



**For Immediate Release:**

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**RE: *USSSA Basketball will “bring it to the House!”***

### **Salina to Host USSSA Midwest Regional Basketball Championship**

Visit Salina and the Salina Parks & Recreation Department are extremely pleased to announce a partnership with USSSA Basketball in their decision to *bring it to the House!* – in confirming the **USSSA Midwest Crossroads Regional Championship** at the Salina Fieldhouse, June 1-3, 2018!

This is the first USSSA Basketball event at the Salina Fieldhouse. The event will bring boys' and girls' youth travel and recreational teams (grades 3-12) to Salina from throughout the Midwest region. Teams will compete for the right to be called Regional Champions and to receive nationally-renowned USSSA Championship Rings. Teams can expect to play at least three games and, up to six games should they advance in the tournament. In addition to Championship basketball tournament play, the Salina Fieldhouse will also be the site of an Opening Ceremony, Stretch & Recovery Stations, Live Gameplay Monitors, and a Highlight Video Station.

James Taylor, USSSA Basketball Executive Director, is excited about the potential choosing Salina presents. “Salina’s location at the intersection of I-135 and I-70 is ideal for attracting teams from Nebraska, Oklahoma, Texas, Missouri, Colorado, and, of course, Kansas. This event will allow teams to see new competition: for instance, a team from Nebraska could play a team from Texas, which would not be typical of their area tournaments. This is what USSSA Basketball is all about! We are ecstatic to deliver these moments to teams throughout the Midwest!”

Tiffany Benien, Visit Salina Sports & Events Manager served as liaison for a site visit in July that involved both Taylor and his associate Chris Horton. Benien said, “Our goal was their consideration of the Salina Fieldhouse for a tournament. However, it’s about more than our beautiful new venue, and Salina impressed! As hoped, their feedback was extremely positive.”

Taylor adds, “The Fieldhouse is an excellent facility, and Salina has all the necessary amenities for our participating teams—diverse and affordable lodging accommodations, a large quantity of great restaurants, and attractions such as the Smoky Hill Museum and Rolling Hills Zoo. The future developments, such as the downtown project, exemplify the support of the community to grow. This enthusiasm, support, and commitment to making great things happen, coupled with the outstanding people of Salina, is why we’ve selected Salina to host the Midwest Crossroads Regional Championship.”

With the climate ripe for USSSA Basketball, the Championship event is also a unique opportunity for Salina. In the past, similar USSSA Regional events have drawn over 3,200 total visitors to host communities. While the six-court Salina Fieldhouse will host round-the-clock basketball action, local Salina institutions can hope to cater to a new influx of out-of-town visitors.

Travis Scheele, Recreation Superintendent is ready for the event, “Salina Parks and Recreation and the City of Salina are delighted to host this prestigious championship. Our new Fieldhouse and community amenities make us the perfect choice!”

Team registration for the event is \$250 and registration ends Thursday, May 24<sup>th</sup>. Teams interested in participating should register online at <http://www.ussa.com/basketball5on5/TournamentMain/#/?eventID=301712&qdSport=12>.

For more about the host venue, the Salina Fieldhouse, go to [www.SalinaFieldhouse.com](http://www.SalinaFieldhouse.com).

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