Salvation Army Kroc Center Youth Basketball League.

- All participants of The Youth Basketball League (players, coaches, parents and or spectators) will be expected to adhere to our league regulations and standards in The Salvation Army Kroc Center Youth Basketball League and any other facility

where our league is participating

- Failure to do so may result in expulsion of your child from the league (with no refund) and potential criminal charges from the local police
- The Sports Staff reserves the right to change or adjust these rules and its consequences as deemed necessary on a case by case basis
- The Youth Basketball League prohibits any coach, parents and or officials from knowingly requiring or allowing a player to play while having a serious injury or knowingly creating unsafe play situations
- No Profane Language, Unsportsmanlike Conduct or Trash Talking will be tolerated
- Fighting **will not** be tolerated during the course of practice or game play, an on the court scuffle will be handled with the foul and technical foul system
  - Once punches are thrown, player ejections are mandatory
  - The player will then be ineligible to play in the next two league games
  - Fights occurring outside of game situations will result in the local police being notified and could result in expulsion from the league
- No alcohol, drugs or drug paraphernalia in the gym or on the property. **Zero Tolerance!!!**
  - ANY and ALL persons involved with this type of activity will be permanently banned from the The Youth Basketball League
  - The local police will be called in to correct the problem
  - Tobacco use by league officials, coaches, parents, fans and game officials on The Salvation Army Kroc Center property is strictly prohibited
  - Tobacco use by underage persons (players/fans) will not be tolerated
  - The local police will be called in to correct the problem
- There will be NO RUNNING and PLAYING in the common areas and the areas surrounding the court
  - This policy will be strictly enforced in the hall/common areas and gym

## DISCIPLINE

The Sports Staff reserves the right to discipline any player, or coach who does not conduct himself/herself in the proper manner by giving the players the best possible leadership, or anyone who violates any rule/regulation set forth by these bylaws and/or high school basketball rules.

- The Sports Staff shall use the following guidelines for disciplinary action. The Sports Staff reserves the right to change or adjust these rules and its consequences as deemed necessary on a case by case basis
  - First offense: The coach or player shall receive a written warning
  - Second offense: The coach or player will be suspended from their current position
    - The Sports Staff will then have to hold a meeting and approve the reinstatement of that person
    - All teams that are associated, as a part of the The Youth Basketball League will abide by these rules and regulations at any location during the season

## ADMISSIONS

- League Presidents and League Directors will be allowed free admissions to all games (this does not include their families)
- Active head coaches will be allowed free admissions to all games where they are scheduled to play
- Active players will be allowed free admissions to all games where they are scheduled to play
- Admission will be \$2 for ages 12 & up. Coaches and players enter free.
- No one may leave the facility and be re-admitted without paying, except in case of an emergency
- **Spectators that do not have a Kroc Center membership and only paid the entrance to view the basketball games do not have access to any other part of the facility except the basketball courts**
  - **Spectators caught outside the basketball court; in other parts of the facility may be asked to pay at the counter or leave the facility**

## DRESS CODE

Every head coach, player and spectator must wear proper clothing while attending league games and practices. Any violation of the dress code may result in the removal of the person from the gym.

- Hats: All hats must either be removed or worn properly
  - For baseball caps the bill must be worn in the forward position
  - Any use or display of "Bandanas" on a person's body is strictly prohibited
- Shirts: Shirts must be worn that cover the upper torso properly
  - The males will wear shirts that cover their chest
  - The females will wear shirts/blouses that do not expose an excessive amount of skin
- Pants: The waist band of the pants must rest at the waist line of the individual that is wearing them
  - Pants that fall below the waist line, exposing under garments, are not permitted
  - Pants with holes that expose personal parts are not permitted

- Shoes/Boots:
  - All players must athletic shoes and have their straps properly fastened or shoes tied
    - Players who wear slides or flip flops to the court must change into their athletic shoes before beginning any athletic activity on the basketball court floor

## **PRACTICE/GAME GEAR**

- Uniforms: Coaches and Players are required to wear The Youth Basketball League issued uniforms to their game.
  - All players will be issued uniforms (Jersey and Shorts)
    - Players must wear league provided uniforms, equipment and appropriate non-marking footwear subject to approval by the referee
    - Players with incomplete uniforms at games will be ineligible to play
    - Parents are responsible for the maintenance and replacement cost of uniforms items
  - All Head coaches will be issued team shirts, and ball for practice
    - Head coaches are responsible for assistant coaches shirts
    - Head coaches will wear long pants to games
    - Balls must be returned at the end of the season
- Glasses worn by players must be equipped with shatterproof lenses and a safety band
- Hard casts or any type of jewelry are not permitted during games or practices
- Hats or bandanas are not allowed during practices or games
- Players with long hair that impedes their vision while playing must have a device such as a headband or similar hair devices to preclude the player from injuries
- All uniforms shirts must be tucked in during the game
- T-shirts worn under the uniform should be part of the uniform color scheme and the team should be uniformed
  - Example: If a team's uniform is purple with yellow letters; t-shirts worn under uniforms shall be yellow or purple  
The team coach must make this decision
    - The entire team must be uniformed
    - Players that wear a t-shirt under their uniform that does not match their teams color scheme or is opposite of their team's selected color may be asked to remove their t-shirt
- All jewelry must be removed before practices and games

## **FACILITY RESPONSIBILITIES**

Please assist with maintaining all facilities clean, and damage free for continued sports programs.

- Care of the equipment and facilities by each team member, parent and guests is expected.
- Damage caused by misuse or abuse becomes the family of the child that was determined to be at fault responsibility
- Each team, parent and guests are expected to maintain this facility clean, please discard your trash after the consumption of drinks and or snacks

## **AWAY GAMES**

During our season we will have scheduled away games versus other leagues at various facilities around the coast.

## **BALLS**

Outside balls are not permitted at any gym

- Warmup balls will be provided by each host facility (unless otherwise indicated)
- Please leave personal balls at home

## **COVERAGE**

Each youth sports facility and sports league must carry insurance that covers participants.

## **FACILITIES**

We will be good guest at these facilities; respectful and courteous as if this were our home site.

- Admission will be the same at all games (only coaches, players, and children under 12 enter free)
- Discard your trash and police spectator areas and player benches prior to departing each game
- All Player, Parent and Spectator rules and guidelines apply at home and away gyms
- Stay in the gym areas and do not go into or allow children to venture into unauthorized rooms, hallways and rooms

## **OUTSIDE FOOD & DRINKS**

Outside food or drinks is not permitted at any gym

- Team snacks and refreshments may be done outside the facilities upon exiting
- Discard all trash and police spectator areas and player benches prior to departing each game

## **SUPERVISION**

Each facility and league has a director and or league president who presides over their facility and league. While they are primarily in charge of their facility/league we are only guests at their facility and are members of Kroc Center Youth Basketball League. While visiting these facilities coaches along with parents are in charge of our players.

- Coaches and Parents share the responsibility of supervising our players
    - Coaches will have primary supervision of our team
      - Coaches will supervise players once they assume responsibility of their players during warmups until they release the players to their parents after their game (to include players that carpooled)
    - Parents will supervise their players prior to the game and after the game (once the coach releases players back to their parents)
      - This includes players that carpooled
    - Coaches will ensure our team's spectators abide by our rules and guidelines at all times
  - Safety concerns that you cannot correct, please report to your coach or facility staff
    - Coaches will work with the host league director, president or facility staff to correct any safety concerns and resolve any issues or concerns
  - Injuries and emergencies will be evaluated by coaches and facility staff (if needed)
    - Please allow the evaluation process to happen to minimize panic to the all parties involved
    - After accessing the injury parents will be called upon to provide them with their evaluation and recommendation
    - If a player carpooled, coaches or team parent will contact the parents immediately to notify them of injury, recommendation and next step
  - Coaches report any problems that occurred to the Athletics Coordinator who will in turn contact the host league's director or president and work to resolve any issues before or for future games
    - Contact the Athletics Coordinator Immediately
      - Unresolved safety concern identified prior to the game
      - Injuries to our player (s)
      - Any Emergency
      - Prior to the game, if issue identified may affect the outcome of the game
    - Contact the Athletics Coordinator after the game or next day
- Report any issue that came up

## **TRANSPORTATION**

Parents will be responsible for transporting their players to and from games.

- Showtime to games is 30 mins prior to game scheduled time
- If at all possible, carpooling is encouraged to minimize gas and ensure all players have a ride to games

## **LEAGUE RULES**

This section covers the leagues modified rules. If a rule has not been modified in this section, the league will follow High School rules for guidance.

### **BALL SIZES**

On game days, no outside basketballs will be allowed at any facility. Each Facility will be required to provide 2 warm-up balls to visiting teams and the game ball.

- The 6U Division will play with a size 27.5 youth ball
- The 8U, 10U and all Girls Divisions will play with a size 28.5 intermediate Ball
- The 12U and 15U Divisions will play with a size 29.5 official ball

### **GOAL HEIGHT**

- 6U Divisions will play on an eight (8) foot goal

### **FREE THROWS**

The free throw shot will be forfeited if the player steps on the line or jumps over the line while shooting. Distances for the free-throws are as follows:

- 6U: 11ft.

### **FASTBREAKS**

- 6U No Fast breaks allowed

### **DEFENSE**

- 6U Division: **No defensive press or any type of zones will be allowed in this division.**
- 8U Divisions: No full court press allowed at anytime.
- 10U Divisions: Full court pressing will only be allowed in the 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> quarters.

#### **FOULS**

- 6U Division will foul out after committing 6 fouls

#### **OVERTIME**

- No overtime periods will be played for the 6U division

#### **LANE VIOLATIONS**

- 6U and 8U divisions may occupy the lane for 5 seconds

#### **DUNKING**

- No dunking will be allowed in any age group

#### **PARTICIPATION**

All players are required to play **two (2) full uninterrupted quarters.** Exceptions to this rule are for players who are sick, injured, being penalized for some reason or a team that has more than 10 players.

#### **REFRESHMENTS**

- No coolers, outside food or drinks will be allowed in any gym

#### **CANCELLED GAMES**

All teams are expected to be prepared to play at their designated time

- League Directors and Presidents are the only ones that may request to cancel a game
  - Game cancellations request must be made at least 48 hours prior to the scheduled game time