



JUNIOR JAZZ

2026 Jr. Jazz Parent Packet



SARATOGA
SPRINGS
RECREATION

Welcome to the season!

This packet will include information to help you and your child have a successful Jr. Jazz season.

The purpose of Jr. Jazz is to:

- Have fun!
- Make new friends!
- Learn the game of basketball!
- Work on those b-ball skills!
- Learn how to be a team player!
- Learn how to be coached!

As parents, we can help our child accomplish all the above. Being positive, following the Code of Conduct and the Jazz's Good Sports Utah initiative will go a long way for your child this season and for their future relationship with sports.



SARATOGA
SPRINGS
RECREATION

Code of Conduct

Our job as parents, coaches, and Rec staff is to set an example of sportsmanship. Here are some of the big takeaways from the Code of Conduct:

- ✓ Treat all parties involved with dignity and respect.
- ✓ Use appropriate language, tones and volume when communicating.
- ✓ When in doubt, remain silent.
- ✓ Become knowledgeable, understanding and supportive of all established guidelines, rules, policies and procedures applicable to related programming.
- ✓ Recognize/acknowledge Saratoga Springs Recreational programming as a privilege that can be rescinded for violation of this Code of Conduct Policy

Coaches and parents are to “set the example” for good behavior, sportsmanship and professional courtesy.

- You may disagree with an official’s call, do not make your comments personal, angry, or derogatory.
- Insist that your players and fans demonstrate good sportsmanship toward opposing coaches, players, and officials.
- Insist that all of your players shake hands after the game and demonstrate grace in winning and dignity in losing.
- Do not teach, tolerate, or allow taunting of other teams, “trash talking”, or foul language at any point.



SARATOGA
SPRINGS
RECREATION

Coaches/Spectators/Players:

There will be zero tolerance towards any inappropriate or abusive behavior from coaches, spectators, or players towards game officials.

- Any coach, spectator, or player who feels the necessity to:
- Persistently or willfully question or challenge the rulings of the officials
- Berate or abuse officials, players, recreation staff, or parents
- Display conduct which is inappropriate in a youth recreation environment should expect to be removed from the game in question and be required to leave the facility.

This ejection may be issued without warning by the officials, site supervisor or any official representing Saratoga Springs Recreation.



SARATOGA
SPRINGS
RECREATION

GOOD SPORTS UTAH

The Utah Jazz have created the Good Sports Utah initiative to encourage respect, leadership, kindness, sportsmanship and positivity. This program was previously known as “Lead Together”.

At each game, each coach will be given a Good Sports Utah card. They are to give it to someone associated with the opposing team that they felt showed one or all of these qualities.

If you or your player receives a card, RSVP to the Good Sports Utah Celebration! (details on the back of the card) and **way to go!!**



SARATOGA
SPRINGS
RECREATION

Team Sideline

Team Sideline is a great resource and has many available tools. The Team Site can be accessed by going to SaratogaSpringsRec.com. You can subscribe to Team calendars and have the scheduled practices/games pushed right to your calendar. Another awesome feature is inviting your friends and family to subscribe. They will receive alerts for upcoming games- no more trying to remember to send schedules!

We highly recommend downloading the app!

The app is a quicker way to access team sites and schedules right from your phone.

In the app you can also communicate with your team using the chat feature, view announcements sent by your coach, view the players' names on your team, and notify your coach if you will be attending practices/games.

The app is called TeamSideline.



Team Sideline will send reminders and push notifications; make sure you're subscribed to receive these alerts! 100% of program communication will come through Team Sideline. Text messages can also be sent through the app, but all parents need to enable receiving those first. Follow this link for instructions on how to enable that:

[How do I enable receiving text messages in Team Sideline?](#)

If you'd like more instruction, here are some links!

[How to subscribe to your Team Site's Calendar using the Team Site App:](#)

[How do I add family and friends?](#)

[What does the red flag mean next to an email address?](#)



SARATOGA
SPRINGS
RECREATION

Jerseys

Your coach should have your child's jersey for you at your first practice/game if they haven't given you yours already. The home team on the schedule will wear the white side of the jersey and the away team on the schedule will wear the purple side of the jersey.

Each coach is given a variety of sizes. They are supposed to match up the jerseys the best they can for the players on the team. If you receive a jersey that is way too big or way too small, we do have extra jerseys at our office. You are welcome to come by to switch your jersey out for a different size.

We are currently located at 213 N 900 E but are scheduled to move to City Hall (319 S. Saratoga Rd) mid- January. Our normal office hours are 9 AM to 5 PM Monday through Friday.

Home



Away



SARATOGA
SPRINGS
RECREATION

Practices/Games

Practices for K-2nd grade divisions are the first 15 minutes of the scheduled game time. Ex. If the scheduled game time is 9:00am, your practice is from 9:00am-9:15am, with the game beginning at 9:15am.

Practices for 5th-8th grade are scheduled through the Rec department at local schools. Coaches will select a one-hour, once-a-week practice day and time for the duration of the season.

The Rec department does not schedule practice times for 9th-12th grade teams.

Coaches/teams may hold additional practices by their own arrangements.

It is best if the player is dropped off for practice and parents/siblings do not stay.

Out of respect for our volunteer coaches, please be punctual for pick-up.

Alpine School District has set the following rules for our use of the schools:

- No unsupervised children are allowed to run through the halls of the schools or on the stage at the elementary schools.
- Do not dribble any basketballs in the hallways.
- Respect any decorations or equipment the schools have.
- Please show respect to the site supervisors, custodians, and officials that will be enforcing these rules.

Please follow any other school rules. Failure to do so could lead to the schools not renting to us anymore which would make it so we can't run this program. Thank you for your cooperation!



SARATOGA
SPRINGS
RECREATION

Kindergarten- 2nd Grade division rules

This age group is part of "Instructional Jr Jazz". Instruction is a huge part of this division, the official assigned will be "officiating", as well as instructing.

Baskets are 8' high

27.5" basketballs are used

There are no:

- Forfeits
- Free throws
- Steals
- Full court defense
- Full court pressing
- Zone defenses
- Double teaming

Blocking an airborne shot is allowed and intercepting a pass is allowed.

All fouls (shooting included) will result in an in-bounds play

Wristbands will be used to help with man-to-man defense

Four 8-minute quarters, game begins with home team in bounding at half court

- Halftime is 3 minutes
- Clock runs the entire game

More details on league rules can be found [here](#).



SARATOGA
SPRINGS
RECREATION

“Do Over Approach”

Officials are there to keep order to the game, as well as help the players learn the rules of the game.

With the “Do-Over Approach” the ball is not turned over for a violation, it is a learning opportunity.

Officials will be reminding players to:

- Dribble!
- Not reach in for the ball
- Guard their color wristband
- Avoid double teaming
- Avoid defense in the backcourt
- Avoid fouling

The official will talk to the players and remind them to do (or not do) certain things. If they continue to commit the violation, the official will blow their whistle, explain the violation, reset, and inbound.

If you have concerns with an official, player, or coach, please find the Site Supervisor.



SARATOGA
SPRINGS
RECREATION

5rd-6th Grade division rules

10' baskets

28.5" basketballs for 5th/6th grade girls and 5th grade boys

29.5" basketballs are used for 6th grade boys

- Two 20 minute halves
- Clock stops during last two minutes of each half only
 - If a team is leading by 15 or more points in the second half, the clock will not stop during the last two minutes
- Three minute halftime
- Two 1 minute timeouts per half (do not carry over)
- Overtime is three minutes
 - Clock only stops during last minute
 - One time out is given (no carryover)
 - Begins with jump ball
 - No double OT, game will end in a tie
 - Team fouls still count
- No forfeits

High school basketball rules apply with these modifications:

- Score is kept
 - No official standings or postseason tournament
- Man to Man and Zone defenses are allowed
- Fouls will be called and counted
- Free throws
- Full court press may be played in the last two minutes of the game only
 - If a team is 15 or more points ahead they cannot press, the other team may
 - If the point differential drops under 15 points, pressing is allowed during the last two minutes of the game
- Coaches must play all of their players at least half of the game

5th grade players are transitioning out of the "do-over" approach of the 4th grade division. The goal of this division is to start enforcing rules and therefore violations and fouls will be called and "count", score is kept, but no post-season play for this division.

More details on league rules can be found [here](#).



SARATOGA
SPRINGS
RECREATION

7th-8th Grade division rules

10' baskets

28.5" basketballs for girl's divisions/ 29.5" basketballs for boy's divisions

- Two 20 minute halves
- Clock stops during last two minutes of each half only
 - If a team is leading by 15 or more points in the second half, the clock will not stop during the last two minutes
- Three minute halftime
- Two 1 minute timeouts per half (do not carry over)
- Overtime is three minutes
 - Clock only stops during last minute
 - One time out is given (no carryover)
 - Begins with jump ball
 - No double OT, game will end in a tie
 - Team fouls still count
- No forfeits

High school basketball rules apply with these modifications:

- Score is kept
 - Single elimination post-season tournament
- Man to Man and Zone defenses are allowed
- Fouls will be called and counted
- Free throws
- Full court press is allowed at any time
 - If a team is 15 or more points ahead they cannot press, the other team may
- Coaches must play all of their players at least half of the game
- Any player hanging on the rims before, during or after the game will be suspended for one game

More details on league rules can be found [here](#).



SARATOGA
SPRINGS
RECREATION

9th-12th Grade division rules

10' baskets

28.5" basketballs for girl's divisions/29.5" basketballs for boy's divisions

- Two 20 minute halves
- Clock stops during last two minutes of each half only
 - If a team is leading by 15 or more points in the second half, the clock will not stop during the last two minutes
- Three minute halftime
- Two 1 minute timeouts per half (do not carry over)
- Overtime is three minutes
 - Clock only stops during last minute
 - One time out is given (no carryover)
 - Begins with jump ball
 - No double OT, game will end in a tie
 - Team fouls still count
- Forfeits will count as a loss on team's record

High school basketball rules apply with these modifications:

- Score is kept
 - Single elimination post-season tournament
- Man to Man and Zone defenses are allowed
- Fouls will be called and counted
- Free throws
- Full court press is allowed at any time
 - If a team is 15 or more points ahead they cannot press, the other team may
- Players do not need to play 50% of the time
- Any player hanging on the rims before, during or after the game will be suspended for one game

More details on league rules can be found [here](#).



SARATOGA
SPRINGS
RECREATION

Free Utah Jazz Ticket!

Part of the fun of the Jr. Jazz program is getting a ticket to attend a Utah Jazz game!

Each participant will receive one complimentary ticket, Coaches will receive three additional tickets as a thank you!

Voucher codes will be emailed to you once we receive them from the Jazz. You will then be able to go to: <https://jazzyouth.com/junior-jazz/voucher-redemption/> to redeem your code for a free ticket.

When you redeem your code(s) you will also have the option to purchase additional tickets.

Game date to be announced!

Tip-Off Parties/Jazz Swag/JazzYouth.com

All participants are invited to the Jazz Tip-Off parties! You'll receive more information later in the season.

Participants will also receive a Jazz poster and a Jazz player card associated with their jersey number.

Coaches and parents also have access to the skills/drills info at jazzyouth.com. You'll also find information on camps/clinics and everything Jr. Jazz!



**SARATOGA
SPRINGS**
RECREATION

Exclusive Jr. Jazz Merch Store

Check out Junior Jazz Merchandise! Deck out your uniform with shorts! Be sure to check out Junior Jazz exclusive t-shirts and sweatshirts for the whole family!



A percentage of proceeds from all Junior Jazz purchases will go back to your Junior Jazz program! Make sure to select your program to enter the Junior Jazz Merchandise page! This offer is exclusive to Junior Jazz participants and is only available online. Items will be shipped directly to you!

<https://jazzyouthmerch.voxmg.com/>



SARATOGA
SPRINGS
RECREATION

Picture Day

There will be different picture days throughout the season. Teams are assigned a picture time during the season. The assigned times are usually before or after one of your games. Pictures are not required, but if your team decides to take a team pic, please have your child there so the entire team can be in the picture.

Click [HERE](#) to see the picture schedule for the season.

If the assigned picture date does not work for your team, it's fine to go to any other picture day. You do not need to reschedule anything with us or the picture company, just show up whenever works best! Check with your coach and team to see when they plan on doing team pictures.

7th grade and up divisions do not have an assigned time, these older divisions are welcome to come to any picture time if they'd like pics!



SARATOGA
SPRINGS
RECREATION

Lastly, the Jr. Jazz program could not run without our volunteer coaches and the use of school gyms.

Please help coaches out as needed, this could be covering a practice or a game if they ask, or volunteering to coordinate treat sign up. They attend a coach's meeting, coordinate practice times, have a background check done, take a Coach Certification training, pick up jerseys... all before the season starts. It's a lot of time and dedication and they do it because they ENJOY it! 😊

When at the schools, please be respectful of the space. Siblings should not be on the school's stage or playing with any of the school's equipment. The stage is the school's #1 concern when the Rec department asks to use the gyms for Jr. Jazz. Site Supervisors will remind parents and kids to stay off of the stages.

If there is a spill or a mess made, please let the Site Supervisor know so we can get that resolved.

If there is a concern that can be resolved on site, please talk to the Site Supervisor.

If there is a concern that cannot be resolved on site, please contact the Recreation Department. Given a head's up, we can usually correct the problem before the next game. Don't wait until the end of the season to let the department know of issues that occurred.

The Recreation Department's goal is provide mentally, physically, and emotionally safe programs for our citizens. It's an added bonus when the programs create a love for the game for our participants.

Thank you, have a great season, and GO JAZZ!



SARATOGA
SPRINGS
RECREATION