

Q: Is Recreation League different than Competitive League?

A: Yes. Recreation League Basketball is a clearing house for young players of all ages and abilities to participate in the sport. Recreation Basketball is an outlet for fun and exercise that promotes healthy competition, progressive learning of the fundamentals, and teamwork. There are no tryouts, travel team expectations, post registration player fees, or requirements for playing experience. Recreation Youth Basketball advocates for a cost-effective program that allows players to participate at a reasonable cost. Our coaches are volunteers; we partner with the School District for facility usage; and we employ high school and college athletes and students to officiate and mentor the games. Recreation League Basketball does not post scores or standings. There will not be a tournament at the end of the season. The goal of each player on each team is to develop and improve their individual skills and learn how to implement those advancements on a team to find success on the court that goes beyond winning. Cooperation and collaboration learned in Recreation Basketball serves as a springboard and as a feeder program to the next level beyond recreation play.

Q: How are teams formed?

A: Before the registration deadline, players are placed on teams taking into consideration player requests, carpool request, and middle school attendance area. Once a team reaches the maximum number of players allowed, or the registration deadline has passed, players will be placed on the next team in their middle school area or the next team that has not reached its maximum amount of players. You are not guaranteed any requests once the registration deadline has passed.

Q: What does it mean if I submitted a coach or carpool request before the registration deadline, but my player does not make it on that team.

A: There have been occurrences where a player's registration has been submitted before the registration deadline, but the player did not make it on the team the requested. This happens when a team's maximum registration number was met and the player in question did not fall into that pool of players. When teams have an abundance of players who have made the same requests for a team, the registration date and time are used to determine who will be on the team.

Q: What are the registration deadlines for the 2021/2022 season?

A: Girls and Boys 1st grade co-ed registration deadline is September 29, 2024
Girls Basketball 2nd-6th grade registration deadline is September 29, 2024
Boys and Girls 1st grade co-ed registration deadline is December 20, 2024
Boys Basketball 2nd-6th grade registration deadline is December 20, 2024
Boys Basketball 7th/8th grade registration deadline is January 26, 2025

Q: How many players are placed on each team

A: 1st grade - 6 player teams; co-ed; 3 on 3
2nd and 3rd grade - 8 players teams; 4 on 4
4th - 8th grade – 10 player teams; 5 on 5

Q: How long are the seasons?

A: Typically, the seasons run 8-10 weeks long. This includes approximately 2 weeks of practice opportunities prior to the first game and approximately 6-8 weeks for games. Boys 7th/8th grade have double headers Sunday's and practice during the week.

Q: When do practices begin?

A: Girls season practices begin the week of October 21. Boys seasons practices begin the week of January 12. The days teams practice depends upon the grade. First and second grade teams will practice and play games on Saturdays. All other grades practice during the week. Additional note: Coaches receive their team rosters at the mandatory coach meeting; see dates listed below. Coaches are asked to call their players immediately upon receiving this information to inform families of practice dates and times. Families, please give your coach 24 hours after the last meeting date listed for your coach to make contact. If you still have not heard from someone 24 hours after the last meeting date, please contact the Main Office at 254-3866.

Coach Meeting Dates:

Girls Season Coaches Meeting: October 14, 2024

Boys Season Coaches meeting: January 2, 2025

7/8 grade Boys Coaches meeting date: TBD

Q: What school will my team practice?

A: All team practices are scheduled at District 51 elementary schools. Every effort will be made to schedule practice at the closest elementary school in each team's designated middle school area. Not all elementary schools are available for practices. We do our best to keep consistency and proximity in mind when scheduling.

Q: How many days will my player practice?

A: 1st & 2nd grade teams practice and play games on Saturdays; $\frac{1}{2}$ hour practice & $\frac{1}{2}$ hour game
3rd - 5th grade teams are guaranteed 1 hour practice each week.

6th grade teams are guaranteed 1 hour practice each week. depending on school availability.

7th/8th grade are guaranteed 2 - 1 hour practices each week of the season

Q: What time do practices begin during the week?

A: Weekday practices run one hour in length beginning at 5:30pm. The last practice will start no later than 7:30pm. Typically the youngest teams are scheduled for the 5:30pm timeslots. Teams get placed on the practice schedule based on openings and school availability.

Q: What day of the week are the games and what time do games begin?

A: All 1st-6th grade teams play on Saturdays. Boys 7th/8th grade teams play on Sundays. Game times begin at 9:00am. Each game is approximately 1 hour. You can view game schedules once posted at <http://www.teamsideline.com/sites/grandjunction>

Q: What school will my team play games?

A: 1st grade – Chipeta Elementary

2nd grade – West Middle School

3rd grade – Orchard Mesa Middle School

4th – 6th grades - Bookcliff Activity Center/Bookcliff Middle School

7th/8th grade – Fruita High School

***Note:** This youth basketball program has an “interleague” relationship with Fruita Parks and Recreation. 4th – 6th grade teams will have at least one game in Fruita. These games are played at the Fruita Middle School.

Q: What size hoop and ball will my player use?

A: 1st & 2nd grade: 8 ft hoops & junior ball (size 5 or 27”)

3rd grade: 8 ft hoops & junior ball (size 5 or 27”)

4th grade: 10 ft hoops & junior ball (size 5 or 27”)

5th - 6th grade: 10 ft hoops & intermediate ball (size 6 or 28.5”)

7th - 8th grade Boys: 10 ft hoops and regulation ball (29”)

Q: When and where are team photos?

A: Team photos are scheduled one hour prior to game time at the facility where your team plays.

Coaches will hand out picture packets prior to the scheduled picture dates. Even if you choose not to purchase photos, please make sure that all players are present for the team photo for those players who are purchasing pictures. Pictures dates are TDB and coaches will notify player/parents of the date.

Q: What if the jersey I ordered during registration does not fit my player?

A: All players will be issued reversible jerseys. If you need a new jersey for any reason, you need to call the main office at 254-3866 to purchase and reorder for a \$10 fee. Once the jerseys have been issued to the coaches who hand them out to the players, they cannot be returned or traded. There are sample jerseys at the Main Recreation Office if you need.

Q: The jerseys are black on one side and white on the other. Which color do I wear if I am the home or the away team?

A: When your team is the home team, your player will wear the white side of the jersey. When they are the away team, they will wear black. Home or away status is illustrated on the game schedule.

Q: Are there special requirements for the washing the basketball jerseys?

A: Wash jerseys in cool water and hang to dry. Do not put them in the dryer.