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HISTORICAL HIGHLIGHTS

Upward Sports: The World's Largest Christian Sports League for Kids

- 1986 Developed a basketball program that incorporated athletic skills *and* values for success on and off the court—including sportsmanship, teamwork, integrity and respect for authority
- 1994 Basketball league outgrew even the renovated church gym's capacity and a waiting list was created
- 1995 Launched first nationwide season of Upward Sports when seven churches hosted Upward Basketball Leagues with several hundred players
- 2000 Expanded to include soccer and basketball cheerleading
- 2003 The 1,000th church hosted an Upward Sports League
- 2005 Added flag football and flag football cheerleading
- 2006 More than 400,000 children participated in Upward Sports for the first time. Launched the first Upward Sports League in Canada
- 2008 The 2,000th church hosted an Upward Sports League
- 2010 Upward Sports tops a half million coaches, referees and other volunteers for the first time
- 2011 Some 2,400 churches worldwide host Upward Sports Leagues with nearly 550,000 children and a half million volunteers, coaches and referees in 48 U.S. states and Canada