

WALTON COUNTY ATHLETIC LEAGUE, INC
P.O. BOX 1569
DEFUNIAK SPRINGS, FL 32435
wcalbraves.com

PLAYER / CHEERLEADER REGISTRATION PACKET

FORMS INCLUDED IN THE REGISTRATION PACKET:

- General information about Walton County Athletic League, Inc
- Uniform Requirements
- Player/Cheerleader Code of Conduct
- Parent Contract
- Registration Form
- Medical and Liability Release Form

WHAT IS DUE AT REGISTRATION?

- Registration Form
- Medical and Liability Release Form
- Registration Fee \$65.00
- Copy of Birth Certificate
- Wallet (small) size photo

**** AS A REMINDER ALL ABOVE ITEMS MUST BE COMPLETELY FILLED OUT AND TURNED IN PRIOR TO CHILD'S PARTICIPATION****

Welcome to youth football and cheerleading. Enclosed you will find several pages with information about our program. Some pages will need to be completed by parent or legal guardian. Youth football is not like other youth sports. There are some things you may want to consider before completing your child's registration.

1. Youth football is a full contact sport and there is an increased risk for injury. Cheerleaders do sometimes compete and/or stunt.
2. Football and cheerleading is not cheap. Equipment costs and the cost to run a season are very high. We try to have a reasonable registration fee, but we have to rely on contributions, fundraisers and the concession stand to help pay for what is needed.
3. We (WCAL) require the return of equipment and uniforms at the end of the year and will pursue the return of the leagues uniforms cheer and football and football gear at the end of the season.
4. You will be required to purchase practice pants, practice jersey, additional mouthpiece if the initial issued one is lost, shoes and socks. You will be required to sign a uniform/gear loan agreement. We will loan you uniform, poms, game pants, game jersey, and all football equipment with pads. You must return it at the end of the season.
5. We travel up to half of our season and transportation is the parent's responsibility. Games are every Saturday when the games begin. Cheerleading practice will be set by the head coach and Football practices are 3 days a week from 5-7 pm on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday. Football players are required to arrive 1 ½ hour prior to game time for check in and weigh in. You can expect 3 ½ hours each Saturday not including drive time to the fields. Our season starts in August and ends around mid November. WCAL does not determine the schedule for the games, locations or times. It is not uncommon for last minute changes with very little notice keeping in mind this is also the most active time of the hurricane season and parents can expect changes.
6. We do play some of our games in the rain as do the professional teams unless there is lightning or other dangerous weather.
7. We sometimes have a waiting list. If you are unnecessarily or excessively absent or tardy we will give your slot to someone who will be there without refund.

Walton County Athletic League (WCAL) is a member of the Panhandle Youth Football Association (PYFA) as is all the teams we play. Teams are Freeport, South Walton, Panama City Beach, Niceville, Southport and Destin. PYFA determines the schedule upon receipt of the rosters from all leagues. This is usually the Wednesday before the 1st game. We want a schedule as much as you do and the parents will receive the schedule as soon as it is available. The team your child is placed on is determined by age and weight. We have strict guidelines we must follow. Siblings may or may not be on the same team or at the same location most of the time the games are at the same location, but it has happened in the past to be in two different towns. There are entrance charges to playoff and super bowl games usually \$2.00. Required documentation must be turned in or PYFA will not accept your child's registration. This is birth certificate, wallet size photo, medical information and completed registration packet. No child will be issued equipment or allowed on field without this. **NO EXCEPTIONS!** Any child that signs up must have not less than 3 days conditioning before being issued equipment. At that point the coach will determine when it is time to equip his or her team. We love your help, but only coaches are allowed on the field. Anyone who is on the field must be approved by the WCAL Board and submit to a background clearance prior to interacting with league activities, so if you want to help, see your child's coach at the end of practice or a board member. All of the Board Members and coaches are volunteers. Some coaches come and go a few stay year after year. We can not predict the behavior of all individuals involved. We can only hope that they can remain dedicated. When there's a problem WCAL will resolve it in the most effective manner possible.

This information has been provided so you can feel like you know what you are getting into before registration. This is the things we feel may make a difference in your decision and overall satisfaction with the youth football program. We look forward to a wonderful season and we want it to be wonderful for you too.

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UNIFORM REQUIREMENTS:

The following is a list of what the league will provide for your child to participate in football and cheerleading and a list of what you as the parent/guardian will be responsible for providing: **(PLEASE NOTE THAT THE ITEMS PROVIDED BY THE LEAGUE WILL BE THE PARENTS/GUARDIAN RESPONSIBILITY TO TURN IN AT THE END OF THE SEASON- PARENTS WILL BE HELD LIABLE FOR UNIFORM REPLACEMENT)**

CHEERLEADING ITEMS TO BE PROVIDED BY THE WALTON COUNTY ATHLETIC LEAGUE:

- ✓ Pom Poms
- ✓ Uniform-**to be worn on game days only**

CHEERLEADING ITEMS THAT WILL NEED TO BE PURCHASED OR PROVIDED OUTSIDE THE LEAGUE BY PARENT/GUARDIAN:

- ✓ Shoes- White only or cheer shoes
- ✓ Socks- Solid white or cheer socks

FOOTBALL PLAYERS ITEMS TO BE PROVIDED BY THE WALTON COUNTY ATHLETIC LEAGUE:

- ✓ Helmet
- ✓ Game Jersey-**to be worn on game days only**
- ✓ Game Pants-**to be worn on game days only**
- ✓ Pads to include: shoulder, butt, hip, thigh and knee
- ✓ (1) Mouth piece-(please see note listed below)

FOOTBALL PLAYERS ITEMS THAT WILL NEED TO BE PURCHASED OR PROVIDED OUTSIDE THE LEAGUE BY PARENT/GUARDIAN:

- ✓ Cleats-(any questions speak with a coach)
- ✓ Practice Pants- can be purchased through the league
- ✓ Practice Jersey-can be purchased through the league or a bigger size t-shirt works great
- ✓ Extra mouthpieces-(children can not go on the field without this piece-while the majority of the time a coach will have extra for purchasing (\$1.00) it is parent/guardian's responsibility to ensure the player has this piece)

WALTON COUNTY ATHLETIC LEAGUE INC
PLAYER'S/CHEERLEADER'S CODE OF CONDUCT

Hard work and dedication will be required from Players/Cheerleaders. Being a member of the team means much more than just learning about and playing football or being a cheerleader. As a player/cheerleader, both on and off the field, you are a representative of your association and are expected to act accordingly. No matter what the circumstances, whether in victory or defeat, always conduct yourself with PRIDE and POISE.

1. Vulgarity, temper tantrums, or fighting is absolutely prohibited. Good citizenship is a must.
2. Any player or cheerleader who has and or is observed displaying conduct below the acceptable standards of a player or cheerleader will face possible suspension from the team.
3. Players/Cheerleaders may be benched, not allowed to participate in a game, or suspended from the team at the discretion of his/her coach for the reasons of missing practices, not giving 100% at practices, not knowing your plays or assignments, being out of condition, and disciplinary violations. Missing or cutting practice will hurt both individuals and teammates.
4. There is no excuse for being late to practice or games.
5. If you are going to miss a practice or game, you must notify your coach.
6. When addressed or replying to any coach, you will be expected to do so with respect. Game officials are also to be respected as such.
7. Football players must wear a protective mouthpiece in all practices and games. The mouthpiece must be attached via a tether on the helmet. Players should never sit on their helmet.
8. Report all equipment problems to your coach immediately. It is the Players/Cheerleaders responsibility, not their parents, to keep their uniform and equipment in good repair.
9. Players/Cheerleaders practice and game uniforms must be washed on a regular basis. Never use bleach on any cheer/football gear or equipment.
10. Players/Cheerleaders are responsible for returning the equipment and uniforms issued to them in good condition less reasonable wear and tear, otherwise they shall be responsible for paying replacement cost for such items.

WALTON COUNTY ATHLETIC LEAGUE INC
PARENT CONTRACT

Rules and Guidelines

The support of parents/guardians is essential to the success of any youth program. This support, however, should be of the off field variety in such activities as fundraising, volunteer hours, equipment maintenance and team sponsorship.

The WCAL Football and Cheerleading is comprised entirely of volunteers, coaches, administrators and other volunteers spend time in the off season, as well as during the season, to provide a football and cheerleading program for our children. Overzealous, but well meaning parents can cause problems if they are not familiar with the policies and philosophies of youth football and cheer. Consequently, WCAL has rules concerning the conduct of parents.

- 1) Parents should clearly understand that the goal of WCAL is to teach their children teamwork, good sportsmanship, fair play and a love for the sport of football and/or cheerleading.
- 2) Alcohol and drugs at practice and games are strictly prohibited.
- 3) Parent's exempt parent/coaches are never allowed on the practice field during football or cheer practice time. Parents are not allowed on the sidelines or playing field(s) at games. All spectators must remain in the stands. Only players, coaches and appointed association officials may be on the sidelines or on the track in front of the stands during games. This action could cause forfeiture of the game.
- 4) Youth football **is not** professional football. Parents should cheer loud and strong for their team, but your fan support must be kept in the proper perspective and always in good taste.
- 5) Un-sportsmanship conduct in the stands during the games or during practice is prohibited and could result in expulsion from WCAL.
- 6) Derogatory statements towards coaches, league administrators, WCAL, game officials or the opposing team are prohibited and may result in forfeiture of a game and expulsion from WCAL.
- 7) A positive mental attitude, free from parental pressures, is an important ingredient for the success of any children participating in the program. Parents should refrain from open criticisms.
- 8) Parents /Guardians should encourage attendance at all practice sessions. Absences impede each player's/Cheerleader's progress and hurt the team overall. Missing practice is a prime cause for not playing or cheering in a game and can lead to suspension from the team for repeated occurrences. Missing practice and games should be limited to illness or serious injuries; players with minor injuries, although not able to participate in full contact can still benefit from observing.
- 9) All questions or problems should be directed to a WCAL representative in attendance at all practice sessions. Coaches should never be interrupted during practice or on game day. Coaches should be contacted prior to or at the end of practice or games for individual problems or questions.

- 10) Parent/Guardians are responsible for transportation of their children to and from any youth football/cheerleading activities unless other provisions have been made and approved. WCAL will not be held liable/responsible for transportation to/from any/all activities.
- 11) WCAL cannot be held responsible for the health and well being of unattended children at practices and games. Siblings of players and cheerleaders will not be supervised by WCAL representatives.
- 12) Parents/Guardians accept complete financial responsibility for their child's/children's participation in WCAL football and cheerleading program. This responsibility includes mandatory participation in fundraising program and volunteer hours, the payment of all fees and the timely return of equipment and uniforms, fully cleaned, in a condition of reasonable wear for use, free from excessive damage. Equipment that is lost or stolen will be paid for at current market replacement costs.
- 13) Parents/Guardians should understand that their personal medical insurance will be the primary carrier should any injury result from their child's/children's participation. Any insurance provided by WCAL is classed as secondary carrier and is subject to an annual deductible.
- 14) Parents/Guardians agree to hold harmless the Walton County Athletic League and its representatives, sponsors, affiliated associates, organizers, officers, officials and participants for any and all damages suffered by myself or my family in connection with this activity.

Most importantly the following:



⇒ I hereby agree to **pay all required registration fees and provide required information**, and understand that I will not be allowed to participate unless all fees are paid and paid no later than equipment check-out.



⇒ I hereby agree to **abide by the Football/Cheerleading Policies and Guidelines**.



⇒ I hereby understand the WCAL is a program run solely by volunteers, and I will commit to volunteering with fundraising and other functions to provide a successful year.



⇒ I hereby agree **to return Football/Cheerleading equipment** (game pants, game jersey, helmet, shoulder pads with hip, butt, thigh and knee pads and/or cheerleading uniform).

HEAD INJURIES

W.C.A.L. will require the parent/guardian of a player, before participation to sign a consent form that explains the procedures and nature and risk of concussion and head injury, including the risk of continuing to play after a concussion or head injury has occurred.

The PYFA has adopted guidelines to educate coaches, players, and their parent/guardians of the nature and risk of concussion and head injury.

By signing the registration information form you understand if your child is suspected of sustaining a concussion or head injury in a practice or competition to be immediately removed from activity and may not return to practice or competition until child receives written clearance to return from a licensed physician.

WEBSITE

W.C.A.L. has a website and at some point during the season your child's picture may be displayed on the site. If you would not like for your child's picture to appear on the website please notify in writing to the W.C.A.L. Board.

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PLAYER / CHEERLEADER REGISTRATION INFORMATION

CHILD'S NAME: _____
LAST FIRST MI

BIRTH DATE: _____ **AGE:** _____
MO/DATE/YEAR (EX. 1/11/11) Age she/he will be on Aug. 1st

PARENT/GUARDIAN NAME: _____
LAST FIRST MI

HOME PHONE: _____ **WORK PHONE:** _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____ **CELL #:** _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____
STREET #/PO BOX CITY STATE ZIP

PHYSICAL ADDRESS: _____
STREET # CITY STATE ZIP

EMERGENCY CONTACT: _____ **PHONE#:** _____

As a Parent(s) or Guardian(s) for the Walton County Athletic League Inc, I/We certify I/We have read and agree to abide by the Rules and Guidelines of the WCAL Youth Football and Cheerleading Program and agree to all terms and conditions set forth in the Parent Contract and Registration Packet which was received at registration. I have also read and understand head injury procedures:

Parent/Guardian Signature **Date**

I have read the Player/Cheerleader Responsibilities in the Walton County Athletic League Inc. Football and Cheer Program and agree to all terms and conditions set forth:

Player/Cheerleader Signature **Date**

BOARD USE ONLY:

BOOMERS _____ PEEWEE _____ CASH _____
JUNIOR _____ SENIOR _____ CHECK# _____
TRI-COUNTY _____

