

YOUTH AFFILIATED vs. YOUTH NON-AFFILIATED

USE THE FOLLOWING TO CONFIRM YOUR TEAM'S "YOUTH-AFFILIATED" STATUS.

New changes from last year's packet are marked in **RED**.

YOUTH-AFFILIATED DIVISIONS:

Divisions identified as 'Youth' will provide competition for the majority of youth teams who have competed with YCADA in past years; however, the wording has been clarified to exclude teams who have left an organized program to form competition only teams, or join a program (i.e. city parks and rec. league) which has youth sports teams, but no formal cheerleading program – as defined below.

Definition of Youth Team: City/Mascot (i.e. Starbucks) + Division/Age of Play (i.e. Pee Wee).

EXAMPLE: Starbucks Pee Wee

YOUTH-AFFILIATED DIVISION GUIDELINES:

- Team is affiliated with a governing youth football organization (i.e. Pop Warner Football, American Youth Football, AAU, P.A.L., Junior All American, etc.). The youth league must include cheerleading bylaws and cheerleading safety rules as part of their charter. Team supports **and** is affiliated with **a youth league**.
- Teams affiliated with any sport other than football (i.e. baseball, basketball, soccer) must compete in the Youth Non Affiliated "NA" Divisions.
- Coaches **MUST** bring copies of their league/team 'books' containing copies of each child's Birth Certificate or Government Issued ID to YCADA events. If ages are questioned or protested, or league affiliation disputed, a YCADA event official will require this documentation. Not having this information available at the event may result in disqualification.
- Youth divisions are determined by the age of oldest team member.
- The participant's age on **July 31, 2022** shall be the participant's age through **May 31, 2023**.

YOUTH NON-AFFILIATED DIVISIONS (NA):

Divisions identified as 'Youth Non-Affiliated' will provide competition for youth cheer teams who are not associated with a youth football organization (as defined above), or representatives of an all-star cheer gym, dance studio or registered team with USASF. This type of youth team is sometimes also referred to as 'Performance Rec'.

YOUTH NON-AFFILIATED DIVISION GUIDELINES:

- Team is **NOT** affiliated with a youth football organization that includes cheer safety rules or cheer bylaws as part of its franchise.
- Organizations or Teams may not be registered with USASF at the time of competition and not have had any teams in their organization compete in any competition under any "All Star" identified divisions.
- It is not mandatory that this team supports, affiliates with, or "cheers for" an organized sport.
- No Official Team Roster is required in NA Divisions.
- Coaches must bring copies of each child's Birth Certificate or Government Issued ID to YCADA events. If ages are questioned or protested, a YCADA event official will require this documentation. **Not having proof of athletes' ages at a YCADA event may result in disqualification.**
- Youth Non-Affiliated divisions are determined by the age of oldest team member.
- The participant's age on **July 31, 2022** shall be the participant's age through **May 31, 2023**.
- To identify a Youth Non-Affiliated division in the registration portal and competition schedule, Youth Non-Affiliated divisions will be referred to as NA (Non-Affiliated) followed by the Level (i.e.: NA - Division 12 Level 2^x). The example indicates: A Youth Non-Affiliated team, age 12 and under, selecting Level 2^x (NA^x) skills.

To maintain the integrity of a fair and competitive Youth-Affiliated Division, YCADA reserves the right to evaluate a team's status to ensure compliance to the letter and the spirit of the above policies.