

## **PRESIDIO YMCA YOUTH BASKETBALL LEAGUES**

### **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

**What is the Presidio YMCA Youth Basketball League?** Our league is recreational and beginner friendly for the youth of our community. We focus on fundamental skill development, sportsmanship, and YMCA's core values of honesty, respect, caring, and responsibility. Our goal for YMCA basketball players is to help them develop healthy and active lives.

**Do I need to be a YMCA member to join the league?** You must have an active Facility Membership or Community Participant (Non-Member) Membership to register for the league. You can check the status of your membership or create one [here](#).

#### **TEAMS & PLAYERS**

**How can I put a team together?** Coordinate with families from your child's classroom at school, a group from your church, family friends, or any other way to get a group of kids together to play. The Presidio YMCA Youth Basketball League is open to Kindergarten, 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade teams for boys, girls, and co-ed teams.

Send a [team roster](#) to [presidiyouthball@ymcasf.net](mailto:presidiyouthball@ymcasf.net) for official team entry. Upon roster submission, the team will be sent online registration instructions for their specific team.

**My player does not have a team to play with, can they still play?** Individual players may register as Free Agents. Teams can be formed with Free Agent players of the same grades, or Free Agents can be added to other teams.

**How many players can be on a team?** The ideal team size is 10-12 players. Since 5 players from a team are on the court at any given time, when it comes to substitutions and distribution of playing time, 10 player teams are just the simplest way to rotate players in and out evenly and fairly.

**Can a team have more than 10 players?** Ultimately, it is up to the coach to determine how many players they feel comfortable having on the team. We remind and encourage our coaches to have an “everyone plays” mentality with the youth of our league, so it is the responsibility of the coach to distribute playing time fairly. Most coaches who allowed more than 10 players found player rotations challenging when all players were present.

**I submitted a team roster, but I want to add more players. What do I do?** Just email Hannah ([presidiyoouthbball@ymcasf.net](mailto:presidiyoouthbball@ymcasf.net)) and say what team you want to add the player(s) to. Their families will be sent the same email with registration instructions for that team.

**My team has boys and girls on it (co-ed). What teams will they play against?** Co-ed teams will be entered into the boys divisions, so some of their games will be against all-boys teams and other co-ed teams. Teams of all-girls will play against other all-girls teams.

**How many teams are there in the winter 2020 league?** Given the space Presidio YMCA has available for teams to practice and play games, our league can fit a maximum of 96-100 teams. If it were spread evenly across 12 divisions (K-5th, boys/co-ed and girls), we would have 8 teams in each division. While each division may have a different number of teams, we strive to keep an even number of teams in each division, so every team can play a game each week.

**What if my team is the 9th (or other odd number) team entered in a division, will we get in?** We may have to either deny entrance into the league, or put the team on hold until a 10th team enters that division, depending on the number of teams in the other divisions. As many options will be explored as possible to get your team in the league, but we are striving to maintain even numbers of teams in each division for this league. BYE weeks and/or double-headers may solve potential game scheduling issues in the instance of an odd numbered division.

## **COACHES**

**Who can coach my team?** The Y believes in providing accessible physical activity for youth in our community. Volunteer coaches are an essential

part of making our program affordable and inclusive. Each team should provide its own volunteer coach. The majority of coaches are a player's parent, relative, or family friend. Teams can have as many volunteer coaches as they see fit.

**Our team would like to hire and pay a basketball coach. Is this okay?**

Once a coach receives compensation, they are no longer a volunteer. In order for a paid coach to coach your team, they must become an employee paid by the YMCA, and therefore go through the full hiring process: interview, background check, fingerprinting, and on-boarding. This is in order to maintain a high level of safety for our youth and support our abuse prevention policies. The YMCA does not allow coaches who charge an additional fee for their services, and teams may be removed from the league if they violate our policies.

**Our volunteer coach was amazing this season and the team is so grateful. Can we give them a gift as a token of our gratitude?** You are welcome to give your volunteer coach a non-monetary gift for their effort and hard work during the season. Coaches charging a fee for coaching or receiving monetary gifts is a violation of YMCA policies.

**PRACTICES & GAMES**

**When and where do the teams practice?** Before the start of the season teams will be given a practice time and court at either our Main Post Gym (63 Funston Ave) or Letterman Gym (1152 Gorgas Ave).

Top choices for practice schedules will be accommodated as much as possible, but may be subject to change based on space availability and schedule flexibility.

**My team doesn't need a practice space at Presidio YMCA, is it okay if we practice elsewhere?** Certainly. Please note that teams practicing off site with volunteer coaches are still subject to the volunteer hiring process mandated by the YMCA. Furthermore, players are subject to the same league entry fees. We'll see you at the games on the weekends!

**What does my team get for practices?** If a team is designated to practice at either of our gyms, teams will be assigned a section of the gym. Depending on the grade of the team, up to two mini-hoops with adjustable heights will be provided. Appropriately sized basketballs will be provided.

**When and where are the games?** Games will be played on the weekends at either of our two basketball gyms, to be announced.

\*Important notes:

- Final game schedules will be published on the Youth Sports Website: <https://www.ymcasf.org/programs/youth-sports-presidio>
- Games may be at a different gym than where a team practices.

**Will there be any YMCA staff available during practices and games?** Yes, during basketball season Presidio YMCA employs gym monitors during practices and referees during games.

- Gym Monitors' responsibilities are setting up the courts for practices, providing equipment to teams, and most importantly ensuring a safe environment for teams. Our friendly Gym Monitors can be approached for assistance during practices.
- Referees' duties are to facilitate smooth game flow and help teach the players the basics of competitive basketball. Age appropriate YMCA basketball rules will be enforced. Open and respectful dialogue with the referees and scorekeepers is welcome.

**Will the scores be kept during games?** There will not be any score keeping for Kindergarten, 1st, 2nd, and 3rd grade games. The goal of K-3rd games is purely recreational, and to be introduced to the basics of competitive basketball. At the 4th and 5th grade divisions the scoreboards will be used during games, but no standings will be kept for the season. Remember, the competition is always meant to be fun and friendly!

**What kind of defense can my team play?** Player to Player Defense is enforced. For Kindergarten and 1st grade games, players will wear color coded wristbands to signify which opposing player to defend. 2nd and 3rd

graders will not wear wristbands, but player to player defense is still enforced. Full court press defenses are never allowed during K-3rd games. During 4th and 5th grade games, teams may deploy Zone Defenses only in the 2nd half of games if the score differential is 15 points or more. We expect coaches to abide by these rules and teach defense accordingly during practices.

**What if my team has to forfeit or miss a game?** Please inform the Sports Programs Director as early as possible to notify of any game(s) your team has to miss. During the season, the deadline to notify of forfeits shall be the Wednesday prior to weekend games. We may be able to reschedule games or offer double headers on another weekend, but there is no guarantee that space and time will be available. We will however, do our diligence and exhaust all opportunities to reschedule games. Teams forfeiting on two or more games will be assessed a \$100 fee.

**What if my team has less than 5 players show up for a game? Is that a forfeit?** It's only a forfeit if the entire team is absent. In the case of a shortage of players, the two teams may coordinate a 4 on 4 game, or the team with more players may elect to "lend" players to the other team.

## **MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION**

**What should my child wear to play basketball?** Comfortable, flexible clothing and athletic footwear. Clothing such as jeans, skirts, dresses, and sandals are **not** advised. Presidio YMCA will provide jerseys for players to keep and wear in practices and games for the season.

### **Our kids will get jerseys? Please tell me more!**

Our reversible jerseys come in youth sizes; small, medium, and large. Kindergarten, 1st, and 2nd grades will be given small jerseys. 3rd, 4th, and 5th grades will receive medium or large jerseys. 4th and 5th grade jerseys will have numbers on the backs. Sizes can be exchanged during the season based on availability. **Lost your jersey?** Replacement jerseys can purchased for \$10, based on available stock. **Still have your jersey from a previous season?** Players are highly encouraged to reuse their old jersey if it still fits!

**Can I bring snacks to my players' practices and games?** We certainly encourage healthy eating along with physical activity. However, we ask that all food and beverages be kept off our basketball courts during practices and games. Please make sure that any trash is put in the proper receptacles and not left in our basketball gyms. Only water in resealable containers should be brought into our basketball gyms. Please do your part to avoid spills, as the risk of injury increases with puddles on the courts!

**Who can I contact with any additional questions?**

Sports & Community Programs Director: Hannah Bartee, [HBartee@ymcasf.net](mailto:HBartee@ymcasf.net), 415-447-9646