



## INFORMATION PACKET

### Brazil: BASKETBALL 2026

**July 23-August 1, 2026**

Sports Reach is a Christian sports ministry that is based in Kentucky that has for its purpose using sports to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ. This ministry was started in 1986 by Robby Speer and Larry Pursiful, former University of Kentucky basketball star. Since 1986, Sports Reach has ventured into almost 37 countries on 5 continents.

#### **WHO WE ARE LOOKING FOR**

1. We are looking for young men that are followers of Christ that want to grow in their faith. We do realize that each player may be at a different point in their spiritual journey. However, this is the type of trip that is designed to help you get moving in the direction that will help you grow to be all that God has created you to be.
2. We are looking for young men that will be willing to play the game of basketball in the manner that matters. We do play to win and each player will have plenty of opportunity to play. But, with as many games as we play, all of the players do matter. We must come together in a quick fashion to play unselfish, hard, winning basketball.
3. We are looking for young men that want to be challenged by seeing and experiencing a different culture and country. Things will not be like "back home." They are different and therefore provide an opportunity for you to expand who you are.



#### **LEADERSHIP**

Andrew Hammond, Associate Director of Sports Reach will be the team leader along with James Morrison and some of your Stars Basketball Club coaches.

**WHEN:** July 23-August 1, 2026



**WHERE:** Brazil. We will be in various cities across the nation of Brazil. São Paulo, Campinas, Valinhos, Praia Grande, Mongagua, Santos, and Rio de Janeiro.

**WHAT:** We will have an opportunity to play basketball against various teams around the country. We will play 5-6 games. We will also lead some basketball clinics for kids, visit some churches, serve with some missionaries on the ground, and site see around the country.



## PURPOSE

Our stated purpose is a cultural exchange. We will have a chance to see Brazilian culture and what is important to them and be able to share what is important to us. We will be used to open many doors for other ministries as well as have chances to share, verbally and by action, what Jesus means in our lives.

## COST

Asking that each player come up with \$3600. Includes all travel from Nashville, TN. In Brazil, lodging, meals, sightseeing, and apparel, will be provided. Must have your own passport.

- This cost of airfare from Nashville and a few other cities is based on the fee locked in by the deposit that we have already made. Airfare money must be paid by June 1 or there can be an increase in travel cost which will be paid by participants. Players choosing to



fly out of different cities will cover the increase, if there is any. We are working to have other select cities work as hub cities, which will be at the same cost. Players must get to one of these cities at their own expense.

- We will help provide a sample fundraising letter that can be used.

NOTE: Airlines have seats with more leg room that are available for purchase. They run on avg. \$50-250, each flight, for the international portion. That is what we have been told. Could vary. If you are interested in this, please let us know and we will check into this for you. You will be responsible for the extra cost.

## **ITINERARY**

We are working on our flights now to help accommodate the various beginning sights. Most Nashville to Brazil flights leave around mid afternoon to early evening, connect in Houston, Dallas, Dulles, Miami, or Atlanta and arrive in Belo Horizonte between 11am-2pm local time.

**DEADLINES:** Application deadline is June 1, 2025. The total cost of the trip/remaining balance is due by June 24, 2026.

## **BASIC DAILY SCHEDULE IN COUNTRY**

### **PLANNED SCHEDULE FOR TRIP**

7/23 Depart US through Miami, Dallas, Atlanta, or Houston

7/24 Arrive in Sao Paulo, Brazil

7/24-7/31 Play various clubs in and around Sao Paulo, Brazil, attend a local church on Sunday, travel to Praia Grande, Brazil to stay and play. Tour the Neymar Institute in his hometown. Travel to Rio de Janeiro to play and see Copacabana Beach, Sugar Loaf Mountain, and the Christ the Redeemer Statue.

7/31 site see, souvenir shop, and fly home to the US from Rio de Janeiro overnight arriving in the US early in the morning on Saturday 8/1 then connecting on to Nashville and likely arriving between 9am-11am at BNA.





## SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT

Each player on this trip is usually at a different point in their lives spiritually. That is fine, but our goal is for you to be much stronger in your faith and walk with Jesus than when you left. It is important that we demonstrate at all times what it means to live a Christian life. The way that you respond on and off the court says a lot. People do understand what your actions are saying. Our Bible study time is very important. There is strong emphasis put on each player. We want you to have such a great experience on this trip that you will not leave as the same person that began the journey.

## BASKETBALL

This is a trip that will challenge you. Playing a lot of games in a short time will make you push yourself. This is an opportunity for you to just relax and play. Everyone gets plenty of time playing. But you must understand that we do play to win and every game is a different game. It is important to come with the attitude that you are making a quick transition into a team. We are counting on the fact that you are the kind of player that is willing to do whatever it takes to help his team win. You may be called on to do some things that will be outside of your comfort zone, but this will help develop your game.



**IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN GOING, PLEASE COMMUNICATE WITH JAMES MORRISON FROM THE STARS BASKETBALL CLUB**

**JMorrison@starsbasketballclub.com**

**YOU CAN ALSO CONTACT**

**Andrew Hammond at (270)779-3896 or andrew@sportsreach.org**



## SOME FORMER PLAYERS

Here are some of the players that have traveled with Sports Reach.

- Victor Oladipo, Miami Heat, Indiana Univ.\*
- Garrett Temple, Toronto Raptors, LSU\*



- Elford Payton, New Orleans Pelicans, Univ. of Louisiana\*
- Cameron Payne, Philadelphia 76ers, Murray St. \*
- Josh Harrellson, University of Kentucky\*\*
- Peyton Siva, Univ. of Louisville\*\*
- Xavier Silas, played with Philadelphia 76ers, Univ. of No. Illinois
- Joe Alexander, played with Milwaukee Bucks, Univ. of West Virginia
- Derrick Byars, played with Philadelphia 76ers, Vanderbilt
- Shane Foster, drafted by Dallas Mavs, Vanderbilt
- Jordan Hulls, Indiana University
- Jon Hood, Univ. of Kentucky
- Lee Humphrey, Univ. of Florida
- Austin Hollins, Univ. of Minnesota
- Dominique Hawkins, Univ of Kentucky
- Todd Abernethy, Ole Miss
- Demetrius McCamey, Univ. of Illinois
- Ravi Moss, Univ. of Kentucky
- Lance Ware, Univ of Kentucky
- Tolu Smith, WKU/Mississippi St
- Taveion Kinsey, Marshall
- Jelly Walker, UAB
- Micah Handlogten, Marshall/Florida
- Dylan Cardwell, Auburn

#### **SPORTS REACH PLAYER INFORMATION AND APPLICATION FORM FOR TRIP TO BELIZE**

Please email to both James Morrison of the Stars Basketball Club and Andrew Hammond of Sports Reach.

James Morrison: [jmorrison@starsbasketballclub.com](mailto:jmorrison@starsbasketballclub.com)

Andrew Hammond: [andrew@sportsreach.org](mailto:andrew@sportsreach.org)

#### **PERSONAL**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ (School) ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_



CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

HOME ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_

STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

HOME PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ WORK PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

CELL PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

HGT \_\_\_\_\_ WGT \_\_\_\_\_ BIRTHDATE \_\_\_\_\_ WARMUP SIZE \_\_\_\_\_

PANT SIZE \_\_\_\_\_ WAIST SIZE \_\_\_\_\_ T-SHIRT SIZE \_\_\_\_\_ NUMBER PREFER (1<sup>ST</sup> CHOICE)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(2<sup>ND</sup> CHOICE) \_\_\_\_\_ (3<sup>RD</sup> CHOICE) \_\_\_\_\_

DO YOU HAVE A PASSPORT? (Must have at least 6 months left before expiration) \_\_\_\_\_  
PASSPORT # \_\_\_\_\_

EXPIRATION DATE \_\_\_\_\_ PLACE OF ISSUE \_\_\_\_\_

EDUCATION

WHAT SCHOOL DO YOU ATTEND? \_\_\_\_\_  
WHAT YEAR ARE YOU IN? \_\_\_\_\_

LIST AWARDS RECEIVED IN SCHOOL \_\_\_\_\_

SPORTS

WHAT POSITION DO YOU PLAY? \_\_\_\_\_

SPIRITUAL

WHY DO YOU WANT TO GO ON THIS TRIP?

WHAT CHURCH ARE YOU CURRENTLY ATTENDING AND WHERE IS IT LOCATED?



ARE YOU A MEMBER THERE? YES NO, IF NO THEN WHERE ARE YOU A MEMBER? \_\_\_\_\_

HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE YOUR CURRENT SPIRITUAL SITUATION?

REFERENCES: PLEASE LIST 3 PEOPLE THAT WE CAN CONTACT THAT WILL BE ABLE TO TELL US ABOUT YOU. GIVE NAME, ADDRESS, PHONE NUMBER, AND EMAIL. MAKE AT LEAST ONE A MINISTER.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

#### HEALTH

CURRENT HEALTH STATUS EXCELLENT GOOD FAIR POOR DO YOU HAVE ANY MEDICAL CONDITION THAT WE NEED TO BE AWARE OF THAT WOULD IMPACT ANY PART OF THIS TRIP? \_\_\_\_\_ IF YES, EXPLAIN.

DO YOU HAVE ANY ALERGIES? \_\_\_\_\_ IF SO, EXPLAIN.

ARE YOU ALLERGIC TO ANY MEDICATIONS? \_\_\_\_\_ IF YES, EXPLAIN

ARE YOU CURRENTLY TAKING ANY MEDICATION? \_\_\_\_\_ IF SO, WHAT.

CONTACT PERSON IN CASE OF EMERGENCY \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_

ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

INSURANCE COMPANY \_\_\_\_\_ POLICY # \_\_\_\_\_



## COMMITMENTS

### SPIRITUAL

I, the undersigned applicant, do hereby state that I understand that this is a Christian ministry and trip. Therefore, I will conduct myself in a Christian manner. I agree that any violation can result in being released from the team and being sent home and at my own personal expense. Also, I understand and agree with the Gospel Message of salvation through Jesus Christ and Him alone, who died on the cross and rose from the dead for our sins. Only through a personal commitment to follow Him as Lord and Savior can a person be saved. I hereby commit myself to be ready spiritually for this trip.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

### EMERGENCY

I, the undersigned applicant, give permission for participation in the Sports Reach Basketball trip to Belize, July 23-August 1, 2026. I do hereby release and discharge Sports Reach or its authorized representatives and staff from all liability of any kind and character upon any claim, demand, or cause of action which might be asserted by the applicant or on behalf of applicant against said staff or representatives. Furthermore, in event of an accident, if the said staff or representatives are unable to contact the emergency contact, I grant permission to said staff or representatives to administer necessary first aid, and/or take applicant to the nearest medical facility for additional treatment.

Signed by applicant \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_