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YMCA of Greater Charlotte Youth Basketball Family Playbook Summer 2025

Our youth basketball league is a recreational league for youth athlete's grades rising 1st-8th. This league will focus on practices that encourage athletes to love their sport as well as develop the fundamental skills needed to play the game. Please note: The Summer Sprint season takes place exclusively on Friday evenings, with Saturdays reserved as backups depending on league size and facility availability. Teams will only meet once a week, with a team practice the first two weeks of the season, followed by games the remaining 5 weeks.

The Y league is a true recreational basketball program where we promote at least 50% playing time in games for our athletes throughout the season.

- **When will registration open?**
 - Registration for summer 2025 opens 4/1/25 for YMCA Members and 4/15/25 for Non-Members.
- **What are the YMCA Basketball league prices?**
 - Prices are \$125 for members and \$168 for non-members.
 - Financial Scholarships may be available. Check with your closest YMCA Center or apply online at ymcacharlotte.org/membership.
- **What divisions are being offered?**
 - Rising 1st-2nd Grade Co-ed
 - Rising 3rd-4th Grade Co-ed
 - Rising 5th-6th Grade Co-ed
 - Rising 7th-8th Grade Co-ed
- **What are the meeting days and times for each age group?**
 - All age divisions will meet on Friday evenings, with Saturdays reserved as backup depending on league size and facility availability.
- **Will practices and games be held at the YMCA location I register at?**
 - Practices and games will be held at YMCA facilities where gym space is available or at CMS facilities where agreements currently exist within your region. Please note: If there are not enough teams in certain age divisions, teams may be scheduled to interleague with teams within the association and play at other YMCA centers to ensure your participants plays a full season of games.
 - We will do our best to create a consistent schedule for each team.
 - Practice and game schedules will be released in advance of the start of the season via our YMCA's league platform Playerspace.
- **How will practice and game locations be determined?**
 - Practice locations will be determined by the location you sign up for. Practices can be held at any of the branches within the region, but will be consistent throughout the season.
- **I have a special request of what team I would like my child to be on:**
 - At the time of registration families are able to indicate their special requests.
 - All special requests for our season must be submitted by **Friday, June 6th**
 - Requests can be in the form of preferences for *friend requests or coach requests*.



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- In order to have the best chance to get your request please make sure you and any friends or requested coaches are registered before the request deadline. We encourage families to enter request preferences in at the time of registration.
- Although we do our best please understand that not all requests may be honored for a variety of reasons, but we make every effort to accommodate as many as possible.
- **How does my athlete receive a team uniform?**
 - The YMCA will provide your jersey as part of your registration fee. Jerseys will be distributed the second week of practice. Teams will get a variety of sizes. Players are required to wear appropriate gym footwear and black shorts with their jersey.
 - Teams will be assigned Home Team or Away Team for each game. Please make sure your athlete wears the appropriate jersey color that corresponds with the team assignment.
 - Home Team: Lighter Color
 - Away Team: Darker Color
- **Do I need to purchase any gear or equipment for my athlete?**
 - YMCA jerseys are included in registration fee, however appropriate footwear (closed toe tennis shoes) will need to be purchased and should be worn for each practice and game. The YMCA will also provide all balls and cones for the season but you are welcome to bring one –just remember to label it.
 - Basketball Sizes Per Division:
Junior 27.5": 1st-2nd Grade
Woman's 28.5": 3rd-4th Grade Co-ed, 5th-6th Grade Co-ed
Official 29.5": 7th-8th Grade Co-ed
- **What are the season dates?**
 - Participant Special Request Deadline: Friday, June 6th
 - Team assignments released by: Friday, June 13th
 - Game schedules posted by: Friday, June 13th
 - Practice #1: Friday, June 20th
 - Practice #2: Friday, June 27th
 - Game Day 1: Friday, July 11th
 - Game Day 2: Friday, July 18th
 - Game Day 3: Friday, July 25th
 - Game Day 4: Friday, August 1st
 - Game Day 5: Friday, August 8th
- **PLAYERSPACE: How will I see league and schedule details for my athlete's team?**
 - Our YMCA partners with PlayerSpace, a sports league management and communication platform that connects players, parents, coaches and sports directors.

We will use PlayerSpace as our primary communication platform for sharing game schedules, team rosters, cancelations and all other important information. Prior to the start of the season, parents will receive account login information from the Sports Director within your respective region. When you receive your family account login information email, be sure to activate your account to receive communication about the upcoming season.



PlayerSpace, allows athletes and families:

- Convenient 24/7 online access to league information such as schedules, practice times and team information

PlayerSpace



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- Emails and texts with updates on important information including schedule changes and cancellations
- The ability to post and share pictures and videos on your team's page!

For the best experience we encourage you to download the PlayerSpace app for Apple or Android. Use the QR Code to the left to download now!

- **I am interested in becoming a volunteer coach – who do I contact?**
 - Our youth sports programs rely on the dedication and efforts of our volunteer head coaches, assistant coaches, and team parents. Passionate volunteers help the YMCA expand our impact and positive reach in the community.
 - Please visit the following link, and send your regional representative an email. Contacts can be found below. <https://www.ymcacharlotte.org/volunteer>
- **I am a returning coach, how can I secure my spot to coach?**
 - The same process for returning coaches, please visit the following link and send your regional representative an email. <https://www.ymcacharlotte.org/volunteer>
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- **Who do I contact if I have questions?**
 - Individual branch front desks can answer basic information as well as register you for the program.
 - Specific program questions can be sent to the following:
 - North: NorthSportsRegion@YMCACharlotte.org
 - Central North: CentralNorthSportsRegion@YMCACharlotte.org
 - Central South: CentralSouthSportsRegion@YMCACharlotte.org
 - South: SouthSportsRegion@YMCACharlotte.org
- **Youth Sports Refund Policy**
 - Please fill out [this form](#) to request a program cancellation. Cancellations require 15 days before the program start date.