



OCONEE COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT Cheerleading – FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What age group will my child cheer in?

Ages 6-13

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

The age control date is August 1, 2025. Age on that date determines league.

Are exceptions made to the age control date?

Occasionally, age divisions are merged together based on low registration totals, and/or if a tackle football team is in that age group. Approval from the Program Coordinator is required before a child can be placed in a different age level.

What do I need to wear/buy?

Practice: Comfortable clothing and athletic cheer or running shoes.

Games: A uniform will be provided. Includes top, skirt, a pair of briefs, crop top liner, and (2) poms.

We offer two **mandatory** fitting dates. All cheerleaders must attend **one fitting**. Fittings are held at Oconee Veterans Park in the Community Center.

Fitting Dates:

Saturday, May 3rd, 9:00 am-1:00 pm

Thursday, May 13th, 3:00-7:00 pm

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

Team placement requests are not considered. Cheerleaders are placed by their age and high school they are zoned. Head Coach's child(ren) and sibling(s), are the only guaranteed placements.

Where will practices and games be held?

Practices are held at Oconee County Parks. 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 squad see activity?

There is no guarantee to any team/league on a specific weeknight. Practices are primarily held on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and/or Thursday. The games are on Saturdays. Game start times will vary, ranging from 9:00 am through 7:30 pm. The youngest-age football divisions typically play first.

How many cheerleaders are on a squad?

The roster size will be 10 to 25 cheerleaders. Total numbers fluctuate based on registration numbers.

Will my child make a squad? Will there be "Try Outs"?

There will not be a "tryout". Every Cheerleader registered will be assigned to a squad.

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 squads 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) for photography, end-of-season activities, snacks, etc.

What is the NGYFA?

North Georgia Youth Football Association is the league we participate in. Oconee and North Oconee teams are in the Southeast division. 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:

- Got to <https://www.nays.org/>
- Select red "Register" button, top right side of screen
- Select blue "User/Member account"
- Login information: Complete login info, then click "Continue"
- Contact Information: Complete contact info, then click "Continue"
- My Organizations: select "I am affiliated with an organization"
- Search by Names "Oconee County Pks & Rec Dept"
- Select "Oconee County Pks & Rec Dept", then click "Continue"
- Select Role "NAYS Parent", then click "Continue"
- Review Contact information and Organization, then click "Create Account"
- Thank you for creating your account page appears, click "Checkout"
- Membership/Certificates, click "Continue"
- Cart, click blue "proceed to Checkout"
 - * Your total should be \$0.00 if you selected "Oconee County Pks & Rec Dept" as your organization. No donation is required. *
- Checkout, click blue "Process Order"
- Thank you for your purchase page appears, click green "Strat Training"
- Click "Next" 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 Darkness to Light (1 time only)