**ERC Basketball Frequently Asked Questions**

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# Q: When does the season start?

### A: The in-house basketball season typically starts in mid-November for the 7-8, 9-10, and 11-12 age groups. Clinic typically starts mid-December and 13-15 typically starts late-November/early December. Specific dates will be communicated by the league/your child’s coach.

# Q: When does the season end?

### A: The in-house basketball season typically runs to mid-March with the conclusion of the season being our single elimination tournament for each age division. All rec teams make the playoffs.

# Q: When are practices?

### A: For the 7-8, 9-10, and 11-12 age divisions, practices are 1-hour once a week. Practices are held Monday-Friday typically in the 5-8pm timeframe depending on the team your child is placed on. For 5-6 clinic, there are no weekly practices, only the 1-hr Saturday morning sessions. For 13-15, the season will start with a few practices during the week and then switch right over to games for the rest of the season.

# Q: When are games?

### A: For the 7-8, 9-10, and 11-12 age divisions, games are held on Saturdays starting at 8am and typically end by 6pm. Games take approximately 1 hour. A season schedule will be sent out by your child’s coach once available. For 5-6 clinic, there are no officiated games, only the 1-hr Saturday morning sessions (refer to “Q: What is the format of the 5-6 clinic program?”). For 13-15, games are typically held on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays. This age division will have multiple games each week.

# Q: When will I find out who my coach is?

### A: Typically, you will hear from your child’s coach by the start of November. League-wide notification will be sent out by the chairperson/age commissioner informing families when teams have been created and that families should be hearing from coaches soon.

# Q: What equipment does my child need?

### A: For practices, all that is required is a water bottle and gym shoes. Your child’s coach will have basketballs for practice. If your child’s coach would like your child to bring a basketball if they have one, they will inform you. Refer to “Q: What is the rim height and ball size for my child’s age division?”

# Q: What is the rim height and ball size for my child’s age division?

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Age Division | Rim Height (feet) | Ball Size (Diameter) |
| 5-6 Clinic | 8 | Girls/Boys: 27.5” (size 5) |
| 7-8 | 9 | Girls/Boys: 28.5” (size 6) |
| 9-10 | 10 | Girls/Boys: 28.5” (size 6) |
| 11-12 | 10 | Girls: 28.5” (size 6) / Boys: 29.5” (size 7) |
| 13-15 | 10 | Girls: 28.5” (size 6) / Boys: 29.5” (size 7) |

### A:

# Q: What is the format of the 5-6 clinic program?

### A: The 5-6 clinic program is an instructional program intended to introduce the game of basketball to our youngest players. Equipment size and rim height are adjusted to accommodate the players and is intended to promote a love for the game, teach fundamentals, sportsmanship, and teamwork. The clinic program consists of 10 1-hour sessions on Saturday mornings at Emmorton Rec Center typically starting in mid-December. The first 5 sessions are practice only followed by 5 sessions in which the first 30 minutes are practice followed by a 30-minute scrimmage with the team sharing the court. These scrimmages are not officiated, and scores are not kept. Scrimmages are run by the coaches and staff for the two clinic teams.

# Q: My child is trying out for his/her high school team? Should I still register them for rec?

### A: Players are encouraged to register for our 13-15 age group. In the event they make their high school team, a refund will be issued as high school JV/Varsity players are not eligible for rec basketball. Note, registration will end mid-November right after high school teams are finalized so be sure to register right away if your child does not make their high school team and would like to participate in the rec program.

# Q: Can I request for my child to be on the same team with another child?

### A: Special player requests are typically not honored due to the logistical issues they can create; however, you may request for your child to be on the same team as another child by noting it in the “special player request” field during registration. **This is by no means guaranteed and may not be honored** as we make every effort to create balanced teams for the betterment of the league. Final decisions for all teams will be made by the league chairperson/age commissioner.

# Q: Can I request for my child to be coached by a specific coach?

### A: Special player requests are typically not honored due to the logistical issues they can create; however, you may request for your child to be with a specific coach by noting it in the “special player request” field during registration. **This is by no means guaranteed and may not be honored** as we make every effort to create balanced teams for the betterment of the league. Final decisions for all teams will be made by the league chairperson/age commissioner.

# Q: What if my child has an existing weekly conflict?

### A: If your child has an existing weekly conflict that would prevent them from participating in practice on a specific day, this may be noted in the “special player request” field during registration. Accommodating such a request is by no means guaranteed and may not be honored but we will make every effort to accommodate. Once teams, are finalized and practice schedules are sent out, it is very difficult to accommodate team/scheduling changes. Note, participation in out-of-season sports will not be a valid reason for scheduling conflicts with regards to refunds if not noted during registration. Please refer to the ERC refund policy on the ERC webpage. Final decisions for all teams will be made by the league chairperson/age commissioner.

# Q: Can my child play up or down the age division they are eligible for?

### A: Players are to register and play in the division they are eligible. In the majority of cases, division moves are not honored to ensure players eligible for each age division have an opportunity to register. In the event of special circumstances, families can reach out to the age commissioner/league chairperson to discuss. Final decision on the appropriate placement of the player lies with the league chairperson.

# Q: How do I volunteer and what is required?

### A: We are always in need of head/assistant coaches! Our main focus of the program is to teach the fundamentals, instill a love of the game, and promote good sportsmanship. If you support these tenets, then you’re perfect for our program! Don’t be discouraged to coach with limited basketball/coaching experience as support/resources can be provided. During registration, you can register as a volunteer to head/assistant coach in the volunteer section of BlueSombrero. Prior to stepping on the court with players in any capacity, you will need to submit a [background check form](https://www.emmortonrec.com/Default.aspx?tabid=762777), complete the [online concussion training](https://www.emmortonrec.com/Default.aspx?tabid=762780), and get a photo ID volunteer badge. Badging will be coordinated by the age commissioner/league chairperson. For the safety of our players and program, it is vital that all volunteers complete these requirements. **ANYONE WORKING WITH THE KIDS MUST HAVE A COMPLETED BACKGROUND CHECK AND BE BADGED!**