

# REASONS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE USSSA NATIONAL BASKETBALL PROGRAM

United States Specialty Sports Association (USSSA) is the largest multi-sport association in the nation with over 4.4 million participants and the fastest growing youth basketball association in the country. The United States Specialty Sports Association (USSSA) is a national organization with a purpose to organize and promote youth basketball and to perpetuate the interest and love of the game. USSSA provides an opportunity for teams to compete in tournament competition that leads to area, state and national championships in their respective competitive classes in all grade/age groups.

## **The key benefits to participate in the USSSA program are as follows:**

1. The youth basketball program is a grade based program with age limitations
2. The program is the first to offer separate classes within each age group; Division I which are Elite Teams; Division II, which are competitive teams and Division III which are recreational or developmental teams.
3. Area, State and National tournaments are held in all divisions.
4. Season Long Qualifying – Any USSSA sanctioned tournament can qualify teams for state and national tournament play no matter what time of the year it is held. In certain events teams will qualify directly for national play. This makes it very hard for any team to be left out because of a bad weekend or a difficult schedule.
5. The USSSA *Team Ranking System* has become the goal of thousands of players, coaches, and parents. It provides ranking on a state and national basis and is based entirely on the participation supported by documentation in USSSA sanctioned events. This ranking system is web based and is open to all registered USSSA teams. Each team can develop its own website with the USSSA national website. A power point tutorial is available.
6. Fees to participate are minimal. Team registration is \$25. There is no requirement to purchase team insurance to participate in a USSSA sanctioned event. If you chose to purchase team insurance (secondary medical) it is \$89 annually for the entire team. Coverage is from August 1<sup>st</sup> through July 31<sup>st</sup>.
7. The USSSA National Committee is comprised of basketball purists, not bureaucrats, who have developed a nationwide network of event operators with similar goals and objectives.

8. USSSA gives your organization access to its extensive nationwide mailing list of registered teams and email addresses.

9. Your involvement with USSSA gives your area players and teams a chance to advance to other USSSA partnered events as well as other players and teams can advance to your event through sharing of tournament information on the USSSA website.

10. As a tournament operator your tourney is no longer a stand-alone event. It will be associated with a nationally-recognized organization that will share tournament information nationally through its network.

To learn more about the USSSA, you can visit the National USSSA Basketball website ([click here](#)).