



YOUTH PROGRAMS

	GRADES	SIGN UP	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
YMCA KINDERDUCKS	PK-1	1 MO PRIOR		JAN-MAR	APR-JUN						SEP-OCT		NOV-JAN	
MAPSO SUMMER SLAM CAMP	K-8	FEB							JUL					
YMCA BUDDY BALL	K-12	1 MO PRIOR		JAN-MAR	APR-JUN						SEP-OCT		NOV-JAN	
SOMA HOOPS	1-12	SEP	DEC-MAR											
YMCA IN-HOUSE DEVELOPMENT LEAGUE	1-8	1 MO PRIOR		JAN-MAR	APR-JUN						SEP-OCT		NOV-JAN	
SO REC SKILLS DEVELOPMENT	1-8	1 MO PRIOR			MAR-APR	MAY-JUN					SEP-OCT		NOV-DEC	
SOMA BB/CHS: SUNDAY SKILLS	1-8	NONE	JAN-FEB											
YMCA FUNDAMENTAL SKILLS ACADEMY	1-8	1 MO PRIOR		JAN-MAR	APR-JUN						SEP-OCT		NOV-JAN	
YMCA SUMMER CAMP	2-6	DEC						JUN-AUG						
CELTICS BASKETBALL CAMP	2-7	FEB						JUN-JUL						
MAPSO DEHART PARK LEAGUE	3-8	AUG								AUG-OCT				
MAPSO MADNESS	3-8	FEB			APR-MAY									
MAPSO WINTER TRAVEL	3-8	OCT	OCT-MAR											
MAPSO SPRING TRAVEL	3-8	FEB			MAR-JUN									
YMCA DUCKS TRAVEL TEAM	3-8	SEP	NOV-MAR											
SHU SHAHEEN HOLLOWAY CAMP	3-9	FEB						JUN	JUL					
SO REC MID-WEEK CLINICS	5-8	DEC	JAN-FEB											
YOUTHNET: MMS AFTER SCHOOL CLUB	6-8	1 MO PRIOR	JAN-FEB									OCT-NOV		
SO REC BASKETBALL LEAGUE	7-8	MAR			APR-JUN									
CHS BOYS BASKETBALL	9-12	SEP	NOV-MAR											
CHS GIRLS BASKETBALL	9-12	SEP	NOV-MAR											

2026-2027 GUIDE TO BASKETBALL IN MAPLEWOOD & SOUTH ORANGE

MAPLEWOOD RECREATION

<https://maplewood.recdesk.com/Community/Program>
Contact: mholloway@maplewoodnj.gov

MapSo Summer Slam Basketball Camp

GRADES K-8 | COED | ALL SKILL LEVELS | MEMORIAL PARK

Weekly outdoor camp will focus on a range of basketball skills in a fun camp environment. Campers be divided by age/ability for daily drills, games and scrimmages.

MapSo Dehart Park League

GRADES 3-8 | GIRLS/BOYS | ALL SKILL LEVELS | DEHART PARK

This recreational league helps players gain in-game experience for beginners and those looking to improve. Practices are once a week and outdoor games are held Saturday mornings.

MapSo Madness

GRADES 3-8 | COED | ALL SKILL LEVELS | DEHART PARK

Twice-weekly skills clinic that focuses on fundamental, dribbling, shooting, and defense through high-energy drills. Held outdoors and open to all levels, this is a great complement to spring sports for players who want to keep improving their game or are practicing the basics.

MapSo Winter Travel Teams

GRADES 3-8 | GIRLS/BOYS | INT/ADV LEVEL | MMS GYM

This intermediate to advanced travel program for 3rd–8th grade offers competitive play in the Jersey Basketball League (JBL). The program emphasizes skill development, offensive playmaking, tough defense, and game strategy. Players are selected by tryout, with beginner-level players in younger grades encouraged to participate. Teams practice 1–2x/week, with away games typically 20 min to 1 hour of travel required.

MapSo Spring Travel

GRADES 3-8 | GIRLS; BOYS | ALL SKILL LEVELS | MMS GYM

Mirroring winter travel (description above), this program offers players the opportunity to compete on a spring team. Schedules vary by team and may include 1–2 weekly practices, weekend tournaments, and/or weekday league games.

SAINT JOSEPHS CYO: CELTICS ATHLETICS

<https://www.stjosephscyo.org/summer-camps/>
Contact: celticsbasketballcamp@gmail.com

Celtics Basketball Camp

GRADES 2-7 | COED | ALL SKILL LEVELS | OLS GYM

A 5-week summer camp with goal to give each camper the opportunity to improve his/her skills through drills concentrating on basketball fundamentals as well as contests and game competition.

SOUTH MOUNTAIN YMCA

<https://metroymcas.org/basketball-sm-y>
Contact: kreynolds@metroymcas.org

Kinderducks

GRADES PK-1 | GIRLS/BOYS | BEG LEVEL | YMCA GYM

Introduces young players to basketball through age-appropriate drills, games, and guided play focused on fundamentals, coordination, confidence, and fun.

Buddy Basketball

GRADES K-12 | COED | BEG LEVEL | YMCA GYM

An inclusive program for neurodiverse athletes. Players are supported by volunteer buddies through adapted instruction and activities in a welcoming environment. Contact: njosey@metroymcas.org.

In-House Development League

GRADES 1-8 | GIRLS/BOYS | INT/ADV LEVEL | YMCA & ST JOSEPH'S GYM

Combines weekly practices and organized games to develop individual skills, team concepts, game understanding, confidence, and sportsmanship. Elite groups are available for players who meet advanced placement criteria and seek a higher level of competition.

Fundamental Skills Academy

GRADES 1-8 | GIRLS/BOYS | BEG/INT LEVEL | YMCA GYM

Builds a strong basketball foundation through structured instruction in dribbling, passing, shooting, footwork, defense, teamwork, and game understanding.

Summer Basketball Camp

<https://maplewoodymcacamp.org/basketballcamp>

GRADES 2-6 | COED | ALL SKILL LEVELS | ST. JOSEPHS GYM

A full-day basketball experience featuring skill development, competitions, games, and live gameplay in a fun, high-energy environment for players of all skill levels. After care is available.

Ducks Travel Teams

GRADE 3-8 | GIRLS/BOYS | INT/ADV LEVEL | ST JOSEPHS GYM

Competitive teams for experienced players featuring structured practices and games against outside competition. Players develop individual skills, team concepts, and game understanding while preparing for higher levels of basketball. Evaluation required.

SETON HALL UNIVERSITY

<https://shaheenhollowaybasketball.totalcamps.com>
Contact: SHollowayCamps@gmail.com

Shaheen Holloway Basketball Camp

GRADES 1-9 | GIRLS/BOYS | ALL SKILL LEVELS | SETON HALL UNIV

Seton Hall University summer camp headed by Men's Basketball Head Coach Shaheen Holloway. Campers will receive over 25 hours of training by Coach Holloway and his staff.

2026-2027 GUIDE TO BASKETBALL IN MAPLEWOOD & SOUTH ORANGE

SOUTH ORANGE RECREATION

<https://www.southorange.org/280/Programs-and-Activities>
Contact: recreation@southorange.org or (973) 378-7754

Skills Development (Early Fall to Late Spring)

GRADES 1-8 | GIRLS/BOYS | BEG/INT LEVEL | THE BAIRD

Program designed for players who are interested in improving their basketball skills. Session work will include ball handling, shooting, defensive fundamentals and athletic development.

SOMA Hoops

GRADES 1-12 | GIRLS/BOYS | ALL SKILL LEVELS | SOMS GYM / BAIRD

Led by parent volunteers and coaches, and officiated by local high school & college student referees, program blends activities which teach skills with true game play. One day/week program mandates equal & even play and welcomes players at all levels.

Mid-Week Clinics

GRADES 5-8 | GIRLS/BOYS | ALL SKILL LEVELS | SOMS GYM

Clinics with a strong focus on fundamentals, skill progression, and applying those skills in game-like situations to complement team practices and help players of all levels continue to grow.

Basketball League

GRADES 7-8 | COED | INT/ADV LEVEL | THE BAIRD

Led by South Orange Recreation staff, and officiated by local high school & college student referees, this in-town spring league provides competitive game play for intermediate to advanced players.

SOMA BASKETBALL

<https://www.somabasketball.org>
Contact: somabasketballboosters@gmail.com

Sunday Skills With CHS

GRADES 1-8 | COED | ALL SKILL LEVELS | SOMS GYM

A free, drop-in experience led by CHS boys and girls basketball players that is 100% focused on ball handling and agility. Sunday mornings in January/February organized by SOMA Basketball Boosters.

YOUTHNET AT MMS

<https://sodayouthnet.org/>

MMS After School Club

GRADES 6-8 | COED | ALL SKILL LEVELS | MMS GYM

Winter and Spring After-school Club that combines practices, conditioning, drills and 5v5 games.

COLUMBIA HIGH SCHOOL

<https://columbia.somsk12.org/athletics>

Columbia Cougars (Girls)

GRADES 9-12 | GIRLS | FRESHMAN/JV/VARSITY | CHS GYM

Contact: abreitma@somsk12.nj.us

Built on a foundation of hard work, respect, and accountability, we prioritize the development of fundamental skills and basketball-specific techniques, focusing on a comprehensive understanding of team concepts from the ground up.

Columbia Cougars (Boys)

GRADES 9-12 | BOYS | FRESHMAN/JV/VARSITY | CHS GYM

Contact: teachertwhit@gmail.com

Rooted in commitment, competition, and accountability, we prioritize the development of fundamental skills in order to effectively teach our team concepts.

ADULT BASKETBALL

MapSo Adult Open Gym

<https://maplewood.recdesk.com/Community/Program/>
Contact: mholloway@maplewoodnj.gov

ADULT 30+ | COED | SUNDAYS | FEB-MAY | MMS GYM

Sessions will feature structured 5-on-5 games with organized play. This is a unisex program open to all MAPSO residents aged 30+.

SO Rec Adult Basketball

<https://southorange.org/280/Programs-and-Activities>
Contact: recreation@southorange.org

SO Rec Women's Pick-Up Basketball

ADULT 30+ | WOMEN | YEAR ROUND | THE BAIRD

An open gym/pickup style basketball program. Each week will start with warm-up drills to get everyone moving and then move into 5v5 pickup style games. Everyone is welcome but basketball knowledge/experience is needed, even if it is from many years ago.

SO Rec Adult Pick-Up Basketball (Drop-In Option)

ADULT 30+/35+ | COED | YEAR ROUND | SOMS GYM & BAIRD

Equal parts basketball, social connection and excuse to get out of the house, this program runs throughout the year.

FREE BASKETBALL

SOMA Basketball Boosters mission is to ensure every youth within the SOMA community has access to the game of basketball.

If you are in need of financial assistance related to program fees, equipment and/or transportation, learn more and apply at <https://www.somabasketball.org/free-basketball>.

[somabasketball.org/free-basketball](https://www.somabasketball.org/free-basketball)

VOLUNTEER/PAID OPPORTUNITIES

SOMA Community Members age 13+ can join SOMA Basketball Boosters on our mission of Building a Better Community Through Basketball. We have a myriad of roles in the areas of coaching, score-keeping, mentoring, refereeing, PR & Communications, events, fundraising, community service programs, and much more. Check out all the opportunities in our online form or reach out to us directly at somabasketballboosters@gmail.com.

[somabasketball.org/join-us](https://www.somabasketball.org/join-us)

2026-2027 BASKETBALL EVENTS IN MAPLEWOOD & SOUTH ORANGE

NOV **South Orange Elks Lodge: Elks Hoop Shoot**
GRADES 3-7 | BOYS; GIRLS | ST JOSEPH'S GYM | FREE
A free throw contest for boys and girls ages 8–13, with six divisions. Winners can advance from local, regional and national levels.
<https://www.southorangeelks.com/>

DEC **SOMA Basketball: Seton Hall Youth Spirit Night**
ALL AGES | SETON HALL UNIVERSITY GYM
A special night for players and families with Seton Hall Women's Basketball—our community comes out to cheer the Pirates to victory. Discounted tickets for local players. Subscribe for event info at <https://somabasketball.org>

JAN **Knights of Columbus: Annual Free Throw Contest**
GRADES 2-10 | BOYS; GIRLS | OLS GYM | FREE
Contact: council4066@gmail.com
Hosted by Regina Pacis Council No. 4066. Local winners can progress through district, and jurisdictional competitions.

JAN **SOMA Basketball/CHS Girls Youth Spirit Night**
FEB **SOMA Basketball/CHS Boys Youth Spirit Night**
ALL AGES | CHS GYM | FREE FOR LOCAL PLAYERS
Special nights for players and families with CHS Girls and Boys Basketball, where our community comes out to cheer the Cougars to victory.
Subscribe for event info at <https://somabasketball.org>

SPRING **YouthNet: Open Gym with MPD/SOPD**
GRADES 9-12 | CHS GYM | FREE
Athletics and activities with officers and staff from both the MPD and SOPD as well as programming relevant to the CHS teen community.
<https://sodayouthnet.org/>

SPRING **South Mountain YMCA: Shoot-A-Thon**
GRADES K-12 | GIRLS; BOYS | SM YMCA | FUNDRAISER
Annual Shoot-a-Thon where athletes show off their shooting skills while raising funds for the YMCA. Pledges are collected per basket made, supporting program scholarships in a fun, community-focused event.
<https://metroymcas.org/basketball-sm>

APR **Elementary School PTAs: SOMA Swish**
ALL AGES | CHS GYM | FUNDRAISER
Teams of SOMSD elementary school teachers and staff take to the court to play basketball—Clinton vs. South Mountain, Bolden vs. Tuscan, and Marshall vs. Seth Boyden. All funds raised benefit all SOMSD Elementary Schools.
Contact: ashley.donahue@clintonelementary.org

This brochure is provided by SOMA Basketball Boosters.

SOMA Basketball Boosters is a 501(c)(3) organization with the mission of Building a Better Community Through Basketball by ensuring access to all. We seek to contribute to the fabric and beauty of our two towns, and enhance the impact of our local basketball programs—including those organized by South Orange Recreation, Maplewood Recreation, SOMSD Schools & Supporting Groups, The South Mountain YMCA and any other organizations hosting programs open to all residents in our two towns. We aim to ensure access and resources for all who seek to participate in basketball—regardless of level. We do this by offering financial support in the form of donations, grants and scholarships—and by organizing community based service, events and programs—for SOMA athletes of all ages.

Visit [somabasketball.org](https://www.somabasketball.org) or email somabasketballboosters@gmail.com to join us on our journey, get involved, and learn more.