



THE HOOP SCOOP

Building Better Players, On and Off the Court

Meet the Elite Trainers Behind GF Hoops Camps & Clinics

At Great Falls Basketball, our players are the heart of the program—and our trainers help them grow. This year's staff features a dynamic group with experience as players, coaches, and mentors. From fundamentals to advanced techniques, they're here to build confidence, sharpen skills, and support players at every level.

Barry Uzzell



Barry is a longtime favorite at GF Hoops and brings a truly elite background to our clinics and summer camps. At Harcum College in Pennsylvania, he serves as Head Coach of the Men's Basketball team as well as the Men's and Women's Track and Field and Cross Country teams. Throughout his years at Harcum, he has coached various other sports and teams due to his multi-sport background, versatility, and passion for athletics.

Before turning to coaching, Barry had a successful playing career in the American Basketball Association (ABA) and then spent seven years playing professionally in Europe. He also coached at Westbury College and Delaware State, and has worked with both the USA Women's Olympic Team and the WNBA's Washington Mystics.

Barry is especially passionate about junior college athletics—he began his own career at Merced Junior College in California before transferring to North Texas State University. Off the court, Barry has led year-round youth development programs in Philadelphia and is known for his patient, positive, and energetic approach to coaching. **Barry brings incredible leadership to Great Falls Basketball camps and clinics and a proven ability to connect with athletes of all ages.**

Josh Alexander



Coach Josh brings top-tier playing experience and an elite athlete's mindset to our program. After starring at Stephen F. Austin University, Josh went on to play professionally in the NBA G-League and overseas, where he competed against some of the best talent in the world. His journey from D1 basketball to professional leagues has shaped his approach as a trainer and mentor.

Josh's sessions are fast-paced, intense, and fun—designed to sharpen footwork, timing, scoring efficiency, and in-game awareness. But Josh is more than just a skills coach—he's a leader who helps athletes build the mental edge they need to succeed. He knows what it takes to reach the next level, and he's passionate about helping players of all ages build the tools, habits, and belief to chase their goals.

Whether your player is new to the game or preparing for tryouts at the next level, Josh brings insight, energy, and professionalism to every session.

Lex Concepcion



Coach Lex is one of the hardest-working and most enthusiastic trainers you'll find anywhere in the region. Known for his hands-on, high-energy approach, Lex works with athletes ranging from middle school hopefuls to pro-level competitors. He's trained or worked out with NBA stars such as Jayson Tatum and Frank Mason and has helped mentor several rising college and WNBA players.

Lex is constantly in the gym—running training sessions, breaking down film, or coaching games in leagues across Northern Virginia. His training combines detailed skill development, mental toughness, and positivity. He believes every player can unlock their potential through a mix of discipline, focus, and fun. As Lex says: "If you're not having fun, you're probably not doing the drill right."

Expect your child to leave Lex's session not only better on the court, but more confident and motivated.

Meet the Elite Trainers – For GF Hoops Camps & Clinics – Cont'd

Evan Ferguson



Evan is a thoughtful, highly knowledgeable trainer with a unique 360° perspective on the game. A former AAU and varsity athlete from Dominion High School in Sterling, VA, Evan has also spent over 13 years officiating youth and high school basketball, giving him a rare understanding of the rules, flow, and strategic nuances of the game.

Evan is focused on helping young athletes master the fundamentals—from proper shooting form to defensive positioning and court awareness. He's led youth basketball camps, worked one-on-one with players on skill development, and brings a calm, encouraging presence that makes players feel both supported and challenged. His background in officiating also helps players gain a deeper understanding of the game, which translates into better decision-making and basketball IQ.

Evan offers tailored guidance that helps players build confidence, enjoy the game, and establish a strong foundation.

Jessica Eason



Jessica has trained both male and female athletes who have gone on to compete at all collegiate levels. She has coached AAU teams across Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, and the D.C. area, and currently serves as Assistant Director for Lady Phenom Basketball on the Adidas Circuit.

With more than eight years of high school coaching experience, Jessica most recently served as Assistant Varsity and Head JV Girls Basketball Coach at Bishop McNamara High School from 2021–2024, part of the prestigious WCAC league.

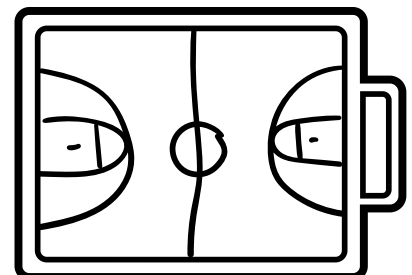
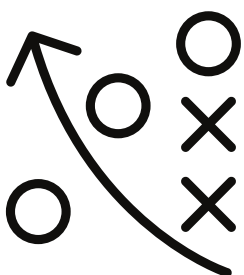
A former two-sport athlete at Brown University, Jessica played basketball and competed in track and field. She later earned a master's degree in Neuroscience at the University of Rhode Island, where she also competed as a graduate student and served as a volunteer throws coach.

Off the court, Jessica works as a coastal resilience specialist for NOAA, and brings that same strength, focus, and purpose to her work with our players.

We're excited to spotlight Jessica Eason, a dynamic skills and development trainer who joined the GF Hoops training squad in 2022.

Together, our trainers represents decades of playing and coaching experience, a passion for youth development, and a shared commitment to creating an environment where kids can have fun, work hard, and grow.

With this powerhouse group of trainers, we can't wait to watch our players grow stronger, sharper, and more confident!



Fun Fact: Tallest Player in NBA History: Gheorghe Mureșan and Manute Bol both stood 7' 7" tall.

Great Falls Summer Camps Filled Up Fast!

Great Falls Basketball Summer Camps are hotter than ever! All four weeks of camp sold out within the first two weeks of registration, with healthy waitlists for every session. It's clear—our community is excited to train, play, and have fun on the court all summer long!

Camp Highlights:

- Nearly 50% of this year's campers are returning from last summer, showing strong satisfaction and loyalty to the program.
- About 25% of campers have signed up for multiple weeks, taking full advantage of the opportunity to grow their skills and confidence.
- Camps are open to rising 1st–6th graders for the 2025–26 school year, and include games, drills, water fun, and Friday pizza parties!



Location Secured!

Thanks to our ongoing partnership with the Forestville PTA, we're proud to host all four camp sessions at **Forestville Elementary School** this summer. We're grateful for this collaboration and excited to return to one of our favorite local gyms.

For more camp details, visit www.gfhoops.com

Summer Clinics Spotlight: Keep Your Game Sharp!

Great Falls Basketball will bring back our Summer Clinics—a perfect opportunity for players to stay sharp, build confidence, and get those valuable touches on the ball during the off-season.

Dates & Times:

Clinics will be offered Monday through Thursday, with sessions starting on the hour from 5:00–9:00 PM. Players may attend multiple sessions per evening depending on availability and registration.

- Week 1: July 7–11
- Week 2: July 14–18
- Week 3: July 21–25
- Week 4: July 28–August 1

Session Descriptions:

Final session topics will be announced soon, but expect:

- Skills & Drills
- Shooting Clinics
- Guard Training
- Game Time! Full-court, refereed play



Registration Will Open in Early May
— Mark your calendars! —

Keep the Ball Moving — On and Off the Court

Not signed up for camp? Out of town during clinics? No problem! There are plenty of simple (and fun!) ways to keep your "touches" going strong this summer and stay connected to the game:

- **Call a friend** and start a pickup game at outdoor courts at local schools, gyms, or community centers.
- **Keep your shots UP!** Make a goal to take 75 shots per day or get 50 makes to keep your shooting form and muscle memory engaged
- **Set up** your own "Hot Shot" challenge using chalk, cones, or sidewalk tape.
- **Watch a game** with your family and break down the defense or plays —try to guess what's coming next.
- Create a quick **daily ball-handling** routine. Just 5–10 minutes of dribbling, crossovers, and layups in the driveway can do wonders.
- **Get in reps** with a parent or sibling—even simple drills help keep your timing and instincts sharp.

Bottom line: Summer is for fun—but staying active and connected to the game can be part of that fun, too. Keep working, keep playing, and stay involved with your GF Hoops community!

Fun Fact: Shaq only made one 3-pointer in his entire NBA career and that was out of 22 attempts!

Help Us Celebrate in Style! Join the GF Hoops Float & Parade Team

Great Falls Basketball is excited to participate in this year's Celebrate Great Falls 4th of July Parade —**but** we need YOUR help to make it happen!

We're building a basketball-themed float and looking for players, parents, coaches, and fans to help with the design, decoration, and parade participation. Whether you're crafty, creative, or just love being part of the action, there's a role for you!

Day of Event Details:

- Thursday, July 4 | 8:00 AM — 12:30 PM
- Parade Route: Great Falls Village Centre
- Post-Parade Fun: Stick around for festivities on the Village Green —food, games, and community celebration!



Why we're starting early:

We know the 4th of July lands during vacation week for many families, so we're getting organized now to build a strong team of volunteers and ensure our float is a slam dunk.

Whether you want to walk in the parade, help build the float, or simply cheer from the sidelines, we'd love to have you involved. It's a great way for families to bond, represent GF Hoops, and show community pride!

Interested? **Email us at Info@GFHoops.com** to sign up or learn more.



Let's bring the spirit—and the style—to the streets this July 4th!



The Hoops Scoop: Signing Off for Summer

After bringing you monthly updates since November, The Hoops Scoop is taking a well-earned Summer Break!

We hope you've enjoyed the stories, highlights, and community moments we've shared throughout the season—from game-day excitement to behind-the-scenes insights.

We'll be back before the next season tips off with more articles, announcements, and opportunities to stay involved with Great Falls Basketball.

Thank you for reading, cheering, volunteering, and being a part of the GF Hoops family.

See you on the court—and have a great summer!

— The Hoops Scoop Editor



Did You Know? The women's basketball was made smaller in 1985.

The NCAA officially introduced a smaller ball to accommodate hand size and shooting form.