



AAU Basketball Club & Travel Team Overview

- **Mission Statement:** Our mission is to teach young athletes to play basketball at a highly competitive level. We are committed to giving every player a firm foundation in the many individual skills required to be an elite player. Equally important, our coaches teach their players to use these skills effectively as a team. We support our coaches and parents in the development of important lifelong core values of teamwork, sportsmanship, leadership, personal discipline, time management, honesty, respect and most importantly, pursuing excellence with a moral base directing each player to be closer to Jesus.
- **Silverbackz Basketball AAU Teams:** SBA Teams are made up of teams that will train and compete in the highest AAU competitive level. SBA supports teams in each grade listed: 4th/5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th/10th, and 11th/12th Boys. We also have girl team's 6th-7th, and Highschool. **WE ARE ONLY KEEPING OR SELECTING 10-11 PLAYERS ONLY!**
- **SBA Travel Teams:** Our 9th – 12th grade will compete in Prep Hoops Circuit and all grades below will compete in AAU Circuit in Georgia, Florida, Valley Sports Plex and Tuskegee (Revamped structure of Tuskegee)
- **Team Selection:** Coaches of SBA will hand pick each team during Rec. Basketball Season and School ball by attending games during the week/weekend. We also rely on you to suggest any talent you may know of and let SBA staff know via text: (334) 275-2548 or email: info@thesilverbackz.com.
- **Documentation:** All required documents must be completed and turned into our administrative office before any player will be eligible for practice and games. (*Waivers, birth certificate, registration, fundraiser agreement, and fee.*)
- **Training Facility:** Most of our training/practice sessions will be held at Frank Brown, Boykin, and MaxFitness Gym. Practice Days and Times will be posted on www.thesilverbackz.com.
- **Practice/Commitment:** SBA players will be required to practice as a team a minimum of one day per week. Participation on an SBA AAU club team demands a big-time commitment from coaches, players and their families. Our AAU program is a higher level, "travel" team program, and parents and athletes must really be careful not to be overcommitted to multiple teams, leagues, etc. We expect for each athlete to understand that family, church, and school-related events will get the priority, and we request that such events be communicated to the coaches in advance.



AAU Basketball Club Overview Continued

- **Club Games:** Selected SBA teams will be scheduled for various AAU tournaments throughout the year. Tournaments will be scheduled on varying weekends. Most games will be in the Georgia area for 8th grade and down teams; for our 9th and up, will be in Tennessee, Georgia, and Florida area. When teams advance in state or national tournaments, games can be scheduled out of our region or state.
- **Playing time:** SBA policy states that fees go towards facility, coaching, administration and training. NOT GAME PLAYING TIME. SBA Team motto: ***"We pay to practice and work hard to play"***
- **Parent Involvement:** Parents have a significant role to play in the SBA Basketball organization. We encourage open communication between parents and coaches to help ensure that concerns about their child are appropriately addressed. Parents make a vital contribution to maintaining and improving our organization. SBA will not tolerate any parent attacking integrity of our coaches or staff!! Any communication or complaint will go through our Staff by sending a message to info@thesilverbackz.com or **SBA Director of Communication (706) 518-7583 TaTanisha Thomas**.
- **Parent Expectations:** Encourage, enjoy, connect, and allow growth.
- **Coaches:** SBA coaching staff are former basketball players, D1 players, and certified trainers. We are proud to have some of the best coaches in the area. All our coaches adhere to our ***"More than A Coach"*** philosophy. Challenging them to honor and respect God first and to develop our SBA players in the same way. Anyone wanting to help coach please contact: **Coach Thomas (334) 275-2548**.
- **Grades/Homework:** All SBA Basketball players must maintain a C average and put all homework or class project before basketball. Homework can be done in the gym during practice if necessary. SBA supports and promotes high academic achievement.
- **Community Involvement:** All players will participate in outreach events per team **(mandatory activities as a team)**. Our outreach program is DSAA Foundation and will do several outreach events. Any suggestions from parents are highly recommended.
- **What SBA Basketball Can Do for Young Athletes:** Girls and boys who play basketball at this elite level will improve their own skill level through coaching, practices, and competition. Players who develop their ability through the SBA aim to become the leading players on their middle school, high school teams, and beyond. Through our program, we intend to develop basketball skills, but also individual character, morals, and physical and mental fitness and seek college scholarships.

SBA Basketball Club Financial Responsibility



- **SBA Fee:** Fee to play is \$475 per player. The fee is divided into 3 payments: First payment will be **\$275** is due on **February 10th** and second payment of **\$200** due on **March 10th**. Every player/family must be current on their fees to play in the games or participate in practice. We highly encourage dialogue, and all financial issues must be communicated to SBA office. Without payment or communication with SBA officials it will result in a player's removal from the team activities.

PAYMENT METHODS:

CASHAPP: \$SILVERBACKATHLETICS
PAYPAL: PAY.PAL.ME/THE SILVERBACKZ
VENMO: @THE DISTRICTS SILVERBACKZ

- **SBA Fee Breakdown:** Purchasing uniforms is mandatory for every player. Uniforms are \$275 per uniform pack (includes: Reversible, shooter shirt, bag, jacket), AAU Office fee/insurance \$35, gym rental and practice equipment \$65, and Tournaments fee \$100.
- **Mandatory Fundraiser:** We will do our annual **GOURMET POPCORN STORE fundraiser** on March 14th – March 18th. Every player must participate and the top salesperson from each team will receive \$50!! The funds go to support scholarships, coach apparel and assistance, and Circuit fees etc. Players will raise funds virtually with our Pop-Up Store® technology—the easiest way to fundraise for teams, school groups and other causes that benefit America's youth. Sell small batch, premium popcorn and keep 50% of every dollar you sell, with no minimums or fees. Please read and follow the instructions:

Program: Double Good Gourmet Popcorn Store

Start Date: March 14th

End Date: March 18th

How to create a store and start:

Contact Person: Latoya Thomas (334) 275-8948

**WE WILL GIVE INSTRUCTIONS ON HOW TO
 DOWNLOAD APP AND SET UP YOUR POPCORN
 FUNDRAISER STORE CLOSER TO DATE.**

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