



OCONEE COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT Cheer – FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



What age group will my child cheer in?

Cheer Ages 7-13

Divisions: OCHS/NOHS - 7U, 8U, 9U, 10U, 11U and 7th Grade/12U

The age control date is August 1, 2019. Age on that date determines league.

Are exceptions made to the age control date?

Occasionally, exceptions may be made to move a child up to a higher age level (For example, if the child is exceptionally advanced in the sport). Sometimes age divisions are merged together based on low registration totals. Approval from the Program Coordinator is required before a child can be placed in a different age level.

What eligibility documents are required?

IF a team elects to take part in the NGYFA Cheer competition, which will be held mid-season, then required documents must be provided to the Head Coach prior to the roster check in. This competition will require proof of age and Oconee residency as well as specific OCHS or NOHS school district is required. The Oconee Schools' Power School document (the Demographics Page) for the **2019-2020** school year is sufficient. Otherwise a birth certificate AND a utility bill or other residency proof will be required.

What do I need to wear/buy?

A custom fitted top & skirt, a pair of briefs and (2) poms will be provided. Cheer or running shoes are recommended. We will have two fitting dates. Cheerleaders must attend one of them. May 9 OR June 8

Can I request a specific team or coach for my child to be placed with?

Team placement requests are not considered. Cheerleaders are placed by the age and school district. The Head Coaches' kid and siblings, if a sibling is in the same league are the only guaranteed placements.

Where will practices and games be held?

Practices are held at Oconee County Park and Oconee/North Oconee school facilities. Games are held in High School stadiums at North Oconee, Oconee, and other locations with in the NFC Conference of NGYFA.

What days of the week will my child's team see activity?

There is no guarantee to any team/league on a specific week night; however, below are the primary days: Practices will be primarily held on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday. Games are primarily on Saturdays. The Saturdays start times will vary, ranging from 8:00am through 6:00pm. Youngest divisions play first.

How many kids make up a team?

Roster size will be 6 to 15 Cheerleaders. Total numbers fluctuate based on registration numbers.

Will my child make a team? Will there be “Try Outs”?

There will not be a “try out”. Every Cheerleader registered will be assigned to a team.

Does OCYFL coordinate end of season trophies?

OCPRD does not coordinate or arrange for trophies or end of season awards.

NGYFA will award trophies to the Super Bowl Champions, Super Bowl Runner Up **and their Cheerleaders**.

Teams are free to arrange this on their own; however it is encouraged that you coordinate it with our OCYFL.

Is there a role other than coaching where I can help?

Yes! Most coaches need a parent(s) for photography, end of season activities, snacks, etc.

What is the NGYFA?

The North Georgia Youth Football Association is the league we play in. We will be in the NFC Conference this season. Visit www.ngyfa.org for schedules and info related to the league that we play in.

Is there a competition squad?

No. However, our teams can elect to take part (free) in the NGYFA Cheer competition,. There are two (2) divisions to compete: 1) SPIRIT (side line cheer routines) 2) Competition (more dance and stunts involved,

What is PAYS Requirement?

PAYS stands for the Parents Association of Youth Sports and is part of the National Association of Youth Sports.

At least one parent/guardian of each youth participant is required to complete the online PAYS program:

- Go to <http://www.nays.org/paysonline/how-it-works.cfm> and click “Get Started”
- Step 1 – Contact Information: Complete contact info, then click “Next”
- Step 2 – Select League/Agency Affiliation: Click “Yes”, select “Oconee County Parks & Rec Dept” then click “Next”
- Step 3 – Payment Information: NO PAYMENT OR DONATION REQUIRED, simply click “Confirm”
- Step 4 – Confirmation: Click “Process”
- Thank You for Registering page appears, click “Next”
- Click “Start PAYS Course”
- Click on video to begin course
- Answer required course questions to complete

What do I need to do to volunteer to coach or to be an assistant coach?

1. Complete Volunteer Coach Application online at <https://register.communitypass.net/OconeeCounty>
2. Complete a Criminal History Consent Release form at [Oconee County P&R Background Screening Form](#)
3. Complete the NYSCA Training.
4. Complete free online CDC Heads Up: Concussion in Youth Sports training at http://www.cdc.gov/concussion/headsup/online_training.html and then submit a printed copy of the CDC certification of completion to OCPRD (1 time only)
5. Complete Darkness to Light (1 time only)