

# ISTROUMASPORTS

## 17U BASKETBALL 2026

### WELCOME TO ISTROUMA BAPTIST CHURCH

- We glorify God by making disciples of all nations. Visit [istrouma.org](http://istrouma.org) for more information.
- You're invited to join us for small groups at 9:00 and worship service at 10:30 each Sunday.

### WELCOME TO ISTOUMA SPORTS

- We are a gospel-centered sports ministry that intentionally creates opportunities to glorify God, make disciples, and redeem sports back to God.
- You're invited to join the Season Celebration on Sunday, April 26, at 9:30. We will enjoy breakfast together, take family photos, and then attend the worship service. Participants from our 5U Basketball, Baseball + Softball, & Spring Volleyball leagues will also be invited.

### DOING SPORTS A DIFFERENT WAY

- This sports ministry is a bridge that connects the community together, but most of all to the gospel.
- This sports ministry is a laboratory that reveals our need for a perfect, loving Savior. Sports can help us understand just how broken and sinful we are. God can use sports to redeem us back to Him.
- God cares about sports. He cares about the events on these fields just as much as the church because He loves us and created us. God gave us talents and abilities, like playing baseball or softball.
- Because God gave us the gift of sports, we should play/coach/watch as an act of worship.
- We define competition as striving together for God's glory rather than against others for our own recognition. Competitors are not the bad guys; they play their best to bring out the best in your team, so that players improve.
- We strive to provide developmental leagues balanced with fun, healthy competition. Our leagues include divisions for kids 4-17 years old (varies per sport). You may notice some of our rules are different because we want players to develop skills and experience success at all ages.
- Players will receive equal playing time during each game.
- Coaches are volunteers who go through a vetting process.
- Coaches will integrate the gospel by teaching biblical principals through sports occurrences.

### PARENT INVOLVEMENT

- Consider volunteering to be an Assistant Coach. You don't need basketball or coaching experience. Our teams are coached by volunteers with no kids playing, but can still use some parental help.
- If coaching isn't your thing, help us sell concessions one night.
- You can volunteer for any role at [www.istroumasports.org/volunteer](http://www.istroumasports.org/volunteer).
- RSVP weekly to your coach on the MOJO app.
- Keep score or bring snacks for your team.
- Teach your child the memory verse and discuss the weekly theme/devotion.
- Fans are not allowed to yell at an official, coach their child from the bleachers, or walk on the court.
- Cheer on your children and enjoy the game.

## STAY INFORMED

- Read emails (nstrong@istrouma.org) and visit our website (istroumasports.org/basketball) weekly.
- Follow us on social media @IstroumaSports.

## CAMPUS POLICY

- No alcohol, smoking, profanity, or pets.
- Park in appropriate parking spots (not in grass). Parking is available in front of and behind the Bain Building, but only the front lobby doors will be unlocked.
- Sit in designated spectator seating, at the bleachers. Parents should not step on the court during games, unless coaching.
- Respect our officials; they are part of this ministry too. Don't yell at or complain about these folks giving up their Tuesday nights to help your children.
- Help us maintain a culture of positivity, encouragement, and Christlikeness. Focus on the gifts and opportunities that God has given you this season.

## PRACTICES/GAMES

- All players in this division have the same coach and will practice together. Coaches will determine teams after the first practice.
- Starting March 3, players will practice 30-60 minutes before playing games.
- The focus of this division will be structured pick-up games.

## EQUIPMENT

- We provide reversible jerseys to new players. Returning players are responsible for bringing their jerseys or purchasing a new one.
- We provide basketballs.
- Players need to provide their undershirts, shorts (any color), and water bottles.
- Tennis shoes with light soles are acceptable.

## COMING UP

- The timeline contains all dates and events for this season
- February 28 first practice
- March 3 first game

## STAFF

- |                   |                      |
|-------------------|----------------------|
| • Hector Castro   | volunteer lead coach |
| • Quinton Etienne | volunteer lead coach |
| • Amelia Morgan   | event staff          |
| • Henry Jimenez   | event staff          |
| • Jacob Keith     | event staff          |
| • Josh Mealy      | event staff          |
| • Sara Authement  | event staff          |

