

GCYSA Certification Procedures

All football players and cheerleaders must be properly certified by the GCYFA prior to participating in any GCYSA sanctioned event. To help parents and coaches through this process we have listed the requirements & procedures below. Other information such as rules, park websites, park and league contact information can be found on this website also.

Football players and cheerleaders requirements-

- 1st step- Football players and cheerleaders must register with their home park.
- 2nd step- Football players and cheerleaders must meet the eligibility requirements as outlined in Section 4 of the GCYSA Football Rules or Articles 1, 2, & 3 of the GCYSA Cheerleading Rules. This includes park transfers.
- 3rd step- Football players and cheerleaders must be certified by the GCYSA by presenting to the league the child's original birth certificate or government ID (*not a hospital certificate or copied birth document*) and the child must have his/her picture taken for the league data base. This can be accomplished by bringing the child to the GCYSA office located at 6445 Old Hwy 90 Milton FL or 925 E Jackson St Pensacola FL during regular GCYSA business hours.

OR

The child may certify at their parks designated certification night usually held 1 time at their park or a nearby park.

- 4th step- Football players and cheerleaders must be properly listed on his/her parks Certification and Game Rosters.

Coaches requirements-

- 1st step- Coaches must comply with their home parks registration requirements.
- 2nd step- Coach must comply with, and pass any park, league and state required background check.
- 3rd step- The Coaches name must be listed on the team roster he is coaching on.
- 4th step- Coach must attend any required GCYSA Coaches Clinic.
- 5th step- Coach must provide photo ID for identity verification and have his picture taken for the GCYSA Data base.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q. Why doesn't my child have his/her card?

A1. The child/parents did not properly comply with the 4 requirements listed above.

A2. The information provided by the parent or park does not match the data base and or Certification Roster provided to the GCYSA by the park, ie...misspelled or incorrect name, wrong birth date, wrong red stripe or play down designation, or jersey number.

A3. Coach or park representative did not follow up with the league and come pick the card up from the office.

Q. Does my child have to be certified by the league every year?

A1. No, a child has to be certified by the league when he/she enters the GCYSA (his/her first year of play), after that his/her certification card will be automatically updated yearly by the league and recertified to the team his park places him/her on.

NOTE: The photo on the football player's certification card will be updated in the Mite age Division (both years) therefore, all Mites will have to be certified. For returning players, birth certificates generally will not be required unless the child's appearance has changed significantly. New players of course will need birth documents this will be accomplished on the parks designated certification night.

Q. When does my child have to be declared as a red stripe? (If applicable)

A1. How the player is listed on the teams Certification Roster is how he will be certified to play as. This includes play down players. Players are not allowed to "bounce" back and forth the first 3 weeks of the season.

Parental Warning: If your child is near a weight limit threshold whether it be a red stripe OR play down limit, the GCYSA **STRONGLY** advises the child be placed/certified at the higher limit to avoid unnecessary dieting and weight related stresses on the child.

Q. Why did I not receive a coach's card?

A1. Coach did not submit to a league approved background check.

A2. Coach did not pass a league approved background check.

A3. Coaches name was not listed on the coaches roster properly (a nickname, misspelling or alias was used instead of the name on his/her drivers license)

A4. Coach did not have his/her photo taken by the league. (This only has to be accomplished 1 time)

A5. Coach did not follow up with the league to pick up his/her card.