



## 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.
  - If a player plays for two teams from different programs in the same division, the first team they play with will be their primary team. When caught, the secondary team will forfeit any future games in which the player in question plays.
  - If a player plays for two teams from the same program in the same division, the first team that they play for is considered their primary team and the secondary team will forfeit any games in which the player in question plays.
- 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 2023-2024 G365 age/grade based guidelines (see our “Certification Birthdates” document for reference). Teams will be allowed to have **two (2) grade exceptions** per team. “Gold” divisions, however, do not have a cap on the number of grade exceptions per team (more than 2 is permitted). For the correct definition of a grade-exception, please also see our “Certification Birthdates” document. High school players are not allowed to participate in the 14U/8th Grade division, regardless of whether they make the age cutoff or not.
- Players who are born in the correct birth date range for a division but are in an advanced grade, are still eligible to play in that particular division, including the Gold level. Ex. If a player hoping to play 10U/4th grade is in 5th grade, but was born on 9/1/2013 or later, they can still play in that division. Players who qualify age-wise are eligible for their respective division they qualify for, no matter what grade they are in.
- “Reclassifying,” or being held back a grade, does not go into effect until September 1. For instance, players who just finished 7th grade and plan on repeating CANNOT play in 6th grade during the summer months.
- 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 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.