



### Our Mission:

- Provide young athletes with an opportunity to play competitive basketball.
- Teach competitive basketball to all players within the organization.
- Provide the best coaches available.
- Provide a family environment for players, families, supporters and referees.
- Provide a venue for young athletes to demonstrate their skills to college recruiters in hopes of securing basketball scholarships.
- Teach young athletes that basketball is about brotherhood/sisterhood and family.

### What to Expect

- At the start of each season we will host preseason, informational meetings for players and parents. Time and place TBD. Note: In some cases these informational meetings are part of the try out process.
- Tryouts take place in late February or early March (3rd – 8th grade) and late March for HS players (9th – 11th grade).
- Teams are selected by coaches and a group of evaluators. Coaches may use playing time when evaluating players.
- Games start right after tryouts and run through the end of May/early June for most teams and into the summer for those attending National Tournaments.
- Coaches may keep up to 10-12 athletes per team.
- Each age group usually has at least two teams and possibly as many as four teams depending on number and skill level of the players.
- Teams will generally practice twice a week around Copley area based on where the coach or players have access to gym time.
- Games are played by entering tournaments that take place on weekends. Each tournament usually consists of 3-5 games (or more).
- Each team schedule remains up to each individual coach/team but each teams will be required to play in one or two tournament(s) together. SMAC Akron director will pick the tournament(s) that all teams will play in.
- Most teams will play between six and ten tournaments for the season. Most tournaments are within 30-40 minute drive times but some teams do travel further on occasion and require hotel stays.
- End of the season party/gathering for all teams that participate within our program (Cedar Point-end of the season celebration in June).
- Players must maintain good citizenship and grades throughout the AAU season or will be subject not playing.
- Our program will teach MAN to MAN defense at all levels.
- Coaches will teach the game of basketball to every player every practice. **Our philosophy is every player, every day!**



## Expenses

As a guideline, participation fees range from \$350-\$600 and are determined by the director of SMAC Akron. Teams with higher fees will play in more tournaments.

These fees COVER team expenses such as but not limited to:

- practice gym time (this could significantly impact your team expenses)
- uniforms-shorts, home and away jersey
- insurance cost for every player
- entry fee into tournament
  
- These fees DO NOT COVER:
- players/family travel expense, hotel rooms or meals

## Offered Teams



### **Our Premier/Elite Teams:**

Our Premier and Elite teams are for High School age players looking to play at the next level (College). These teams focus on player development and college exposure events.



### **Our Orange Teams:**

Our Orange teams compete at the national level and represent the best players in the area. The practices are intense and the competition is strong. Most Orange teams play up one or two grades in most tournaments and compete in National AAU events. Orange teams are grade based.



### **Our Gray Teams:**

Our Gray teams compete at the regional level and represent the next tier of players in our program. Most gray teams play grade appropriate teams. Gray teams typically compete locally and may travel out of state to compete 1 or 2 weekends. Gray teams are grade based.



### **Our Black Teams:**

Our Black teams compete at the local level and represent the developmental tier in our program. Players at this level will be exposed to basic fundamentals of basketball. Black teams are grade based.