



# NEVADA-UTAH CONFERENCE *of* SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

June 15, 2019

Greetings Pastors, Youth Leaders, & Coaches:

The 2019 Rising To The Top Youth Basketball Season is quickly approaching with a start date of Saturday night September 7, 2019. The Nevada-Utah Conference Sports Ministry Council has been preparing to ensure that we have proper organization and fun Christian fellowship.

The following information will help you form teams, register, submit necessary documents, and pay registration fees:

**Team Formation:** Teams can be formed by churches or schools. Teams can be male, female, or co-ed. Two churches may combine to form a team; however the limit is two churches.

**League Age Divisions:** Teams are formed based on age range. Younger players may play on teams above their age division if they have the skills; however, older players cannot play on teams below their age division. Here are the age divisions:

- **Pee Wee** (Ages 6-9)
- **Junior** (Ages 10-13)
- **Varsity** (Ages 14-18)
- **Young Adult** (Ages 18-30)

## **Registration:**

- **Regular Registration:** June 15 – July 31, 2019. **\$500** per team with a minimum of 10 players. This amounts to \$50 per player for a team of 10 players. The registration fee is \$50 per additional player with a maximum of 5 additional players totaling 15 players per team.
- **Late Registration:** August 1 – August 19, 2019. **\$550.00** per team with a minimum of 10 players. This amounts to \$55 per player for a team of 10 players. The registration fee is \$55 per additional player with a maximum of 5 additional players totaling 15 players per team.

Registration fees cover administrative and supply costs such as promotional materials, tournament trophies, tournament venue, Sabbath dinner for tournament day, etc. *We recommend that teams charge players an additional amount for travel and other expenses or fundraise to cover those costs.* Home teams should charge an admission fee to the games and sell concessions to cover expenses for referees and gym rental.

**Registration Forms:** The Team Application form will require the signature and approval of your church board prior to submission. Parents must sign the Athlete Application Form. Coaches should send all completed forms together as a packet.

**List of Players:** A team roster listing all players for each team must be submitted. This list will be provided to Adventist Risk Management during the initial process of team registration and when modifications to your team are made. The last date for team roster modification (addition and deletion of players) will be **August 19, 2019**.

**Photographs for Players, Coaches, Chaplains, and Staff Identification:** Are required and should be submitted with the team registration form. Photos will be uploaded on our website for mobile access by the coaches at games. The pictures should be high resolution headshots of players, coaches, chaplains, and staff in team colors. We recommend that you have one person photograph each player with the same background. Please make sure that the pictures are appropriate and not selfies with inappropriate content.

**Game Regulations:** Nevada-Utah Conference has modified the USA Youth Basketball Guidelines. The modified guidelines will serve as the rules for operations / game regulations.

**Non-Adventist Players:** The maximum number of non-SDA players allowed is five (5) per team. Our basketball league is a ministry. We hope churches will utilize the basketball league to engage youth and young adults who are not Adventists.

**Conduct:** Coaches are responsible for modeling Christian conduct and for the conduct of players. Our league has a no tolerance policy for bullying, fighting, and inappropriate language among coaches, players, parents, and spectators. Players and staff engaging in such behavior will be disqualified.

**Chaplain Reports:** Must be emailed to the area commissioner by the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of each month, failure to do so will result in a loss for the team. Format of information to be submitted will be provided during **the coach / chaplain conference call on July 7, 2019**. All teams must engage in Bible study and community outreach during the season.

**Game Reports:** Will be uploaded on the website one day after the respective game or forfeit.

**Verified Volunteers:** All coaches, chaplains, and staff that are assisting the respective teams must complete the Verified Volunteers online training and background check by **July 31, 2019**.

We hope that the information provided will assist you as you prepare for the upcoming basketball season. Please complete and return the required forms as soon as possible so that we develop and distribute game schedules in a timely manner.

Finally, we thank you for your support and your prayers. Our goal is to provide a safe environment where our youth connect with Christ. If you have questions or comments, please contact Nevada-Utah Conference Youth Ministries at [dhoy@nevadautah.org](mailto:dhoy@nevadautah.org).

God's Blessings!

*Darriel M. Hoy*

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