

Dear Upward Parents,

We are opening are 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> divisions to two teams of 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> grade boys and two teams of 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> grade girls. Wish we could do more. The teams will practice at the same time and on a full court. For the boys it be on Monday 5:30-7:00pm (pending) at Southlake Baptist Church Southlake, and the 5/6 girls will practice at Trinity from 5-6pm on Mondays. The 5/6 graders will not have an evaluation. The first two weeks of the season will be a joint practice for both teams with scrimmages on Saturday. After the first two weeks the coaches will draft the two teams. The scrimmages and games will be played on Friday nights. We are looking at one parent being able to attend games. With that said we are closely watching the current covid numbers by county and city. The two measures we are watching are, Number of new cases per 100,000 persons within the last 14 days and Percentage of RT-PCR tests that are positive during the last 14 days. Currently measure1 is at 430 for Tarrant county, Keller is 143, and Southlake is 243 we are looking for 50. The second measure is currently 12% and we are looking for a range between 5-8%. It is our strong desire to have our 15th season in 2021, but we are also mindful that the safety of our community is of utmost importance. Two important points: First, we will be monitoring the status of COVID-19 infections in Tarrant County from now to the start of the season and we want to be clear that the potential exists that we may have to cancel the season. If fact, if we had to make the decision today, we would not move forward. We will be looking for improvement in the status of the pandemic in Tarrant County in the upcoming weeks. Second, if we are fortunate enough to move forward, Upward will look much different than it has in the past as we will make many changes for the safety of all participants and volunteers.

Registration will be on a first come first serve basis; however, priority will be given to those parents who plan to serve as head coaches, particularly returning coaches.

Other changes include:

- Registration will be online only, no paper registration and no in person registration
- No uniform sizing, parents will select uniform size during online registration
- Players will be required to bring their own basketball to practice

As discussed, we will be monitoring the status of the COVID-19 pandemic in Tarrant County as the season approaches. The national Upward organization has been

extremely helpful during these challenging times and has committed to refunding participants registration fees in the event we would need to cancel the season. This is predicated on uniforms not being distributed, which typically takes place in the first week of January. While there may be others points along the way, our current thinking on decision points for the season are November 1<sup>st</sup> (prior to evaluations), December 15<sup>th</sup> (prior to ordering uniforms), and January 1<sup>st</sup> (prior to handing out uniforms). As you are aware, we are operating in an extremely fluid environment and so any of these plans are subject to change.

You can register on the Trinity Presbyterian Church webpage ([trinitysouthlake.org](http://trinitysouthlake.org)) you will find a registration link, an Upward waiver form (you will acknowledge this when you register), and the Sick Player Plan.

God Bless – John and Brian