



**CONTACT:**

[fellowshipbaptist@hotmail.com](mailto:fellowshipbaptist@hotmail.com) or  
[tonnabill@yahoo.com](mailto:tonnabill@yahoo.com) (Tona Osko – Upwards Director)

**FACEBOOK:**

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/FBC-Upward-Sports/230099623828355>

## FACT SHEET

*“Using the universal language of sports, Upward Sports connects with children during a critical time in their lives to teach skills for the sports arena and values for life.” —Caz McCaslin, Founder and President*

### WHAT?

This year, nearly **550,000 children** in **48 U.S. states** and **Canada** will enjoy a fun sports experience based on healthy competition through Upward Sports, the **world’s largest Christian-based kids sports league**. With four sports programs—basketball, flag football, soccer and cheerleading—Upward Sports provides families with a family-friendly alternative to “win-at-all-costs” leagues.

### WHO?

Each year some **one million people** around the world play, coach, referee or volunteer in Upward Sports Leagues hosted by more than **2,400 churches**. Anyone—children of any faith or no faith—can participate in Upward Sports. Designed for **K5 – sixth-grade kids**, Upward Sports provides a fun, family-friendly place for kids to play fun sports.

### HOW?

Upward Sports Leagues equip churches to connect with families in their own community through universal language of sports. By providing churches with turnkey league support, Upward Sports equips them to turn an available field or gym into a positive sports experience for the community. From leadership training conferences that train churches on how to deliver a first-class sports experience to quality game uniforms that make each player look like a pro, Upward Sports provides everything churches need to host a league. Upward Sports also provides more than a game-day experience, helping young athletes grow athletically and spiritually through a players-only, interactive website that includes games, skill-and-drill videos and discussion about the week’s Bible verse.

### WHEN?

With more than 2,400 churches now offering Upward Sports Leagues and Camps, many options are available year round to fit your family’s busy schedule. Upward Sports’ fun and family-friendly leagues limit the time commitment to one practice and one game per week—avoiding player and parent burnout.

### WHY?

Research indicates that children’s moral foundations are generally in place by the time they reach age nine (Barna, 2003). Using the universal language of sports, Upward Sports’ Coaches and Volunteers connect with families during the formative years in a child’s life to develop values, athletic skills and a life-long love of the game.

### UPWARD SPORTS:

Founded in 1995 by Caz McCaslin, Upward Sports is the world’s largest Christian-based **kids sports league**. The first-class sports program—which includes basketball, flag football, soccer and cheerleading—provides a fun sports experience based on healthy competition for kids, teaching skills for the sports arena and values for life. Today, nearly 550,000 children in 48 U.S. states and Canada participate in Upward Sports Leagues and Camps hosted by 2,400 churches.

#### Quick Facts

- **World’s largest** Christian-based kids sports league. More than 1 million people involved this year
- **Sports:** Basketball, cheerleading, flag football and soccer
- **Kids:** Nearly 550,000 children will participate in an Upward Sports League or Camp this year, 4 million since 1995
- **Volunteers:** More than half a million coaches, referees and other volunteers each year
- **Churches:** More than 2,400 worldwide, representing over 40 denominations
- **Where:** 48 U.S. states and Canada
- **Headquarters:** Spartanburg, S.C.
- **Website:** [Upward.org](http://Upward.org)