



# **Parent FAQ's**

## **General Questions**

1. Who are we?

We are a non profit 501(c)(3) youth football and cheer organization.

#### 2. Where are we located?

We are proudly located in New Braunfels, TX, however we serve athletes from the greater New Braunfels/ Guadalupe County, and surrounding areas.

#### 3. What sports do we offer?

We have flag football ONLY for our 5U division (4-5 y/o), tackle football (6-13y/o), sideline cheer (4-15 y/o) and competitive cheer (8-15 y/o). We hope in the very near future to be able and offer other sports.

## 4. What league are we in?

We are an independent organization that is a proud member of the Texas Youth Football and Cheer Association. (TYFA)

Our competitive cheer team is under The United States All Star Federation. (USASF)

#### 5. When were we established?

We were established in 2024 with our inaugural season being Fall of 2024.

#### 6. What age groups do we offer?

Our football program ages range from 4-11 y/o for fall season, and 4-13 y/o for spring season.

Our cheer program ages range from 4-15 y/o year round.

\* Divisions are based on age, not skill level.\*

Our competitive cheer team ages range from ONLY 8-15 y/o (NO EXCEPTIONS).

\* Divisions are based on skill level, not age for competitive cheer.\*

Our all stars football team ages range ONLY from 8-11 y/o ( NO EXCEPTIONS).

\*Divisions are based on age, not skill level.\*

#### 7. When does the season start and end?

Spring season ranges from approximately the beginning of March through the end of May. Spring season consists of a 6 game season and end of season tournament.

Fall season starts in mid July and runs through December. Fall season consists of an 8 game season plus playoffs if your age group qualifies.

Our competitive cheer teams season will run from mid July through May, and our select football teams season will run from December through May.

## 8. When and where are practices located?

Practices are held at Calvary Baptist Church in New Braunfels, TX. For the first 2 weeks of both spring and fall season practices will be 4 days a week for conditioning which would consist of Mon, Tues, Thurs, and Fri from 6-8pm.

Our regular practice schedule will be 3 days a week which would consist of Mon, Tues, and Thurs from 6-8pm.

Our competitive cheer, and all star football teams will practice 1-2 days a week. Time and location are usually held at the same time, and location as stated above, however can vary depending on circumstances.

## 9. When and where are games located?

We do travel for away games as there are TYFA organizations throughout Texas. Our home games as of now are played at Oak Run Middle School in New Braunfels, TX. Our away games times and location will vary depending on the opponent we are playing and the agreement they have with their field.

Games are typically held on Saturdays with the rare occasion of a game to be held on a Sunday, and again times of games will vary depending on what age division your athlete is in.

#### 10. Do you need experience to play?

No, our organization does not require your athlete to have experience to participate as we do NOT have tryouts. We welcome athletes of all skill levels as we will provide adequate and appropriate training, and support to help them learn and grow in their sport.

Our competitive cheer, and all star football teams will try out and have evaluations in order to be placed on a team and compete. These teams are not affiliated with TYFA.

## Registration and Fees

#### 11. How do I register my athlete?

Registration can be completed on our website under the registration tab. <a href="https://leagues.bluesombrero.com/gcdragons">https://leagues.bluesombrero.com/gcdragons</a>

## 12. What is the cost to participate?

Fees vary depending on age group and/or sport.

For our competitive cheer, and all star football teams pricing will be higher and will have a tryout fee associated with it. Please refer to our website under the registration tab for pricing.

#### 13. Are payment plans or financial assistance available?

Yes, we do offer payment plans for all sports and age groups, however this ONLY applies during the normal registration timeframe. Payment plans are not available for late registration.

### 14. Are scholarships available?

Yes, we do offer scholarships every season however are limited to a certain amount of athletes every season. You can find the form for scholarships on our website in the registration tab under team forms. The form MUST be filled out in its entirety. Please allow 2-4 weeks for a determination of either a partial, full, or denied scholarship. There are certain expectations and requirements for scholarship families.

#### 15. Do we offer family/sibling discounts?

We currently DO NOT offer family/sibling discounts.

## 16. Do we offer military, first responder, or essential worker discounts?

We currently DO NOT offer military, first responder, or essential worker discounts.

## 17. What happens if I register late?

There is a \$25 late fee for late registrations. However we will allow registrations up until the 1st game of the season has been played.

## 18. I registered my athlete(s), now what?

Once registration is complete, you will get a confirmation email. Once completed you should expect to get an email, phone call, or text message from us approximately 2-4 weeks before the season starts with the upcoming season's information, and our communications app to download for further information to be used during the season.

#### 19. What if I missed the registration deadline?

On our website main page you will be able to find a registration interest form for all sports, and you will be notified when registration opens. For spring registration that is usually between January-March. For the fall season that is usually from June-August.

## 20. What do the registration fees include?

Registration for all sports include a game day uniform, TYFA registration fee, Insurance, and snack fee for game day halftime snacks, which will be monitored by your team managers.

## **Football Program**

#### 21. What equipment does my athlete need?

Prior to the start of practices players are required to have shoulder pads, mouth guard, cleats, black or white practice pants, black or green practice socks, and black or green practice jersey.

For flag players you will be required to have black or green practice shorts, black or green practice socks, cleats, and a mouth guard.

The organization will provide helmets, Dragons practice shirt, and Dragons practice jersey for all flag and tackle football players. The organization will provide 1 Dragons shirt. You may purchase more from the organization.

#### 22. Do we provide assistance for equipment?

No, we currently DO NOT, however we have partnered with Play it Again sports and every so often will get equipment at a discounted rate, only until the dollar amount allowed has been reached.

#### 23. Is there a minimum playing time requirement?

Yes, we have a policy in place that all players MUST play a minimum of 5 plays per game. If a player does not play in a game he WILL start the following game. However this MUST be brought to the head coach, and football directors attention. Tardiness and or unexcused missed practices are an EXCEPTION to this rule, and if found to be in violation this rule will NOT be enforced.

#### 24. Is attendance important?

Attendance is tracked at every practice to include tardies. Unexcused Missed practices and or multiple tardies CAN and WILL affect playing time.

## 25. Do we award excellent academic performance?

Yes, we proudly award hard work in the classroom and give academic awards out ONLY during our WInter banquet. All grades must average out to be 90% or better, NO EXCEPTIONS. Behavior must also all be excellent/satisfactory or better. Proof will be required.

#### 26. What safety measures are in place?

We follow national safety guidelines, including certified volunteers with passed background checks, concussion protocols, PCARN head injury chart, certified medical personnel as board members and or volunteers, proper tackling techniques, and lastly offered CPR/ First Aid training to all volunteers.

## 27. What does the uniform covered in my registration fee consist of?

Flag- Helmet, game day jersey and bottoms, game day socks, and flags. Tackle- Helmet, game day jersey and pants, and game day socks. (Duffle bags and arm sleeves may be included).

#### 28. Do I have to do both TYFA and all star level football?

No, TYFA football is in the spring and fall seasons ONLY. Our all star level football will be in the off season months of December-May. The all star team will be a tryout/evaluation team that will compete when TYFA is in their off season.

## **Cheer Program**

#### 29. What equipment does my athlete need?

Black Practice shorts, pants, or skorts. Black or green bow, black practice socks, and black cheer shoes. The organization provides 1 practice shirt to every athlete. You may purchase more from the organization.

#### 30. What does the uniform covered in my registration fee consist of?

All Cheer- Game day bow, game day top/bottoms, bloomers, game day socks, black cheer shoes, and pom poms.

(Backpack, sweats, jacket, shoes, under garment may be included).

## 31. How often do cheerleaders perform?

Sideline cheer will perform at all football games, and at some games even perform at halftime. Sideline cheer will also participate in 1 TYFA competition in November. Competitive cheer teams will participate in competitions and are not required to participate in sideline cheer. There will be a guaranteed 5 competitions provided with the opportunity for more, at least once a month between the months of November-May. Remember this is a tryout team.

#### 32. Do I have to do both sideline and competitive cheer?

No, You can decide to just do sideline cheer as you will compete only in the TYFA competition at the end of the season.

If you wish to do competitive cheer, remember this is a tryout/evaluation team, and MUST DO sideline cheer as you will compete in the TYFA competition as well as other competitions.

For competitive cheer you MUST be between the ages of 8-15 y/o.

#### 33. What safety measures are in place?

We follow national safety guidelines, including certified volunteers with passed background checks, concussion protocols, PCARN head injury chart, certified medical personnel as board members and or volunteers, proper tackling techniques, and lastly offered CPR/ First Aid training to all volunteers.

## Volunteering and sponsorships

## 34. How can I volunteer with the organization?

We are always looking for coaches, team managers, and volunteers. You can register on our website under the registration tab. You will need to pass a background check, as that link can also be found on our website under team forms in the registration tab. Remember this is a commitment as you will be expected to be at practices, games, and special events. THIS IS NOT A WORK AROUND TO JUST GET IN FREE TO GAMES.

## 35. Do we have sponsorship opportunities?

Yes, we have various sponsorship packages available to support our organization. You can find this information under helpful links on our website. You may also email <a href="mailto:eric.vargas@qc-dragons.com">eric.vargas@qc-dragons.com</a> to explore more sponsorship opportunities.

## **Policies and Conduct**

#### 36. What is your refund policy?

There is a \$100 NON REFUNDABLE deposit on all athletes once registered. Partial refunds are ONLY available prior to the start of practices. Once practices begin refunds are no longer allowed. NO EXCEPTIONS.

#### 37. Game day refunds or discounts?

Every team's venue will have different policies, if it is an away game our organization has nothing to do with it, so please do not come to us expecting a solution. At our home games, once paid, and entry into the event is made, there are NO REFUNDS, even in the event of a forfeit. If you are late to a game there are NO DISCOUNTS. We are working on providing VIP/ Season passes that you can purchase for entry ONLY into our home games as a way to thank dedicated parents, and sponsors.

### 38. What is the expected participation throughout the season?

We expect parents and athletes to follow our code of conduct, as well as their respective contract agreement, attendance agreement, and TYFA as well as our organization's rules and policies. We expect good sportsmanship, respect, and support to all individuals of our organization as well as other organizations.

You will also be expected to participate in our 1 mandatory seasonal fundraiser, as well as fulfill your mandatory volunteer hours by working any game day operations and or special events. You can find more information on these topics once registered and during our prior to season parent meeting.