



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

2026 YOUTH BASKETBALL LEAGUE

JANUARY 19 – MARCH 14

Overview

Basketball has been a tradition of the YMCA since it was created by Dr. James Naismith in 1891. At the Valparaiso Family YMCA we embrace our history and are proud to offer Youth Basketball to children as young as age 3, up to 6th grade.

We believe that Youth Sports should be used to develop a child's character while also giving them an opportunity to be active and enjoy being introduced to a new sport. For more experienced players we still believe in giving all children the opportunity to succeed and always place the emphasis on providing a fun environment for your kids.

Divisions (Co-ed)

Age 3 & 4

Grades 1st & 2nd

Age 5 & 6

Grades 3rd & 4th

Grades 4th, 5th & 6th

Practices

- ♦ Practices will begin the week of January 19th.
- ♦ Your child will practice only once per week (Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday or Friday).
- ♦ All practices will be held at First Baptist Church, 2205 N Campbell St, Valparaiso IN 46383. (Just South of Valparaiso High School.)
- ♦ There are 2 entrances to the church from the parking lot. Use the North entrance and enter door #3 (takes you right to the gymnasium).

VALPARAISO FAMILY YMCA

1201 Cumberland Crossing Drive, Valparaiso Indiana 46383

P 219 462 4185 F 219 477 4720 www.valpoyymca.org



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Games

- ♦ Games will be on Saturdays: 2/7, 2/14, 2/21, 2/28, 3/7, & 3/14
- ♦ Games will take place at the Valparaiso Family YMCA.

Equipment

- ♦ Players will use the YMCA reversible all-sport jersey.
- ♦ Players must wear gym shoes, no open toed sandals or shoes are allowed for practices or games.

Pictures

- ♦ Picture week is TBD.

Coaches

Like almost all youth sports organizations, the YMCA depends on volunteer coaches to lead our teams. We believe strongly in the impact a volunteer can have on a child and encourage all parents who are able, to volunteer. Lesson plans can be provided.

It is also our goal to allow all players to participate in 1/2 of each game. However, if we are unable to obtain enough volunteer coaches to keep rosters manageable, your child's playing time may be affected.

For information on the responsibilities of a volunteer coach please contact the Sports Director, Kevin Freyenberger, at (219) 462-4185 extension 239 or kfreyenberger@valpoyymca.org

Volunteer Coach Meeting

Tuesday, January 13, 2026, 6:00pm

at First Baptist Church, 2205 N Campbell St, Valparaiso IN 46383

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Division Overview

Age 3 & 4

- ♦ Mini size basketball
- ♦ 6' rim height
- ♦ ½ court
- ♦ No stealing or blocking

Age 5 & 6

- ♦ 25.5" (rookie) size basketball
- ♦ 7' rim height
- ♦ ½ court
- ♦ No stealing or blocking

Grades 1st - 2nd

- ♦ 27.5" (junior) size basketball
- ♦ 8' rim height
- ♦ ½ court
- ♦ No stealing or blocking

Grades 3rd - 4th

- ♦ 28.5" women's size ball
- ♦ 10' rim height
- ♦ Full court
- ♦ Shooting fouls will shoot free throw(s), normal middle school rules

Grades 4th, 5th & 6th

- ♦ 29.5" men's size ball
- ♦ 10' rim height
- ♦ Full court
- ♦ Shooting fouls will shoot free throw(s), normal middle school rules

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