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OUR MISSION AND VALUES

Our mission throughout the YMCA of Austin is to put Christian principles into practice through our programs that build a healthy body, mind and spirit. Our core values are the shared beliefs and essential principles that guide our behavior, interactions with each other, and our decision making.

In all of our activities, we plan to demonstrate these core values through our sports program while doing it in a fun, exciting, and engaging way with Physical Activity athletes and parents to take our.

**CARING**
To demonstrate a sincere concern for others, for their needs and well-being. To show compassion, forgiveness, generosity, and kindness.

**RESPONSIBILITY**
To do what is right—what I ought to do, to be accountable for my choices of behavior and actions and my promises. To behave with commitment, courage, good health, service and citizenship.

**RESPECT**
To treat others as I would want them to treat me, to value the worth of every person, including myself. To accept, emphasize, and practice tolerance.
We will be using PLAYERSPACE as our communication system for youth sports. You will be able to easily access practice and game schedules, rosters, coaches information, and other helpful information for your season. Please download the Playerspace app for more convenient access.

To download the Playerspace app on your mobile device, open the Apple App Store or Google Play Store on your device and search “Playerspace” in the search bar (The app should have a blue star icon) If you’re using a web browser, you can access the web page by going to https://www.playerspace.com

Once you have the app downloaded, you’ll enter in the email you used when signing up for Youth Sports and log into your account on playerspace. Once you’re logged in you will be taken to your “Team page”. To view tips and tutorials on how to use your PLAYERSPACE account, visit the Parent Help Site on Playerspace.net for more information.

To find your team schedule on playerspace, click the tab on your team page titled “Schedule”. Once you’re there, you can customize your schedule view by “List View” or “Calendar View”. We recommend NOT printing out your schedule to avoid not being aware of potential changes that could be made mid season.

If changes are made to the schedule you will be notified via Email and Playerspace. In Playerspace, you have the option to sync your team calendar to the calendar on your device by clicking “Sync Calendar” There is also a “Locations and Directions” tab that will give you all the information regarding the centers or game sites you will be playing at during the season.
OPEN HOUSE AND PRE SEASON CLINICS

This season we will be holding an “Open House” before the season as well as preseason clinics to help your athletes get ready for the season. These clinics will be performed by age group and the Open House will take place at the same time. At the Open House we will have stations for information on signing up to volunteer coach, a volunteer coach resource packet, a parent help desk/parent information packet, as well as a jersey hand-out station.

**If you’re unable to make it to our open house dates, on your first day of practice look for a YMCA sports staff-person for any assistance on finding your practice area or to pick up a jersey if you still need to do so!!**

Your teams scheduled date and time will be available on your playerspace schedule.
FIRST DAY OF PRACTICE FAQs

“What should we bring to practice with us?”

Make sure your child has breathable clothes, a bottle of water or a refillable bottle, close toed shoes, and a basketball if you have one!

“Do we have to stay and watch the practice?”

Yes! If you’re a community member bringing an athlete to practice or a game, we ask that you not leave the facility for ANY REASON AT ANY TIME. If you are a YMCA member, you are more than welcome to use our workout equipment, attend a class, or take advantage of any other activity in your center. You may not leave the facility while your athlete is participating in a practice or game-FOR ANY REASON

“Do we have to sign in for practice?”

Yes! Scanning or signing into your centers is very important for practices AND game day. If your practice or game is being held at a YMCA location, please either scan your barcode or sign our “Guest Sign in Sheet” at the front desk (this includes all guests you are bringing as well)
Gameday SOP’s and League Info:

For game days, find the Site Lead or Lead Official at your center or game location if you have any questions. All centers will be playing in “Leagues” with other nearby YMCA centers. These leagues help create more diverse competition between centers and give our athletes the experience of traveling for away games. Each league will have at least 2 YMCA centers in each one. (Ex. Dripping Springs and Hays will be the “South League”, Townlake and Southwest will be the “Central League”, and East Communities and Northwest will be the “North League”). Make sure to check your schedule before gameday to make sure you are heading to the correct center!

Make sure for game day your child has their jersey, is wearing breathable clothes, close toed shoes, and has a bottle of water.

For the 4-5 age group, they will have their practice 30 min before the game starts. On playerspace, the time slot for the game includes the practice time.

Ex: If your game time is listed at 9am, the Practice will start at 9am & your game will start at 9:30am
LEAGUE INFO AND LOCATIONS

The South league will include Hays Communities & Springs Family YMCA. The two branches will occasionally travel between the 2 centers for game days.

**Hays Communities Ages 6-9** teams will practice at the Hays Communities YMCA.  
**Hays Communities Ages 10-14** teams will have practice at a nearby off-site location.  
**Springs Ages 6-14** teams will practice at Springs Family YMCA.

The central league will include our Town-lake and Southwest centers, and they will occasionally travel for game days to the opposite center. Town-lake and Southwest will practice at their own centers.

**Townlake YMCA:** 1100 West Cesar Chavez St, Austin TX, 78703

**Southwest YMCA:** 2619 Oakclaire Dr, Austin TX, 78735

The North league will include our Northwest and East Communities centers, and they will occasionally travel for game days to the opposite center. Northwest and East Communities will practice at their own centers.

**Northwest YMCA:** 5807 Mcneil Dr Austin Tx, 78729

**East Communities YMCA:** 5315 Ed Bluestein Blvd Austin Tx 78723
YMCA YOUTH BASKETBALL RULES AND GUIDELINES

In our sports program at the Austin YMCA, our goal is to have consistency across the board when it comes to rules, regulations, or any specifics about the game. ALL Austin YMCA Centers will be playing by these rules for the 2023 Winter Basketball Season. In addition, our YMCA code of conduct applies for all Austin YMCA sanctioned events including youth sports. Please note that if you are believed to have violated this code of conduct as a coach, team assistant or spectator, that the YMCA reserves the right to remove anyone from the facility whose actions are inappropriate or in violation with the YMCA code of conduct, mission, policy, or usage guidelines. If you have a question about any of the specific rules listed for your age group, contact your center’s Site Lead or email “Sports@austinymca.org” for more information.

YMCA CODE OF CONDUCT

Responsible
You are responsible for your behavior. If you have a concern or problem, please contact a YMCA staff person.

Caring
No fighting, physical or verbal confrontation is allowed in YMCA programs or facilities. Refrain from abusive or profane language.

Respectful
Intentional damage to another person’s property or YMCA property will not be tolerated. Mistreatment or harassment of YMCA members or staff is strictly prohibited.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>Ball Size</th>
<th>Game Length</th>
<th>Defense Allowed</th>
<th>Rim Height</th>
<th>Special Rules</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4-5</td>
<td>27.5 in</td>
<td>4x6 Minute Quarters</td>
<td>Man to Man Half-court defense using colored wristbands, no press allowed, no fast breaks allowed</td>
<td>6 ft.</td>
<td>No steals. No shot blocking is allowed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6-7</td>
<td>27.5 in</td>
<td>4x7 Minute Quarters</td>
<td>Man to Man Half-court defense using colored wristbands. Half-court defense only, No Fast Breaks Allowed (First Half of games)</td>
<td>8 ft.</td>
<td>No steals. No shot blocking is allowed. Loose balls are free for all.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8-9</td>
<td>28.5 in</td>
<td>4 x 8 Minute Quarters</td>
<td>Man to Man switching allowed No zone defense (Only one defender on ball) Half-court defense only; no press allowed</td>
<td>8.5 ft.</td>
<td>Players may not double team or trap. Steals and blocks are allowed. (No Freethrows on Fouls) Team that is fouled regains possession</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10-11</td>
<td>28.5 in</td>
<td>2 x 16 Half Minute (Stop Clock) three min. Overtime if Necessary</td>
<td>Man to Man or zone defense. Half-court defense only. No press allowed. Press after allowed after 4 weeks Freethrow shooter are allowed to take one step towards the basket. From freethrow line</td>
<td>10 ft.</td>
<td>Half-court defense only, no press allowed. 20pt + difference in score may be removed from the clock, but kept on score sheet.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12-14</td>
<td>29.5 in</td>
<td>2 x 16 Minute Half (Stop Clock). 3 Min. Overtime if Necessary</td>
<td>Man to Man or zone defense. No press allowed after a 20 pt lead. Defense must set up within the 3pt line after a 30 pt lead.</td>
<td>10 ft.</td>
<td>Full court press allowed. 20pt + difference in Score may be removed from the clock, but kept on score sheet.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
MEDALS

Every YMCA Youth Sports participant will receive a medal. Medals will be handed out after the last game of the season. Your athlete will receive the medal from their coach once the last game is finished. If you are unable to attend the last game, extra medals will be placed at the front desk of your HOME center to be picked up. Coaches will not be given extra medals for those who are not present at the last game.

IMPORTANT CONTACTS

Thank you for choosing to participate in our upcoming youth basketball season!! Down below you will find our director’s info and who your center’s Site Lead will be. If you need any assistance during the season, please don’t hesitate to reach out to your site lead or Sports@austinymca.org for assistance!

Regional Directors:

South Leagues: Alexis Williams
North Leagues: Ricardo Torres

Sports Engagement Coordinator: Jordan Rodriguez
(Sports@austinymca.org)