



SBA's Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

How can I register?

Registrations are all completed online with payment options: Credit card (Visa/MC) & E-Transfers. No open registration will be available. During our first few weeks of registration (late June through July), fees will be without penalty. Registering after July, there will be \$25 added to the cost.

****Online registration is taken off of the website once there is no more room for any more players. Until then, registration remains open to start of season (late September / early October).****

****PLEASE NOTE:** Please always be mindful that if a program fills up, we have to cap our registrations. It is always stated that if you plan to register, register during early bird, or soon thereafter, in order to avoid disappointment.**

If I register with my Visa or MasterCard, am I charged additional fees?

Yes, you will be charged an extra 5% when paying by credit card.

If I register with the E-Transfer option, who do I send it to?

You can E-Transfer payment to SBA's preferred email: sbabasketball@shaw.ca. Your security question could be 'What sport is this for?' or more simply 'What sport?' as we ask that the answer be '**basketball.**' **Your child(ren)'s name(s)** should be typed into the comment or message portion of the said E-Transfer.

When will my registration be confirmed?

1. Once you register online and your payment is accepted, you will be FULLY registered. If paying by E-Transfers, you MUST complete the process of transferring the funds or your registration is listed as INCOMPLETE until payment has been received. Be mindful that if a division fills up and you haven't paid, you could lose your spot.
2. If the link to your child(ren)'s division of choice is still open, that means there is still room. Once the division fills up, we remove the option from the online registration process.

When does registration normally close?

We base our registration 'closure' on the number of registrations we have taken in at any given date. When teams/divisions fill to capacity and we don't have any room in some/all teams/divisions, we pull the option to register from the website and close registration. We do, however, mention that an email can be sent to our Executive Director anytime to enquire with regards to a specific team/division. Once the season commences, mainly in October, you can expect that it will be more difficult to find

registration available for any team/division. The later into the season it comes, the chances lessen that we have room.

Is there any experience required for a player in any age group/division?

NEVER! We are a community-based program offering a place for every single player, serving all children from the ages of 5 to 17. Regardless of age and regardless of skill; experience in any way, shape or form is NOT a requirement!

What do my registration fees cover?

Your registration fees include the following:

- Insurance for players/coaches.
- Gym rental costs that are incurred at rates of over \$28 per hour on weekday evenings and over \$78 per hour on weekends... one of our largest expenses to run SBA.
- All players (in EYBA and U9/U11 House League) get a keeper uniform (jersey only) that do not get returned to SBA. Shorts are an optional purchase through our online store. For U7/Tykes, they don't get an actual uniform, but do get team color-coded T-shirts to wear as 'uniforms.' Note: Tykes/U7 must wear their own shorts (or can purchase online) for their practices/games.
- With the exception of the Fall U18 season, ALL players receive an individual/team picture. More prints can be ordered directly from our photographers, Country Nuts Photography.
- HL U9/U11 receive a year-end medal that they are presented with on the last day.
- HL U7/Tykes receive a year-end trophy that they are presented with on the last day.
- Use of our equipment that always needs upgrading.
- In EYBA, there are EYBA team fees, EYBA game day fees and Referee fees to be paid.
- In HL U11, there are also in-house Referee fees to be paid.
- SBA's Executive Director is a paid position due to the high volume of duties/work involved in running our 700+ children community program.

What do my registration fees NOT include?

- ❖ A Coach may choose to have the team/players purchase team gear, especially at the 'A' & 'B' U13/U15 division levels. Costs for any extra gear, other than the jersey supplied with your fees, will be the responsibility of parents to purchase.
- ❖ Any team events, parties, team-bonding meals/activities are NOT covered in your SBA fees.
- ❖ Lastly, if the team is at the 'A' or 'B' (sometimes 'C' as well), the team may opt to compete at the Basketball Alberta Youth Provincials that are held in March. Entry cost is NOT covered with registration fees.

Is there any fundraising and/or other volunteer requirements involved?

We DO NOT do any fundraising; however, every 4-5 years, there could be some type of fundraising in order to replenish our equipment (basketballs, first-aid kits, pylons, etc.) needs.

We MUST have Volunteer Coaches in order to run our league and as well as that, Parents would be asked to volunteer for other duties, depending on league, such as score/time keeping, potentially Team Manager positions as requested by individual Coaches should they so choose.

As members of EYBA, we have a commitment to work for EYBA at their designated Casinos. These casinos are generally every other year, next one being Spring of 2020. We do, however, pay our workers \$100 after the Casino has been worked.

We also have House League Division Coordinators that put in some time to help get teams together and communicate between SBA and the Coaches in their specific division. These positions pay back a rebate. Please see our website for more details.

What is SBA's refund policy?

Our refund policy is linked to other pages on this website. ALL refunds are subject to an administrative fee and at the Executive Director & Treasurer's discretion. Here is what the policy states: Refund of Fees: Refunds for players withdrawing from the program will be paid, upon written application to the Executive Director or President, less a \$50.00 service charge fee, according to the following schedule: 1. Players suspended or expelled for disciplinary reasons shall be ineligible for a refund of fees. 2. Executive Director and Treasurer in joint are charged with the responsibility of using reasonable discretion with respect to portioned months. 3. For players withdrawing as a result of personal injury, a refund may be provided subject to receipt of a medical certificate from a doctor, the refund will be effective upon the later of, the receipt of the medical certificate or request for refund due to medical reasons 4. Refunds will be prorated based upon the number of game/practice weeks remaining in the season, notwithstanding the dates as determined below. 5. If requested before the start of the season, registration fees may be refunded in full. Start of the season is defined as when the child has been placed on a team and the child or guardian have been informed by the coach or coordinator of the first practice. 6. No refunds will be allowed after November 1, with the exception of refunds due to medical reasons, which will not be allowed after January 15th. 7. Because players that make their senior varsity high school teams are no longer eligible for community basketball (ASAA ruling), they may, upon written request, receive 50% of registration fees paid. This needs to be completed by December 31st.

Will I receive a registration receipt?

****NOTE: The children's fitness tax credit was eliminated for 2017 and later.**** If you pay by credit card, you will receive a receipt from the system. If you pay by eTransfer, you will also receive a receipt when your eTransfer has been confirmed. If you require a separate receipt for any reason, you can email Darlene at sbabasketball@shaw.ca to enquire. If you are part of a U18/Juvenile school-based team; therefore, registered with a Coach/Parent from your school; we will not supply individual receipts. If you so choose, you must obtain a receipt from the person you signed up on the team with.

If SBA agrees to accept my payment by cheque so I am NOT paying by the preferred credit card or E-Transfer, what is the additional fee on NSF cheques? Are post-dated cheques accepted? Is cash an accepted form of payment?

If for some reason, you asked us to accept cheques as payment, for each NSF cheque, there is an additional \$20.00 fee that will be added to your payment due. We appreciate that this sometimes happens and hope to receive your payment soon after you are notified. If you insist to pay by cheque and need to post-date payments; during early bird registration, post-dated cheques are ONLY accepted up to and including the final date of early bird (date is specified each season). Therefore, a cheque written can be written for the last date of registration, but must be received by that date.

After July, a penalty of \$25 is added to your fees. We then expect to receive payment as soon as possible and our online registration website is designed to allow credit card payments to go through at a later date (for most divisions). If you need to set up a payment plan that we do not offer online, we are totally open to that in order to help you out. **We prefer e-Transfers, rather than cheques, if you do not prefer to pay by credit card.**

Request for post-dated payments and payment plans must be approved and enquired to Darlene at sbabasketball@shaw.ca or admin@sbahoops.ca. It's also not preferred but cash is accepted as payment. However, it is advised to email SBA to set up a date/time for drop off. ALL payments, other than credit cards and ETransfers, are expected to be dropped off in the mailbox at the Executive Director's home address: 42 Kirklees Road, Sherwood Park (T8A 5H4). If dropping off payment, once registered online, payment should be dropped off within a 3-5 day period at maximum, please.

What if I cannot pay by the preferred Credit Card or eTransfer?

You must make arrangements with SBA's Executive Director, Darlene Anstice, by contacting her (sbabasketball@shaw.ca). She can then work out a payment plan with you. NOTE: For registrations done by July 31st, there can be NO later payments made, so fees are to be paid in full by July 31st. Late payments when registering on or before July 31st are not accepted. You may register from August 1st and later if you wish to have a payment plan in place that includes later payments for the fees. Please keep in mind that as divisions/teams fill up and we can't take any more registrations, we could cap registration; therefore, it's first-come first-served in that regard.

What if I need more financial assistance with regards to my child(ren)'s payment of fees?

If you need financial assistance, you can check out two options:

1. KidSport (www.kidsport.canada.ca)
2. JumpStart (www.jumpstart.canadiantire.ca)

If you will be contacting them about assistance with your fees, you can contact Darlene in that regard.

How do I know my child(ren) has been accepted into the program? When should I expect contact from the league or Coach?

Prior to the process of team separation, you may receive contact, via email from SBA, with regards to necessary Coaches that are needed. Should we lack Coaches for any team/division, we take the registration order at time of registration to determine our cut off. This will only happen after a plea is emailed out to find more Coaches. Example: If we have enough Coaches for (3) U13 girls' teams, we maximize teams at (12) players per team, so total is (36) players. The 37th bantam girl to register may NOT get put onto a team. Although each and every year, we do have to put out a plea for Coaches, it's very rare that we turn any players away. If all Coaches are in place in your child(ren)'s specific team/division, you will receive contact from the Coach as follows:

- If registered onto an EYBA team (U11; U13; U15; U18) and all Coaches are in place, you will receive a contact from a Coach around mid-September. League play starts at the onset of October.
- If you registered to try out for a U13 or U15 team; those tryout dates/times get posted onto the SBA home page (www.sbahoops.ca) and you will receive notification about tryout/evaluation dates/times by the end of August if not before.
- If you registered for a Tykes/U7 team and all Coaches are in place, you will receive contact from a Coach in the 2nd-3rd weeks of October.
- If you registered for a House League (U9, U11) team and all Coaches are in place, you will receive contact from a Coach around the 2nd-3rd week in October.

How can I make sure that my Child(ren) gets put onto a team that will practice on a night that works for us?

At time of registration, there is a section on the form to note any situation you deem necessary. E.g.; a practice night that won't work for you, potential health concerns, etc.. We cannot make any guarantees when it comes to requests because; for example, should all Coaches in your child(ren)'s division select the same practice night and that's the night that doesn't work for you, then there's nothing we can do to make it work out. List of preferred practices days of the week can also be listed in the 'requests' section.

What is required in order for me to coach a team? What does coaching involve?

Normally, SBA teams are all coached by Parents/Guardians. However, there are many past players and other volunteers that come forward to request to coach as well. We accept any Coach that meets our approval; we require a volunteer form as well as a VSC (Vulnerable Sector Check) or Police/Criminal Record Check. The local RCMP accepts our SBA letter to receive the check free of charge. The letter required to take to the RCMP is always in the mailbox at 42 Kirklees Road in Sherwood Park. The RCMP ask that they receive the letter with original signage, so those can be picked up anytime. You must have a VSC in place before coaching and these are due every year. We will advise all Coaches, regardless of head or assistant, about any upcoming opportunities to attend a Coaches' clinic, either provided by SBA, EYBA or ABA.

PLEASE be aware that the RCMP does NOT give free PRC/VSC to Coaches that receive any remuneration or consideration for their work as Volunteers.

If I sign up to coach, am I to assume that I will be able to coach my own child(ren)?

ABSOLUTELY, we wouldn't want it any other way, unless it is your request.

If I make a request for a specific Coach or player (friend); will that request be honoured?

We do our best when it comes to all requests; however, there is the potential problem that our teams cannot be set up in the best way for the best interest of our players involved if we honour every single request. We are very experienced in putting teams together in the way that benefits all the kids as players first. We run a league for the best interest of the children, first and foremost. We would expect to have the support from all Parents/Guardians when it comes to that process. Regardless of situation, Parents need to encourage their child(ren) to play with other child(ren) that they may or may not know and also get more experiences from other Coaches too. Every team becomes a unique and positive experience for all the Children regardless of who is on their team and who is coaching that team.

How are SBA teams set up in House League (Tykes/U7, U9 & U11)?

For our HL programs, we split the kids onto teams trying to even out the experience, skill, size and age. Some divisions will have a Coordinator that will help with this duty. These teams only play each other all season so we do our best, with what we have on paper, to see teams set up evenly.

How are SBA EYBA (including 'A' & 'B' divisions) teams set up?

For our teams in EYBA (Edmonton Youth league) which consists of U11,U13, U15 & U18; we try to keep all the kids together with similar skill and experience. Because these teams go into the EYBA and play in a division where they fit as a team, this is the best scenario for everybody involved; Players &

Coaches. We could have multiple teams in one division (e.g.; U13 boys) from SBA but they may or may not ever play each other, especially after 1-2 seeding rounds held in EYBA. For U13 & U15; the EYBA has both 'A' & 'B' divisions, so we put together SBA 'A' & 'B' division teams for the (8) teams: U13G, U13B, U15G & U15B. There will be 1-2 tryout dates and players that want to make their respective 'A' or 'B' team should try to attend both tryouts, if there is a 2nd one required. There is an extra minimal cash (\$10.00) fee to attend and participate in the tryouts. Once those tryouts are complete, we try to have another session or two to determine the rest of our teams in those divisions. We try to base our selection to teams on the Player's skill level and experience. It's proven over many years of involvement and observation that players play and develop better with players of similar skill sets. This also assists the Coach(es) in their coaching/teaching to the team, so that players on one team are generally on the same page as each other. Of course, we have to consider practice times, etc., when it comes to team selection: - Example: A player cannot practice on Tuesdays won't be forced to play on a Tuesday-practicing team because that is where he/she fit best as a player. Adjustments are then made, and he/she is moved to a different team where he/she can practice.

When will practices and games be? How many per week?

Details as follows:

- Tykes/U7 always practice on Friday nights, 6-7pm or 7-8pm, ½ hour practice + ½ hour game. They always practice/play in Sherwood Park school gyms.
- U9/U11 have one 1-hour practice per week in the Park. Games are always on Saturdays and always in Sherwood Park.
- EYBA 'A' & 'B' divisions U13 & U15 teams – we try to give these teams one 2-hour practice per week.
 - 'A' Division Girls have games on Wednesdays & Thursdays (not twice weekly)
 - 'A' Division Boys have games on Tuesdays & Thursdays (not twice weekly)
- EYBA regular division(s)
 - ALL teams play Saturday games, with the potential of the odd Friday evening game and new this year there could be 1-2 games on Sunday mornings (that's 1-2 games on Sundays in the whole season).

Although teams from SBA play in the EYBA, they always practice in Sherwood Park (exception would be a couple of teams that are based out of Fort Saskatchewan so those will likely practice there). There are games mainly in Edmonton, but SBA has attained Park gym time for Saturday games, so teams from U13 to U18 may get games in the Park on occasion.

In House League, can my child play in an older division than their age or can my child play in a younger division than their age?

In our house league program, we encourage to place your child where they fit in their age grouping. Each division has only two age groupings to assist us in beneficial team set up. We do, however, listen to our Parent's plea with regards to players playing down and certain circumstances do make for a child's better experience. It's a personal situation that is individual and dealt with separately and individually. When playing up, normally it's when a player is leaps and bounds ahead of their own age group, so we sometimes even recommend that they move up to play in an older group. In either case, it's important to realize that most times it's very beneficial for a child to get to be the oldest player in their respective division and not always good to be youngest. Children learn great leadership skills when playing as the oldest in their team/division. All children involved need support and encouragement from their parents regardless of the situation. We base our success on whether or not

the Kids return to play again, not on the number of wins and losses. This is preached to our Coaches over and over. Kids come first so we do our best to make it the best situation for them first and foremost.

In EYBA, can my child play up as an under-aged player OR down as an over-aged player?

Players can always play up a division, upon SBA's approval and recommendation. However, over-aged players are **not accepted** under any circumstance. This is an EYBA rule. All children involved need support and encouragement from their parents regardless of the situation. We base our success on whether or not the Kids return to play again, not on the number of wins and losses. This is preached to our Coaches over and over. Kids come first so we do our best to make it the best situation for them first and foremost.

What is the commitment expected from SBA PLAYERS to play on a team?

Our Players are all expected to be able to make the two-day a week commitment for the most part. We understand situations arise that has a player miss practices or games (illness, holidays, etc.); however, for the most part we hope there is commitment from players/parents. Basketball is a team sport so it's important that we are supported and that parents ensure that their children are at all practices and games as much as possible. ALL teams, regardless of division, practice in Sherwood Park. House league has all games in Sherwood Park, while teams in EYBA play in and around Edmonton (could include Sherwood Park gyms if U13 level and up). As a Player, the commitment is as follows: - U13/U15 'A'/'B' EYBA teams: one 1.5-2 hour practice per week with Boys games on Tuesdays (some Thursdays) and Girls games on Wednesdays (some Thursdays). - All other EYBA teams; one 1.5 hour practice per week with games on Saturdays (sometimes Friday evenings & Sundays). Normally it's one-game per week, but there may be occasional Saturdays where you may have a 2nd game scheduled - DOUBLE-HEADER day!! YAY, your kids will LOVE those days! - Tykes/U7; practices and games are all together in a one-hour slot on Friday evenings. - House League U9 & U11; one one-hour practice per week with one one-hour game on Saturdays (NOTE: If the division has an odd number of teams, there will be a double-header schedule rather than a bye).

What is the commitment from the Parents/Guardians of the players?

We ask that all Parents/Guardians please support and understand that the Coaches work very hard at all practices to teach the skills they need to succeed on the court during the game. However, it's NOT always all about that! -Coaches have given up their time to volunteer for your children at every practice and game. That also includes time they have to spend at home planning their practices, seeking out more skills/drills to teach, taking coaching courses, etc, etc.\ - Please respect and have patience with your Child(ren)'s Coach(es) as they may adjust things in a game to ensure each player gains more and more success throughout the season. - Some kids advance quicker than others, but ALL kids have a very important role on their teams. - SBA supports all Coaches when it comes to them dealing with any issues such as extended absences, discipline problems, etc. - Communication from Coach to SBA will become important prior to involvement of Parents/Guardians in some cases. With regards to playing time, we are a community-based Organization that offers a place to play for any type of Player. Whether it is a house league program, EYBA or even an 'A' team, we are still community and every Player will get their fair share of playing time. If there are any issues with regards to your child(ren)'s playing time, you must take it up with the Coach as they are asked by the SBA to ensure Kids all get to play. If you have further concerns, you can contact SBA directly, but we prefer you have an open conversation with your child(ren)'s Coach(es) first.

What is the expectation of a Player's Parent/Guardian/Coach?

There is a very important document posted on the SBA website under 'Coaches/Parents' listed as "Player/Parent/Coach CODE OF CONDUCT." We ask all Coaches to have all of their Parents/Guardians to read over this document very carefully. We have our own set of rules in our House League programs and there is a much more extensive rule book in EYBA (posted on their website). We deal with parental/coach issues on a very continual basis and it's lead to many adults being reprimanded by way of suspension. There is no need for this. Everybody must understand that whether it's SBA U11 house league or EYBA, both leagues are community based and we are all in this for the enjoyment of the Players involved. We want our Parents/Guardian/Fans to sit back and watch their Children have a great time being involved in the game of Basketball. Yelling out at Officials as ADULT Coaches/Parents/Fans is completely unacceptable and will NEVER be tolerated.

What volunteer positions are subject to an honourarium?

House league Division Coordinator = \$50.00 (**+\$50.00 see ***NOTES***) (duties posted on SBA site) (**NOTES: Div. Coordinator that completes the process of putting the teams together will receive \$50.00 for that duty alone. Should he/she then complete all other duties as outlined on the SBA website (e.g.; equipment drop off, etc.) through to the end of season, he/she will receive another \$50.00.***)

Casino Worker = \$100.00 (this position does NOT have to be a parent; however, the worker must be 18-years of age or older). Because we have teams in EYBA, having workers work at a casino every 1.5 years is a requirement to be part of EYBA's league. A Parent/Guardian can request to work a casino regardless of what league their child plays in, as long as their child(ren) are registered in SBA.

Officials Coordinator = \$250.00 – this is a very committed position where the Coordinator attends U11 games on occasion as well as schedules the Officials during the whole U11 HL season.

Can we help you by adding another Q & A to this document?

By all means, if you have a question that we haven't answered on our site or in this document, please let us know!