



## Certification Rules

- Players are not allowed to play for multiple teams at the same grade/age level, regardless of whether they are playing in different divisions (Gold, Silver, Bronze, etc). Players may play for multiple teams only if they are not in the same grade/age level.
  - Example: If a 7th Grade/13U player is on a “Gold” division team, he may not play for a 7th Grade/13U "Silver" division team. He may, however, play for an 8th Grade/14U team in any division.
- All teams must be certified thirty minutes prior to their first game at the designated team check-in.
- All players must be on the roster at the team certification before their first game. Any player not listed on the team roster will not be eligible to play in the playoff/bracket round. If a player misses the first day of the event, he or she may still play the next day if they are listed on the certified roster sheet.
- Youth teams (8U/2nd Grade through 14U/8th Grade) must abide by the 2021-2022 AAU age-based team guidelines (see our “Certification Birthdates” document for reference). Teams will be allowed to have **two (2) grade exceptions** per team. High school players are not allowed to participate in the 14U/8th Grade division, regardless of whether they make the age cutoff or not.
- “Gold” divisions do not have a cap on the number of grade exceptions per team (more than 2 is permitted). Players only must be in the correct grade level for their respective division.
- All boys teams must present a birth certificate for each player. If a player is seeking a grade exception, a hard copy report card must be present. To receive a grade exception, a player must be in the correct grade (must be in 7th grade to be eligible for the 7th Grade/13U division).
- All girls divisions are grade-based. Each player must present a hard copy report card. If a girls player is playing in the boys division, they must follow the same age/grade guidelines as the boys.
- High school divisions will be “Frosh/Soph,” “Junior Varsity,” and “Varsity.” Juniors and Seniors may NOT play Frosh/Soph, and Seniors may NOT play Junior Varsity.
  - Per CIF Rules, “A student whose 19th birthday is attained prior to June 15 of the prior school year shall not participate or practice on any team in the following year. A student whose 19th birthday is on or before June 14 is ineligible.” Junior college players are not allowed to participate in Grassroots 365 events.
- If a team does not follow the certification process they may be removed from the tournament without a refund.
- An opposing coach can submit a challenge of a player's grade or age exception with a \$100.00 deposit. Parents or fans associated with a team may not protest. The protest must come from the head coach or the one assistant coach who is allowed on the bench per team. A protest of a player’s age or grade must be submitted before the game starts, or within 30 minutes of the game’s completion.