

**Family Agreement for Upward Sports at First Baptist Church - Topeka**  
2024-2025 Season

As a parent or guardian of a participant in Upward Sports at First Baptist Church - Topeka for the 2024-2025 Season, I acknowledge and agree to the following terms and conditions:

**1. Attendance and Punctuality:**

- I will ensure that my child arrives on time for all practices and games as scheduled by the league.
- I or a responsible party (an adult related to the child or a trusted adult family friend) will remain present on-site at all practices and games.

**2. Behavior and Sportsmanship:**

- I will encourage my child to exhibit good sportsmanship at all times, respecting coaches, officials, teammates, and opponents.
- I understand that unsportsmanlike conduct, including verbal abuse or physical aggression, will not be tolerated towards anyone and may result in disciplinary action.
- Gross misconduct may result in disciplinary action such as, but not limited to the following.
  - A child having to sit out of a practice/game temporarily
  - A child having to sit out of a practice/game for the remainder of the day
  - A child having to switch to a different team
  - A parent/guardian remaining by the child for the duration of the practice/game
  - A child is removed from the program for the remainder of the season without a refund.
  - A child not being able to register and play in future seasons.
- I understand that disciplinary action will be addressed on a case-by-case basis and major disciplinary actions will be the decision of the League Director. We want children, families, and volunteers/staff to enjoy a safe/positive experience in our program. The last thing our team wants is for a child/family to be removed from the program and will actively work to prevent this by utilizing appropriate restorative disciplinary measures for any sort of behavioral concerns from reaching that point.

**3. Equipment and Uniform:**

- I will ensure that my child comes prepared to each practice and game with the necessary equipment and wearing the designated league uniform.
  - The Upward Program will provide basketballs, goals, and skill equipment on site, children need to come to practice with appropriate workout attire including clothes that are comfortable for them to exercise in, tennis shoes, and a water bottle.
  - The Upward Program will provide a team t-shirt with a designated player number for basketball players and a cheer uniform (tank top, skort, pom poms, megaphone) on it for children to wear on game day and for team photos.

Families must provide their own workout bottoms for basketball players and tennis shoes for all participants.

- No jewelry is to be worn while playing.
- Children will not be allowed to play in open-toed shoes, crocs, or other types of footwear not typically used for this type of sports activity.

#### 4. Safety:

- I acknowledge that participation in sports carries inherent risks, and I will not hold the league, its organizers, coaches, or officials responsible for any injuries/illnesses sustained during league activities.

#### 5. Communication:

- I will promptly communicate any concerns or questions I have regarding my child's participation to the league organizers or coaches.
- I will stay up to date on season information, utilizing the communication channels provided by the league:
  - **E-Mail:** Mass emails utilizing the Upward platform will come from [upward@firstbaptisttopeka.org](mailto:upward@firstbaptisttopeka.org) or the coach's email address. Please check your spam folder, as sometimes emails utilizing this platform will go there instead of your primary inbox.
  - **Text:** Mass text messages will occasionally come from the Upward platform. These texts are one-way only and there is no way to respond to that number.
  - **MyUpward:** Upon team assignment, I will receive a link to a team page with coach information, practice schedule, and game day schedule.
  - **Facebook:** Every year, we create a Facebook Group where updates are regularly posted. Check it out [HERE](#).
  - **Team Communication Platform:** Often coaches will leverage a platform such as GroupMe, Facebook Messenger, etc for team-specific communications.
- It is my responsibility to stay up-to-date on league information and to know what is happening when, where, and what I need to bring.

#### 6. Commitment:

- I understand that my child's participation in the league requires commitment and regular attendance, and I will support their participation throughout the season.
- I understand that if my child chooses to drop out of the program or if my family chooses to withdraw for any reason after the final deadline (December 19, 2024 by 12 PM CST) then I will not be eligible for a refund.

#### 7. Respect for Facilities:

- I will ensure that my child respects the facilities where practices and games are held, including cleaning up after themselves and respecting property.
  - Please refer above to the section labeled, "**2. Behavior and Sportsmanship,**" for possible disciplinary measures.

- Any personal items brought onto the premises are not the responsibility of First Baptist Church - Topeka or the Upward Sports program and are the sole responsibility of the child and their parent/guardian. We are not responsible for any damaged, lost, or stolen property.
  - If any items go unclaimed within 30 days of the season-end date will be considered abandoned and the First Baptist Church - Topeka staff will donate, repurpose, or discard items.

#### **8. Parent/Guardian Involvement:**

- I acknowledge that parent/guardian involvement, such as volunteering for tasks assigned by the league, may be necessary to support the smooth operation of the league.
- I acknowledge that this is a Christian faith-based program and Bible-based devotionals, teaching of Christian values and character, prayer, etc. are an integral part of the program. By signing my child(ren) up for this program I understand that they will be participating in Christian devotions/prayers.

#### **9. Financial Obligations:**

- I agree to fulfill any financial obligations associated with my child's participation in the league, including registration fees and any other agreed-upon costs.
  - Registration Fees are due at time of registration.
  - If fees are not paid at time of registration and no financial assistance has been granted, then all fees are due by 5 PM CST on November 16, 2024.
  - If financial assistance was granted then all payments are due by 12 PM CST on December 19, 2024.
- I have until October 5, 2024 to request financial assistance using the designated form. I understand that financial assistance is not guaranteed and is only offered on a first-come, first-serve, case-by-case basis. Financial assistance is limited and if financial assistance is granted that final payment must be made by December 19, 2024 at 12 PM CST. *If the final payment is not received in full by the stated payment deadline, then I forfeit my child's spot in the program and any partial payments made up to that point.*
- First Baptist Church - Topeka accepts the following forms of payment:
  - Payment at the time of online registration via debit/credit card (preferred).
  - Other Payment Accepted:
    - Cash
    - Debit/Credit Card in Person
    - PayPal
  - Payment can be made in person at the following times:
    - During any of our Upward Evaluations
    - Any time during normal office hours. If for any reason, are office is closed (such as during a holiday or staff being out of office for errands/off-site meetings), please contact the office and leave a message or send an email to the league director.

- Monday - Friday from 8:30 AM to 12 PM CST or 1 PM to 5 PM CST.
- Use entrance “A” to access our office. This is the closest entrance to MacVicar Ave and has a long ramp leading up to the doorway. There is a sign at the bottom of the ramp that says “Office” and has arrows pointing to the door.

**10. Photography and Publicity:**

- I consent to the league using photographs or videos of my child taken during league activities for promotional purposes, unless otherwise specified in writing.

**11. Code of Conduct:**

- I have read and understand the league’s code of conduct for parents and agree to abide by it. Failure to abide by this agreement may result in disciplinary action.

**12. Changes to Agreement:**

- I understand that the league may update or modify this agreement as necessary, and I will review any changes promptly upon notification.

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This agreement is designed to ensure clarity and mutual understanding between parents/guardians and the league organizers regarding expectations and responsibilities throughout the season.