



OCONEE COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT Tackle Football – FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



What age group will my child play in?

Tackle Football - Ages 7-13

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

The age control date is August 1, 2023. Age on that date determines the league.

Are exceptions made to the age control date?

Exceptions are not made for a child to play in a league below his/her age level. 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). Approval from the Program Coordinator is required before a child can be placed at a higher age level.

What eligibility documents are required?

Proof of age, Oconee residency, and Oconee School enrollment are required. The Oconee Schools' Power School document (the Demographics Page) for the **2023-2024** school year is required.

If your child is home-schooled or attends a private school and resides in Oconee County, school documentation for the **2023-2024** school year, and a utility bill or other proof of residency are required.

All required documents must be provided to Andrew Bishop by Sunday, August 6th.

What do I need to wear/buy?

OCPRD no longer provides equipment. Each player will need to purchase: Helmets, shoulder pads, a mouth guard, and Integrated football pants (OCYFL standard pant color is white). Cleats are highly recommended.

A quality home and away jersey will be provided.

We will offer our current equipment for sale at a deeply discounted rate to registered 2023 football participants. Equipment sales will be held at Herman C. Michael Park in the gym.

Equipment Sale Dates:

Saturday, June 10, and Saturday, July 22, 9:00 am-1:00 pm

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

Team placement requests are not considered. Players are placed by their age and high school they are zoned. In the event we have enough players to warrant more than one team in a single age division, then there will be a draft according to NGYFA procedures. The draft will be proctored by an NGYFA Executive Committee member. The Head Coaches' child(ren) and siblings, if a sibling is playing in the same league, are the only guaranteed placements.

Where will practices and games be held?

Practices are held at Oconee County Parks and Oconee school facilities. Games are held in High School stadiums at North Oconee, Oconee, and other locations within the NGYFA.

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

There is no guarantee to any team/league on a specific weeknight; however, practices are primarily held on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday evenings. Some teams opt to review game film in lieu of practice. Games are primarily held on Saturdays. Saturday start times will vary, ranging from 9:00 am through 6:00 pm. The youngest age divisions typically play first.

How many players are on a team?

The roster size will be 15 to 35 players. Total numbers fluctuate based on registration numbers.

Will my child make a team? My player is nervous about “Try Outs”.

There are no tryouts or evaluations*. Every player registered will be assigned to a team. *Evaluations only held in the event an age group has over 35 players registered.

Are there minimum playing time requirements?

Yes. All players must play a minimum of 6 live ball plays. Live ball plays include any special team’s plays such as kick-off, punt or anytime a player enters the game to line up on the ball.

Does OCPRD coordinate end-of-season trophies?

OCPRD does not coordinate for trophies or end-of-season awards. NGYFA will award trophies to the Super Bowl Champions, Super Bowl Runner-Up, and their Cheerleaders. All teams are encouraged to arrange a post-season celebration on their own.

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

Yes! Most coaches need a parent(s) to run chains at games, photography, end-of-season activities, snacks, etc.

What is the NGYFA?

North Georgia Youth Football Association is the league we participate in. North Oconee teams are in the NFC Conference and Oconee teams are in the AFC Conference. Visit www.ngyfa.org for schedules and information related to the league.

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/parents>
- Select blue “Sign Up!” button
- Completing the PAYS program: click “Get Started”
- Contact Information: Complete contact info, then click “Next”
- Program affiliation requirement: click “Yes”
- Navy affiliated sports program: click “No”
- League/Agency: select “Oconee County Pks & Rec Dept” and then click “Next”
- Payment Information: NO PAYMENT OR DONATION REQUIRED, simply click “Confirm”
- Confirmation: Click “Process”
- Thank You for Registering page appears, click “Next”
- Click “Start the NAYS Parent Course”
- Click on video to begin course
- Answer required course questions to complete

How do I volunteer to coach or to be an assistant coach?

- Register as a volunteer coach online at <https://register.communitypass.net/OconeeCounty>
- Complete and pass an online background screening: [OCPRD Background Screening Form](#)
- Head Coaches must be approved by the OCYFL Executive Board.
- Complete the NYSCA Training.
- Complete free online CDC Heads Up: Concussion in Youth Sports training (1 time only)
- Complete USA Football Requirements (annually)
- Complete Darkness to Light (1 time only)