

**JR. CLIPPERS  
BASKETBALL LEAGUE**

**PARENT  
HANDBOOK**



SIEMON FAMILY  
**COMMUNITY  
CENTER**  
LOS ANGELES, CA



## **Contact Information**

Andre Patterson, Youth Program Director: Office - 323.586.0288, email [andre.patterson@usw.salvationarmy.org](mailto:andre.patterson@usw.salvationarmy.org)

Website - [www.simoncenter.org](http://www.simoncenter.org)

## **Things to Remember**

Can't reach a Salvation Army Staff or your coach? Visit [www.simoncenter.org](http://www.simoncenter.org) for copies of packets, schedules, forms, or cancellations.

## **Food and drinks**

Thank you for helping to keep our facility clean. Please throw away your trash after consumption.

## **Safety**

All sporting activities will be monitored by a Salvation Army staff who is trained in CPR and First Aid. First Aid kits and delimeter are available on site.

## Letter to Parents

Dear Parents and Participants,

This is the Siemon Youth Sports Parent Handbook. It describes the Jr. Clippers Youth Basketball Program. Please take a few minutes and read the information inside this handbook.

The Salvation Army Siemon Center welcomes you to the Jr. Clippers Basketball Program. A goal of the Siemon Center is for all youth sports participants, both parents and children, to have an enjoyable sporting experience. Skill development is the main component of all Siemon Center Youth Sports. Non-competitive games are a part of every season, and each child will play an equal amount of time in every game, (or as close as possible based on roster of team). Of course, a FUN and friendly environment is characteristic of all Siemon Center programs.

Youth Sports programs are possible by the dedication of volunteer workers and Staff. Volunteers and Staff put in many hours of work to make the Siemon Center programs a success. Thank you to all of the Siemon Center volunteers and Staff who invest time and energy into the lives of young people today. If you are interested in future volunteer opportunities, please contact us.

Families are very important to the Siemon Center! Please take an interest in your child by participating with him/her during the practices and games. Also, time spent with your child at home in sports skills development builds confidence and parent-child relationships.

Thanks for your participation. We look forward to serving you and your child in our Youth Sports program. If you have any comments or questions, please call the Siemon Center at 323.586.0288.

Sincerely,

Andre Patterson

323.586.0288

[andre.patterson@usw.salvationarmy.org](mailto:andre.patterson@usw.salvationarmy.org)

## **PARENT HANDBOOK**

### **The Salvation Army Siemon Youth and Community Center Mission:**

#### **Vision Statement**

The mission of Siemon Center is to sponsor activities that will build and strengthen the communities of South Los Angeles by providing spiritual, physical and academic enrichment and promoting positive family and peer relationships.

**1. Everyone plays.** We do not use tryouts to select the best players, nor do we cut kids from Siemon Center Youth Sports. Everyone who registers is assigned to a team. During the season everyone receives equal practice time and plays at least half of every game.

**2. Safety first.** Although some children may get hurt playing sports, we do all we can to prevent injuries. We've modified each sport to make it safer and more enjoyable to play. We ask you to take time to check that the equipment and facilities are safe and to teach the sport as we've prescribed, so that the skills taught are appropriate for children's developmental level. We also ask you to develop your players' fitness levels gradually so they are conditioned for the sport. And we ask you to constantly supervise your young players so that you can stop any unsafe activities.

**3. Fair play.** Fair play is about more than playing by the rules. It's about you and your players showing respect for all who are involved in Siemon Center Sports. It's about you being a role model of good sportsmanship and guiding your players to do the same. Remember, we're more interested in developing children's character through sports than in developing a few highly skilled players.

**4. Positive competition.** We believe competition is a positive process when the pursuit of victory is kept in the right perspective. Learning to compete is important for children, and learning to cooperate in a competitive world is an essential lesson of life. The "right perspective" means adults make decisions that put the best

interests of the children above winning the contest. These are the lessons we want to teach through Siemon Center Youth Sports.

**5. Family involvement.** Siemon Center Youth Sports encourages parents to be involved appropriately along with their child participating in our sport programs. In addition to parents being helpful as volunteer coaches, officials, and timekeepers, we encourage them to be at practices and games to support their child's participation.

**6. Sport for all.** Siemon Center Youth Sports is an inclusive sport program. That means that children who differ in various characteristics are to be included rather than excluded from participation. We offer programs to all children regardless of race, gender, religion or ability. We ask our adult leaders to support and appreciate the diversity of children in our society and to encourage the children and their parents to do the same. We do not forfeit games; instead, we share players and proceed with planned games.

**7. Sport for fun.** Sport is naturally fun for most children. They love the challenge of mastering the skills of the game, playing with their friends, and competing with their peers. Sometimes when adults become involved in children's sport, they over-organize and dominate the activity to the point of spoiling the children's enjoyment of the sport. If we take the fun out of sport, we are in danger of our children taking themselves out of sport. Remember, that these sports are for the kids; make sure the kids are having fun.

### **Youth Sports Responsibilities and Expectations:**

#### **As a PARENT, please...**

1. Read and use all printed material provided by the Siemon Center.
2. Make sure your player arrives on time to all practices and games.
3. Ensure the player is properly equipped with shoes, shorts/sweats and team t-shirts.

4. Stay at practices and games whenever possible and support your player and team.
5. Volunteer to help the coach whenever possible, perhaps assisting in practice and sitting on the bench with players.
6. Inform the coach if the player is unable to attend practice or game.
7. Encourage your child and team; but not insult or discourage the other team. Encourage good sportsmanship.
8. Encourage your child to treat others with respect regardless of race, sex, creed or ability.
9. Spend time at home practicing with your child on his/her skill development.
10. Acknowledge the other team's accomplishments.
11. Support and not criticize the coach.
12. Support and not criticize the referees.
13. Be positive at all times!
14. Enjoy the games and have fun!
15. Be drug, tobacco and alcohol free during all team events.
16. Be aware of the Youth Sports Philosophy and support it!

**As a Player, please...**

1. Be ready to practice and play!
2. Perform up to your potential and have fun learning.
3. Arrive at practice and games on time.
4. Show respect for your coach, adult volunteers and other players at all times. Ask questions when appropriate.
5. Show respect to the other team and officials.
6. Have lots of fun!!

## **RULES OF PLAY:**

### **DIVISIONS:**

7-8 Year old

9-10 Year old

### **ROSTERS:**

Team Rosters will be limited to 8 players per Team

### **PLAYERS:**

Each team will consist of no more than 8 players and no less than 5 at the start of each game.

**Everyone** on each team will play and **Everyone** will play an equal amount of time on the court. Coaches use their discretion as to how to ensure the playing time.

### **COACHES AND REFEREES:**

**VOLUNTEER COACHES:** All coaches are volunteering their time to make this a great experience. We try and select coaches who are knowledgeable in the skills we are trying to teach. If you are interested in being a coach or have a concern about a coach, please notify the Program Director immediately.

**REFEREES:** The referees are in charge of the game and their decisions are FINAL; right or wrong.

Please cooperate with the Siemon Center's staff in creating and maintaining an environment in which each participant may have fun, learn the game and be a good sport. The referees may occasionally stop play for instructional purposes when necessary, and will subjectively make allowances (as discussed and set up by each

league) based on ability, for violations. We encourage parents to focus on the children and not the referees.

#### **TIME:**

Time is running

There are no overtime periods. All ties are final.

All Divisions play (two) 20 minute halves.

5 minutes for Halftime

Each Team will have 2 Timeouts per half. 30 seconds for each timeout.

#### **BALL SIZE AND RIM HEIGHT:**

7-8 Year Olds

- Ball Size: 28.5
- Rim Height: 9ft

9-10 Year Olds

- Ball Size: 29.5
- Rim Height: 10ft

#### **START OF GAME:**

A jump ball will start the game. All other jump balls will use an alternating possession procedure. Jump balls occur when two opponents have one or both hands firmly on the basketball.

Teams will change baskets at the end of the first half.

#### **SCORING:**

### 7-8 Year Olds

Field goal 2 points, Free throws 1 point. There will not be a 3 point shot.

### 9-10 Year Olds

Field goal 2 points, free throws 1 point, 3 pointers will count if shot behind the three point line.

Both Age groups: Scoreboard will stop scoring when one team is up by 15+ points and will continue as necessary. Score will be kept on paper at every game.

### **PRESSING:**

Teams must play a man to man defense or a 2-3 zone. However, it can only be played once the offensive team has passed 3ft over the mid-court line. The defensive team must retreat back across the mid-court before engaging in either tactic. There will be no double teaming.

### **LANE/KEY VIOLATIONS:**

When a violation occurs the whistle will be blown, players are asked to stop, a brief explanation will be given and the ball will be turned over and taken out of bounds (unless on a shooting foul). Violations include: double dribbling, traveling, lane violation, 5 second throw in violation, carrying the ball.

7-8 & 9-10 Year olds: There is no time limit in effect for this age group. Coaches should still train players to understand moving in and out of the key.

### **OUT OF BOUNDS:**

Teams have 5 seconds to put the ball in play.

Teams have 10 seconds to pass the half court line.

### **SHOOTING FOULS/FREE THROWS:**

**Fouls:** Unnecessary contact of players constitutes a personal foul and equals a team foul. Charging, a half court violation (back court pressing), tripping, pushing, or contact from behind. This may occur on offense or defense resulting in a turn over.

- If a foul occurs while shooting, the player that was fouled will be awarded 2 free throws. Violating player is given a personal foul and a team foul.
- If a foul occurs in the course of play, the ball is awarded to the other team out of bounds. Violating player is given a personal foul and a team foul.

### **SUBSTITUTION RULE:**

All players must check in with the referee prior to entering the game. The substitution may occur at the end of the quarter, at a dead ball or if there is an injury.