# Rocky Mountain Youth Basketball and Cheer Frequently Asked Questions

#### **Our Mission**

At Rocky Mountain Youth Basketball and Cheer, our mission is to glorify God by equipping coaches, players, and spectators to lead with a Christ-centered purpose—modeling the love of Jesus, building strong character, and developing fundamental basketball and cheer skills. We are committed to creating a high-quality, memorable experience that reflects our faith, strengthens our players and families, and impacts our surrounding community—on and off the court.

## What can I expect from this program?

Our program strives to teach the fundamentals of basketball and cheer in a supportive, positive environment. Through sports, kids are able to practice and learn life skills that they can use in the future. Learning new skills, teamwork, following instruction, working hard, facing pressure situations, reacting to winning or losing, and mentally focusing are all important lessons to experience and practice. This is all done in an encouraging environment where kids are challenged to be leaders on and off the court. Our basketball program is divided into divisions for both boys and girls, pending registration numbers:

- · 1st-2nd Grade Boys, Division I
- · 1st-2nd Grade Boys, Division II
- · 1st-2nd Grade Girls\*
- · 3rd-4th Grade Boys, Division I
- · 3rd-4th Grade Boys, Division II
- · 3rd-4th Grade Girls\*
- · 5th-6th Grade Boys, Division I
- · 5th-6th Grade Boys, Division II
- · 5th-6th Grade Girls\*

#### Is there a payment plan for this program?

Yes! To help make registration more flexible for families, we offer a *Payment Plan* option through our Team Sideline registration system. Choosing this option reserves your child's spot while allowing you to spread payments out over time instead of paying the full amount upfront.

## What are Basketball Evaluations and Cheer Uniform Try-ons?

Once your player is registered on Team Sideline, please watch your email for evaluation signup details included in the confirmation message.

**Basketball Evaluations:** Player evaluations are mandatory for all participants to ensure proper team placement. Please sign up for only one evaluation day that works best for your schedule. During the evaluation, players will try on sample uniforms for sizing, confirm the information submitted during registration, and participate in basic basketball drills to help us assess skill level. Players should come dressed in athletic shoes and shorts. The information gathered during evaluations allows us to place each player in the appropriate division and create balanced teams.

<sup>\*</sup>We will add divisions when numbers allow.

**Cheer Uniform Try-ons:** To ensure each cheerleader receives a uniform that fits properly, all team members are required to attend a uniform try-on session. During this time, participants will try on sample tops and skorts to determine the correct sizes for the upcoming season. Accurate sizing is essential for comfort, performance, and a consistent team appearance.

## What guarantees that my child will be placed on a team?

In order to be placed on a team, players must attend a Player Evaluation AND be paid in full.

#### Can I make a coach or player request?

Yes! During registration you may request a friend, coach, or preferred practice night. While we do our best to honor requests, we can't guarantee them due to the size of the league. Sibling same-night practices are also not guaranteed. Requests may not be possible if friends choose different practice locations, players are in different divisions, or placing friends together would create unbalanced teams. Our goal is always to build fair and balanced teams while honoring as many requests as we can.

## Can my child play above their current grade level?

In all cases, players are required to register and complete evaluations under their true grade level to ensure fairness and consistency across the program. If a parent makes this request, we will make a note, and our leadership team will carefully review it during and after evaluations. Once evaluations are complete and we have a clear understanding of division numbers and capacity, we will make a final decision and communicate directly with the family. Please note that grade-level exceptions are rare, and in some cases, we may not be able to provide a definitive answer until after all evaluations are finished. We will share updates as soon as possible.

#### When will I find out what team my child is on?

Once evaluations conclude on November 8th, our leadership team begins entering each participant's information into our system. Organizing a large number of athletes and coaches into teams takes time, and we also work to recruit coaches for every team. As soon as team assignments are finalized, we notify coaches and families about their team placement and practice schedule. After that, we finalize the game schedule and distribute it to coaches as soon as it's ready. Follow our website for up-to-date information (<a href="Team Sideline">Team Sideline</a>).

#### Who are the coaches and referees?

Coaches are volunteers and serve as an extension of Rocky Mountain Christian Church. All coaches undergo background checks, and we select individuals with significant playing and/or coaching experience. Coaches are required to complete training and are provided with resources, and they are expected to uphold the RMYB Coach Requirements & Expectations, modeling Christ-like character, leadership, and a positive, supportive environment for players and families.

Our referees are paid positions. Referees are required to complete training. Many referees are local high school basketball players. We ask that all of our volunteers are treated with respect by both players and parents. We are thankful for their time!

#### When and where are practices?

Practices are held at both campuses, including Sundays. 1st-2nd grade teams practice for 60 minutes one night a week. All other teams practice for 90 minutes one night a week. Cheer squads will communicate their times based on the ages of their cheerleaders. Coaches determine when your practices are based on their availability. You can choose one night that does not work for you during registration.

Practice schedules cannot be shared until coaches are assigned and team formations are finalized for all age groups.

#### When and where are games?

Games are held Saturdays at either the Frederick Campus or Niwot Campus.

## Can changes be made once teams are announced?

Unfortunately we cannot make changes once the teams have been announced. Teams are strategically formed, and changes affect more than just one team.

#### **Should I stay for practice?**

Whether or not you stay during practice is up to you, but please communicate with the coaches or other parents and be sure to pick up your child on time. We ask that parents remain in the building lobbies and avoid entering the practice areas to minimize distractions for the team. For safety reasons, please stay with any younger children at all times—children should not be left unattended in other parts of the building.

## What can I expect on game day?

Please plan to arrive at least 15 minutes prior to your game time. On the schedule, the team listed as the home team always wears the lighter-colored jersey. Players and cheerleaders can be dropped off with their coaches in the lobby to warm up and prepare. All personal balls must remain at home or in your car. We start each game right on time to maintain the integrity of the schedule. Some teams may occasionally play two games in a row; if so, the games will be scheduled back-to-back or with a short break in between.

#### Are there professional team and individual photos offered?

We're excited to offer both team and individual photo opportunities this season! Details, including the schedule, will be shared as we get closer to the start of the season.

#### What if there is inclement weather?

If inclement weather does occur, please know that our leadership team will continually monitor the weather and road conditions and stay in close communication to make the best decisions possible regarding any cancellations. Our team has the safety and best interest of the players, coaches, and families in mind when making weather decisions.

With that being said, we understand that families make the final decision in regards to their safety. When there is weather and you are not comfortable or able to make it to your games/practices, we support your decision to stay home. Please ensure you communicate to your coaches if you are going to miss a practice or game.

We ask that you please watch your texts, emails, and website (<u>Rocky Mountain Youth Basketball & Cheer Home</u>) for schedule updates in regards to weather. Please plan on all practices and games continuing as scheduled unless you receive an update from us.

We are not obligated to follow the school district's policy for our practices.

If a decision is made to cancel a game due to weather, our team will communicate via email, text, and social media by 6:00am SATURDAY MORNING!

#### What are the All-Star games?

Coaches will be nominating all-stars to play in our All-Star Games at the end of the season. More information will follow later in the season!

#### What is Awards Night?

You will not want to miss the Awards Night! All players are celebrated in an hour-long program including a slide show, special performance by our cheer squads, player awards and gifts, and tournament awards. This is a high-energy highlight for all participants!

# How can I help my child have a successful season?

We ask that parents help set a positive example for our kids! Please do not talk negatively to the referees, opposing coaches, or other players and spectators. We want to teach our kids to handle disappointment or opposition with class and sportsmanship. The model starts with our adults!

#### How do I keep updated throughout the season?

We will send weekly updates with important information via email. PLEASE make sure you are receiving these emails. If you are not receiving emails, please check your promotions/spam/junk folder. If you still can't find it, do a search for Rocky Mountain Youth Basketball & Cheer, Team Sideline or basketball@rocky.church. Once you have found your email, save the contact so that future emails will go to your Inbox.

You can also follow us on Facebook (<u>Facebook</u>), Instagram (<u>Instagram</u>) or check our website (<u>RMYB Team Sideline</u>).

#### What do I do if I have a question or concern?

If you have a question or concern, please contact one of your coaches first. If you need further assistance, you can email basketball@rocky.church.

#### What is your refund policy?

We offer full refunds until November 7th when registration closes. Once teams are announced, we do not offer refunds as it greatly impacts a team's experience if kids drop out.

## What do I do if I am not receiving emails?

Once you registered you would have received a confirmation email. If you did not receive it, please check your promotions/spam/junk folder. If you still can't find it, do a search for Rocky Mountain Youth Basketball & Cheer, Team Sideline or basketball@rocky.church. Once you have found your email, save the contact so that future emails will go to your Inbox.