

FAQ's

What are the age requirements for participation?

Football

Flag Football – boys 4-5 years old (must be 4 as of September 1 and may not be 6 on or before September 1st of current year)

Tackle Football – boys ages 6 – 12 (may not be 13 on or before September 1st, or in 7th grade)

Cheer

Cheer Division – girls 4-12 years

How are the football teams composed? Can my daughter cheer for her brother's team?

Northwest Texas Youth Football Association is an age-based league:

Flag Division: Ages 4 & 5

Tackle Football: Ages 6-12

*Players who desire to play up one age level must complete a "Play Up" request form at registration.

In regard to cheering for a siblings team, BYA makes every effort to pair siblings together when they are able to do so; however if there is not a cheer team assigned (due to volume) to a particular team, we not be able to accommodate the sibling request. Typically, cheerleaders are assigned by age division unless they request to play on another squad due to siblings.

Do we have to live in Burleson to participate? Does my child need experience to participate?

No, you do not have to live in Burleson. BYA Football is focused on teaching the fundamentals for the sport at all ages so prior experience is not required.

Does BYA require a copy of my child's birth certificate for participation with Football?

Yes, it's required. A copy of your child's birth certificate will be required at sign ups to remain on file with BYA for both Flag and Tackle football teams. Players on the 11u/12u team will be required to show proof that they are not in 7th grade by providing a copy of their report card/progress report.

Do I need to bring my child to sign ups?

Yes!! Your child will be fitted for a football uniform so please make sure you bring them to sign-ups. If possible, please bring your child's shoulder pads with them for try-ons. Failure to attend one of the in-person sign-ups prior to the end of the regular registration period will result in late fees and/or your child be held on a waiting list.

Do the Raiders travel? Where do the Raiders play their home games?

Plan to travel for 50% of games. Typically our home games are played at Hughes Middles School, however, if there is a change you will be notified by your Coach/Team Mom. For away games you may be required to travel to Azle, Castleberry (Ridglea), Fort Worth (Benbrook), Kennedale, Lake Worth, Richland Hills, Tarrant County and Saginaw.

What are Player Certifications?

All Flag/Tackle players must be certified by the league. Northwest Texas Youth Football certifies football players based on the following criteria:

- Age: Your child's birth certificate or a copy of their birth certificate will be used for age verification (required for both Flag and Tackle divisions).
- Weight: Tackle players will be weighed at the MANDATORY certification. Players exceeding the weight restriction for each age grouping will have a sticker notation on their helmet indicating that they may not carry the ball on offense. For additional information on weight restricted players, please contact Sam Balderas sam@bya.org.

Please make every possible attempt to be at Certifications. Any player not making certifications will automatically be considered a restricted weight player – NO EXCEPTIONS.

When is the first practice and where?

Conditioning camp will be held on Tuesday/Thursdays at Hughes Middle School the last two weeks of July. Football players need to come to conditioning camp in shorts, t-shirts, and cleats or tennis shoes (no pads). Team practice information will be communicated by your coach once the player is assigned to a team. Team practices will begin the first week of August; attire at team practices will be determined by the coach.

When will the season begin and how long will it last?

The official schedule is not set until after scheduled player certifications in August, however, games typically start around Labor Day through October. Playoffs typically begin in November and continue until the team is eliminated or proceeds to the Super Bowl. Expect the season to cover September through November.

When will we receive a schedule for the season?

A schedule will be provided to the teams prior to the first game of the season, which may be Labor Day weekend, but not until all schedule player certifications are complete (schedules are typically released the week prior to season start date).

Will the schedule or game location change?

The schedule is subject to change based on many reasons. Additionally locations can change at the last minute, due to field conditions, etc. We will get any changes to you as soon as we are notified.

Do we pay to get in to the games?

Yes. Spectators pay for admission to games at all NWTYFA locations. **This fee is set by the league, not BYA.** (Players and cheerleaders in uniform do not pay entry fees). The entry fees cover the costs of field rentals, monitor or janitorial fees, and payment to the referees.

What does my registration fee pay for?

- Registration fees that you pay include: Game uniform, BYA T-Shirt, insurance, and trophy.

What other expenses might be incurred to participate?

You will be provided with a list of equipment that your child will need. Some of these items are safety equipment (helmet, shoulder pads, mouthpiece); other items are those that complete their uniform (socks/shoes).

- There is a \$20 mandatory BYA raffle fee due at the time your child is sized for their uniform
- As with any organized sport, your family may be asked to participate with team fundraisers during the season. Fundraisers by teams are a way to help keep the coach/parent's expenses to a minimum and must be approved by the VP in advance. Parents may opt-in/opt-out of team fundraisers

What additional expenses are incurred by the BYA for my child to participate?

- Additional expenses that are incurred by BYA include: Official (Refs) Fees, Field Rentals, Field Prep and maintenance and monitor/janitorial fees. Gate fees are collected at each game location. The fees collected help each organization cover the expenses and help keep registration fees low.

What's the best way to stay in contact?

Emails are the easiest and most frequent method used; make sure your email address is correct/current in the BYA registration system and with your coach/team mom. Additionally, check the BYA Raiders Football Facebook www.facebook.com/BYARaiders page frequently. Once your child is placed on a team or squad, information will be provided by your Coach or Team Mom. The BYA Facebook (Burleson Youth Association, Inc. in addition to BYA Raiders Football) and Twitter (@myBYAsports) pages will also be updated with pertinent information so be sure to follow us on Facebook and/or Twitter!

How can I contact someone before the season starts with questions, issues or concerns?

Football: Sam Balderas sam@bya.org

Cheer: Shannon Rodrigues shanrod@bya.org