It may be March Madness, but coach Sean Miller's players aren't the only Wildcats hitting the basketball court.

Three days a week at the Student Recreation Center, you'll find a dedicated group of University employees who come together from across campus to engage in a little friendly lunchtime competition. They are members of a Campus Recreation employee basketball league.

The league has been around since the mid-1970s. Players used to hold games in Bear Down Gym, before it was converted into administrative offices and the Student Recreation Center was built.

Players are mostly UA faculty members, classified staff and appointed professionals, although some University retirees and students also play. The number of participants varies over the course of the year.

Their motivations for playing also vary. Some say it's a stress reliever, while others play to stay in shape.

League member David Wagner, associate general counsel in the UA Office of the General Counsel, said the league is always looking for new members.

"We play in the south gym at the Rec Center at noon on Monday, Wednesday and Friday," he said. "We invite people to come down. Really, it's just a desire to have people who come and play regularly so we can all get some exercise and have some fun playing basketball together."

Joining the league is free, but you will need a Campus Recreation membership in order to access the courts. A semester pass for UA employees is $125, and payroll deduction is available. You can also purchase a day pass for $8. More information is on the Campus Recreation website.

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