

Shoot-A-Thon 2023 FAQ

How long does it take to set up my child's player webpage?

About 20 minutes.

Do you prefer to receive donations as cash, checks, or through Pledgestar?

Pledgestar is preferred as it securely automates the entire fundraising process. While we gladly receive checks and cash, processing them requires more time and must be manually counted.

What types of donations can be made?

Potential donors have the option of making a flat donation or pledge an amount per basket. e.g. a relative sponsors, \$10.00 per basket. The player makes ten baskets in one minute. The relative will owe: $\$10.00 \times 10 = \100.00

What happens if the player has an off shooting day?

The minimum # of shots a player makes is set to 5.

e.g. if a player makes less than the minimum in one minute, he/she will be credited with having made 5 shots.

Also, after the ShootATHon, an email will be sent to the donor indicating the amount owed based on the # of baskets made by the player. Pledgestar will prompt the donor to make the payment as is due, but also gives the donor an option to write in a higher amount than is due prior to charging the credit card.

Where are the players shooting from?

2nd through 4th graders will shoot from the bottom of the free throw circle. 5th and 6th graders will shoot from the free throw line. 7th and 8th graders will shoot from the top of the key. Each player has one minute to make as many shots as he/she can.

Is the \$110.00 a player goal or team goal?

Neither. There are only three individual player goals for the Shoot-A-thon: 1) set up your Pledgestar webpage 2) be at the coach designated February 4 or February 11 practice when the ShootATHon for your team will occur 3) send as many emails as you are able to potential donors through your Pledgestar webpage. There is no goal amount that a player or team must raise. However, there will be prizes awarded to the team that raises the most funds and also to the top individual fundraisers. There is also a prize for those teams that have 100% of their players setting up their webpage.

Although it was not our desire to have an individual player goal in terms of a dollar amount, Pledgestar strongly recommends a goal bar which we set at \$110.00. This visual aid is built into the template and donors seem to more likely make a pledge with it than without it. The amount represents an approximation of how much each player would need to raise to reach our program goal.

Are donations tax deductible?

Yes.

One of my donors made an offline donation. I gave him a receipt downloaded from your Sports Ministry website Forms page. Doesn't that receipt require the tax ID# to be listed?
The tax ID# will be required if your donor is audited by the IRS and is used to verify that the organization is a non-profit. It is not required in listing a donation on your tax return.

Donors pledging online, get an immediate thank you letter/receipt with our tax ID # no matter what amount is given because it is secure. This letter should be retained by the donor in the event of an IRS audit.

For offline donations, please provide your donor with a receipt available in our forms section on our sports ministry website. We have purposely left off our tax ID# on this receipt at the request of our church leadership since it is not required by IRS for donations less than 250.00. At the conclusion of the ShootATHon (around 3/1/23), players would have turned in the offline donation pledge sheets. Using these, our treasurer will identify those individuals giving 250.00 or more offline and email or mail them an additional special thank you letter with our tax ID.