

FLORIDA



S P O R T S M I N I S T R Y

The Florida Conference Sports Ministries is dedicated to bringing Adventist and non-Adventist (youth, young adults, and adults) together to share and to teach the gospel and to seek to impact, and grow God's kingdom through the platform of sports in its different forms (tournaments, volleyball, tennis, track & field, softball, soccer and basketball). New believers are then entrusted into the care of the local church. All teams will be guided by a team Chaplain to submit a report each month letting us know what ministry they are doing in the community as a team, .

Motto: "LOVE GOD", Love Basketball- All to the glory of God. 1 Corinthians 10:31

Aim: To provide athletic and sport alternatives as well as physical and social well-being for our youth, and to witness to former Adventist and non-Adventists.

Goal: To be able to conduct a minimum of **(5) Bible studies (per year per team)** We can attain this goal by providing a fun and spiritual environment in which to teach and elevate the spirituality of Adventist and non-Adventist as well.



FLORIDA CONFERENCE BASKETBALL

The Florida Conference Sports Council is the governing entity of the Florida Basketball League (Director) Jonathan Swan, Asst. Directors Solinka McKintosh , Rene' Brown, Reggie Long, and _____and the consulting persons for the council is the Conference Associate Youth Director (Pastor Robert Hines) and Youth Director (Pastor Pedro Perez).

TEAMS

1. The league is offering the following teams;
 1. JR. Youth- ages
 2. Youth- ages
 3. Varsity- ages
 4. Woman- ages
 5. Men-ages

2. Each team is under the sponsorship of the local Adventist Youth Society Council and the church board and is governed by the decisions of these bodies.

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3. Florida Conference Basketball League will be following the Rules and Guidelines of the FHSAA(Florida High School Athletic Association)

Each team shall consist of a Seventh-day Adventist coach and no more than fifteen (15) players. Each team shall be composed of members of the Seventh-day Adventist Church with a maximum of 3 non-Adventist.

Each coach and player must present their identification badge to a staff member at the door of every game. Failure to do so will result in a penalty fine of \$5 to enter the gym.

4. **Teams must complete all forms supplied by the Florida Conference Sports Ministries, pay registration fees (that include ID card and insurance) and return them by the specified date. If all forms, fees, and team pictures are not completed and submitted by the designated deadline that team will not be eligible to play in the league until doing so (NO EXCEPTIONS)!!!!**

5. **Teams shall be composed of members of the Seventh-day Adventist Church and non-Adventists and are expected to attend church services (Sabbath School, Midday Service) at least twice a month as well as AYS (if your church has an AYS program).**

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Special Note We are encouraging traveling teams (if it is possible) to try and attend and participate in the home team's AYS program.(Again that is contingent on whether the home team's church has an AYS program).

- **A maximum of 3 non Adventists will be allowed to play on the men's and women's level.**
- **On the youth and varsity levels there is no limit to the # of non-Adventists that are allowed to play as long as they have family members (grandmother, aunt, etc.) who are members of the church.**

6. All non-baptized Seventh-day Adventists shall be exposed to the precepts and teachings of the Seventh-day Adventist church and regular invitation and encouragement to attend church.

7. *Special Note* Each team is to have a "Team Chaplain" and the chaplain is to ensure that the required spiritual aspects are being upheld as well as completing the bi-weekly Chaplain reports .

8. There is "ZERO" Tolerance for the following; (Drugs", Alcohol and Tobacco use, the carrying of weapons) at games. These are prohibited in Florida Conference Basketball , and will result in dismissal from the League for the rest of the season and the possibility of

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criminal charges being pressed against the responsible party/parties. (This is a Christian activity)!!!!

FEES

The registration fee **per team** of \$ _____ covers the cost of participation, player ID's, and insurance. **Failure to comply with this or any other registration requirement, prohibits the team from participation in the league until this requirement is met.**

- 1. Forfeiture Fees: Any team forfeiting a game due to its failure to show or not being prepared to field a team, will be charged one-half the expenses for each forfeited game which will be added to the team's indebtedness, and must be paid before the team will be allowed to continue the schedule.**
2. The members of a team which is under disciplinary action are ineligible to play for any other team within the league.

SPECIAL RULES

- 1. Prayer is to be offered before each game and after each game.(This will promote continued comraudery within the participating teams, and the asking of God for traveling mercies.**
- 2. Once a game is started, the officials are responsible for the continuation, completion and conduct of the game. No one is to approach the Table, Bookkeeper, or Clock operator except the referees. Any discrepancy should be brought to the referee's attention and then the referee will address the table.**
- 3. The coach shall be responsible for the conduct and eligibility of all members of his/her team.**
- 4. Game Reports must be completed and submitted no later than 72 hours after the completion of the game.**
- 5. Each team member must play in each of his/her team's games that he/she is present for**

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and is physically able to play in. Non-compliance will result in game forfeiture.

6. Any player or coach using profanity on or off the court shall be ejected from the game, warned, and counseled by the coach and team chaplain. 2nd offense may include a 3 game suspension, 3rd offense may incur a suspension for the remainder of the season including tournament competition. The interpretation of “off the court” will include both the interior and exterior of the venue being used.

8. Fighting is prohibited in Florida Conference’s Basketball League . Participants will be ejected immediately from the game and the venue followed by a suspension for the remainder of the season. Pending Council’s decision, participants may be band permanently from participating in the League.

9. No player or coach verbally threatening or physically attacking an official or Sports Council member will be allowed to participate in the League.

10. The Florida Conference Basketball League has “ZERO” tolerance for the wearing of jewelry, body piercing adornments, which include earrings, chains, finger rings, nose rings, beads, ankle or wrist bracelets, by participating league members.

11. **TATTOOS MUST BE COVERED.**

NOTE:

COACHES ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR HAVING EACH OF THEIR TEAM PARTICIPANTS TO COVER ANY MARKINGS (TATTOOS, BODY ART, ETC.) THAT ARE VISIBLE BEFORE STEPPING OUT ON THE COURT TO PLAY IN ANY GAMES. REGULAR SLEEVES CAN BE WORN TO HELP COVER ANY MARKINGS. SLEEVES ARE REQUIRED TO BE WHITE, BLACK, BEIGE, OR A SINGLE SOLID TEAM COLOR AND BE THE SAME COLOR FOR EACH TEAM MEMBER.



COMPRESSION SLEEVES SHALL NOT BE WORN WITHOUT MEDICAL DOCUMENTATION AND RECORDED IN THE FLORIDA CONFERENCE SPORTS COUNCIL'S FILES. ALL SLEEVES MUST BE REPORTED TO THE COMMISSIONER ON SITE BEFORE OR DURING PREGAME WARM-UPS. FAILURE TO COMPLY WILL RENDER THE PLAYER OR PLAYERS INELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE. THERE ARE NO EXCEPTIONS.

12. All protests shall be forwarded to the Conference Youth Director in writing by the following Tuesday. A ten dollar (\$10.00) fee must accompany each written protest. This ten dollar (\$10.00) fee will be refunded if the protest is deemed legitimate. Protests involving an official's judgment will not be entertained and protest arriving after the specified time will not be honored.

13. All games must begin within thirty (30) minutes of the starting time. If a team is not prepared to start a game at the end of the thirty (30) minute period, the commissioner will consult with the coaches and may impose a grace period of up to 15 minutes. After the grace period expires, the commissioner will declare a forfeit.

14. Running Time: The decision regarding running time for any game will be at the discretion of the official and the commissioner on site. However, if running time is caused by the tardiness of a team, then the team at fault shall start in the FOUL penalty for the first half of the game.

15. A player must play in a minimum of three (3) regular season games in order to be eligible for play in the post-season games. The only exception will be if the individual is away at school (out-of-town) at the start of the season, and his name is on the roster from the start of the season.

16. Uniforms: In compliance with standards of FHSAA all teams participating within the Florida Conference Basketball League must wear complete uniforms (shorts and shirts) with visible numbers from the outset of each season. No sweat pants or unconventional shorts will be accepted. The length of team shorts must not exceed more than one inch below the knee. Team members not in proper uniform for any one game will not be allowed to play. No exceptions will be granted.

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Note:

- a) **All uniform shirts and shorts must be tailored the same (i.e., in regard to length, trim, color and design.) The coach of any player who enters a game without proper uniform will be assessed a technical foul, and the player will be removed from the game upon which they cannot re-enter until the aforementioned has been corrected.**

- b) **All players of the Florida Conference Basketball League must wear their team uniforms appropriately and as so designed or fashioned.**