

2015 GRPA DISTRICT III FOOTBALL ENTRY FORM

ENTRY FEE:

Payable to Tift County Recreation Department
Fee is \$150.00/ team received by Oct. 30, 2015
Team Entry Form Due by October 23rd, 2015

All Rosters, Entries and Entry Fees with Birth Certificates **must be received no later than Friday, October 30, 2015 (close of business day)**. An additional charge of \$40.00 will be assessed if roster is not typed and in alphabetical order. Only one team per roster per age division.

A Late fee will be assessed per GRPA Manual if Roster and Birth Verification /Certificates are not received by October 30th, 2015. In order to be included in our program, all rosters/program rosters must be returned by Friday October 30, 2015 (unofficial roster will work for program purposes.)

TEAM INFORMATION:

Event Dates: November 17th, 19th , 21st, 23rd, 24th & 25th, 2015

TEAM NAME: _____

SPONSORING AGENCY: _____

CONTACT PERSON: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ **STATE:** _____ **ZIP CODE:** _____

HOME PHONE: _____ **CELL PHONE:** _____

WORK PHONE: _____ **FAX NUMBER :** _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

**PLEASE INDICATE YOUR PLANS BELOW.
 IF MORE THAN ONE TEAM IN A DIVISION, PLEASE INDICATE.
 ENTRIES MUST MATCH YOUR DISTRICT ENTRIES**

<u>DIVISION:</u>	<u>AGE:</u>	<u>Jersey Color</u>	<u>WEIGHT CLASS:</u>	<u>RESTRICTED PLAYERS</u>
___ PEE WEE	7 & 8 YEAR OLDS	1) _____ 2) _____	100 LBS	OVER 100 lbs MUST BE TACKLE TO TACKLE IN A DOWN POSITION OFFENSE/DEFENSE
___ MITE	10 AND UNDER	1) _____ 2) _____	125 LBS	OVER 125 lbs MUST BE TACKLE TO TACKLE IN A DOWN POSITION OFFENSE/DEFENSE
___ MIDGET	12 AND UNDER	1) _____ 2) _____	150 LBS	OVER 150 lbs MUST BE TACKLE TO TACKLE IN A DOWN POSITION OFFENSE/ DEFENSE

Age Control Date is AGE PRIOR to SEPTEMBER 1 (of the current school year)
**** PLAYERS MAY NOT BE ON MORE THAN ONE ROSTER.****

Tift County Recreation Department
 Attn: Jeff Howard
 P.O. Box 6
 Tifton, Ga. 31793
DEADLINE: Oct. 31, 2014

2015 UNOFFICIAL GRPA ROSTER FOR PROGRAM USE

DIVISION: _____ AGENCY: _____ COACHES _____
(Please Circle Division)

JERSEY COLOR#1 _____ TEAM NAME: _____

JERSEY COLOR#2 _____ _____

NOTE: TEAMS MAY BE REQUIRED TO CHANGE JERSEYS BEFORE PLAY AND WEAR ALTERNATE COLOR, OR, WEAR JERSEYS PROVIDED AT SITE. IF CONFLICT, TEAM CHANGING WILL BE DETERMINED BY COIN TOSS

Awards distributed based on 30 players per team.

TCRD USE ONLY

	JERSEY #		PLAYER NAME	PLAY AGE	BIRTHDAY			ACTUAL WEIGHT	STRIPED HELMET
	1ST	2ND			MO	DAY	YR		
1									
2									
3									
4									
5									
6									
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I CERTIFY THAT THE ABOVE BIRTHDATES & AGES ARE CORRECT:

RECREATION DIRECTOR

DATE



2015 GRPA District III Football Packet

Tift County Recreation Department
Physical/Shipping: 401 N. Victory Dr. Tifton, Ga. 31794
Mail: PO Box 6 Tifton, Ga. 31793

CONTACT NUMBERS:

MAIN OFFICE: (229) 382-3262

FAX: (229) 382-7246

WEATHER LINE: (229) 528-9292



For Additional information contact:

Department Email: recreation@tiftcounty.org

Craig Sowell Cell: (229)388-2599 Email: craig.sowell@tiftcounty.org

Jeff Howard Cell: 229-392-2256 Email: jeff.howard@tiftcounty.org

The GRPA District Three Football Tournament will again be played in conjunction with the 53rd Thanksgiving Bowl.

Games will be held on November 17th, 19th, 21st, 23rd, 24th & 25th, 2015 in Tifton, Georgia.

General admission will be Adult \$5.00, Children/Students (5-18) \$2.00 & Seniors (55& Over) - \$2.00

Programs are available for purchase through the Tifton Sertoma Club.

Entry Fee is \$150.00 for a single elimination format.

GRPA SPORTSMANSHIP STATEMENT

“The Georgia Recreation and Park Association and its member agencies have made a commitment to promote good sportsmanship by athletes, coaches, and spectators at all GRPA sanctioned events. Profanity, degrading remarks, and intimidating actions directed at officials or competitors will not be tolerated, and are grounds for removal from the event site. Spectators are not allowed to enter the competition area during warm-ups or while the contest is being conducted. Thank you for your cooperation in the promotion of good sportsmanship at today’s event.”

All youth team and individual sports must have a certified coach (certified in the sport coaching) or a full-time staff person with their team, except under extenuating circumstances, which will be determined by the tournament director. This person must be on playing area and available at all times (dugout, bench, etc.)

AGENCY AND FORFEIT WITHDRAWAL FEES

1. There is an annual agency membership fee of \$400.00 due by January 30. After this date the fee will be \$425.00.
2. Forfeit, withdrawal, and non-notification fees:
 - a. In the event of a forfeit or withdrawal after the bracket is drawn in a state competition, the team will be required to pay the entry fee to the state host and a forfeit fee of \$250.00 fee to the GRPA Office. This fee applies to no shows and intentional forfeits. The agency that forfeits will be placed on probation from that sport for one (1) year. The agency may appeal probation before the athletic committee.



- b. Teams that do not notify State Host will be charged a full entry fee payable to the State Host and forfeit fee of \$250.00 payable to the GRPA Office.
 - c. Districts entering GRPA state level of competition that do not fill their commitment to send a team or teams to the State Tournament will be responsible for forfeits, fines and trophies if the withdrawal causes the cancellation of the tournament/event.
3. A certified coach or staff member must be in attendance at all State events. Failure to have a certified coach or full-time staff member is:
- a. 1st Offense: \$100
 - b. 2nd Offense: \$200
 - c. 3rd Offense: \$500

Pg 57 - The Host Agency shall be responsible for supplying scrimmage vests in events where jerseys need to be opposite colors. A coin toss shall be conducted and the winner shall have the option of whether to wear the scrimmage vests or original jerseys.

GRPA STATE - YOUTH TACKLE FOOTBALL
December 5-6, 2015
December 12, 2015

Division	Agency	Contact
Class A ALL AGES	Dalton	Steve Roberts 706-278-5404 sroberts@cityofdaltonga.gov
CLASS B ALL AGES	<u>Crisp County</u>	Michael Pomirko 229-276-2797 michael.pomirko@crispcounty.com
Class C ALL AGES	<u>Crisp County</u>	Michael Pomirko 229-276-2797 michael.pomirko@crispcounty.com
North Regional Host ALL AGES	Calhoun	Kim Townsend 706-629-0177 ktownsend@calnet-ga.net

GRPA Recreation Department Member Agency Teams will be placed in the proper weight/ age divisions entered at the District Entry Meeting. Divisions may be combined based on instruction of the District Athletic Personnel. Once entries are received at the District Entry Meeting Teams will be considered officially entered. As is District Custom the final withdraw add may take place at the District Bracket Meeting. If a team withdrawing from the District causes the District to not conduct a division of the District or State Tournament, the Agency responsible will be required to pay all fees, fines and awards per the GRPA Athletic Manual and other items from the District Athletic Supplement.



Roster, Entry & Deadlines:

1. The age control date is **AGE PRIOR TO SEPTEMBER 1** of the current year.
2. **All Rosters, Entries (10/23/15) and Entry Fees with Birth Certificates must be received no later than Friday, October 30, 2015 (close of business day).** An additional charge of \$40.00 will be assessed if roster is not typed and in alphabetical order. Only one team per roster per age division. **A Late fee will be assessed per GRPA Manual if Roster and Birth Verification /Certificates are not received by October 30, 2015. In order to be included in our program, all rosters/program rosters must be returned by Friday October 30, 2015 (unofficial roster will work for program purposes.)**

Football Age Control is Age Prior to September 1 with a Roster Limit of 30 players. A maximum number of 5 team personnel allowed in and around sideline area/team. [must be approved by department and listed on roster form].

3. BIRTH CERTIFICATES ARE MANDATORY FOR EACH PARTICIPANT. NO TEAM WILL BE ALLOWED TO PLAY WITHOUT "PROOF OF AGE" (BIRTH CERTIFICATES ONLY). BIRTH CERTIFICATES ARE TO BE SUBMITTED WITH THE REGISTRATION FORM BY ENTRY DEADLINE ESTABLISHED BY GRPA.

All procedures involving GRPA Official Rosters and Acceptable Birth Records shall be completed prior to an agency team's first appearance in GRPA competition. Any special requests to verify rosters at a later time shall not be granted by the Tournament Director, State Athletic Committee Member, or District Commissioner.

RULE XIII – YOUTH FOOTBALL FROM GRPA ATHLETIC MANUAL – 2015 Version

ARTICLE I – ELIGIBILITY

SECTION A – AGE DIVISION

A child must attain the age of 7 for District & State Competition in any event or sport of GRPA, prior to the age control date for that event or sport.

1. There are three (3) age divisions only for youth football.
(Cutoff Date - age prior to September 1)
 - a. 12 year old division shall be 12 and under prior to September 1st (Midgets).
 - b. 10 year old division shall be 10 and under prior to September 1st (Mites).
 - c. 7 & 8 year old division (cannot turn 9 before September 1st)
2. Youth coaches must be certified by one of the following programs: NYSCA, ACEP, GHSA, USA FOOTBALL, SIMPLY THE BEST or EXCELLENCE PLUS.



3. Any player or coach ejected from a game for unsportsmanlike conduct will be suspended for one game, in addition to the game from which ejected; or, in the case of an individual event within a meet or match, for the duration of that event.

SECTION B – ENTRIES

1. Any agency may enter as many teams as their district allows, provided the State Athletic Committee does not set a limit on the number.
2. Host agency will have the option of entering a host team in the state “regional” football tournament. The host team must win the regional in order to advance to the State Championship game.
3. Districts may designate a roster deadline, if and only if, it conducts a season schedule. This deadline must be prior to the final scheduled district game.

ARTICLE II – REGULATIONS

SECTION A – GOVERNING RULES

1. Youth football at all levels is governed by the current rules and regulations of the Georgia High School Association Constitution and By-Laws, and by the National Federation Edition of Football Rules for the current year, with exceptions as noted in this Manual.
- no electronic communication devices allowed.
2. Per the “Return to Play Act of 2013”, effective January 1, 2014, all agencies are required to provide concussion education material to all youth participants and their parents. The verification of compliance to this law is affirmed by the signature of the agency director on the GRPA roster.

SECTION B – LENGTH OF GAMES

1. A regulation game shall consist of four (4) 8-minute quarters.

- a. Each team shall be allowed three (3) time outs per half.
- b. Half-time shall consist of no more than 10 minutes.

GRPA State Play limits the number of football games per team to two games per day with a minimum of a 3 hour rest period between games. If extenuating circumstances exist the state chair or designee must be notified.

SECTION C – SPECIAL PROVISIONS

1. A team must have ten (10) players to start or continue a game. They can continue the game if the removed player leaves for any reason other than ejection. There is a roster limit of 30 players and once the roster has been submitted, it becomes official and no changes can be made. Teams should have records of all check-ins from district thru state play. Team Book/Information should consist of GRPA roster with jersey numbers and birth certificates in alphabetical order.
2. The maximum weight limit for any player to receive a hand-off or pass from scrimmage is 150 pounds (12 and under), and 125 pounds (10 and under) and 100 pounds (7 & 8). Any player ineligible to carry the ball must wear a red stripe (unless a team has red helmets and then the stripe will be white) diagonally on the back of their helmet. Maximum weight players must play on the line (players not eligible to run the ball must play tackle to tackle) and must be in a 3 or 4 point stance. Coaches will be responsible for maintaining the stripes and making sure players are in the correct playing position. Illegal participation, by a maximum weight player, during the game will result in the player being removed for minimum one game (4 quarters) suspension, and a minimum two games (8 quarters) suspension for the



head coach. **Players with striped helmets are eligible to punt and kick on kick-offs/field goal attempts.**

- a. A player's weight is defined as that weight which is determined by approved or certified scales when the player weighed at their official weigh in. No player will be allowed to totally strip for a weigh in and must have at least gym shorts on at all times. Players should be in alphabetical order for weigh-ins and a coach should be present with their roster and birth certificates in alphabetical order, as well.
- b. Weights shall be determined prior to the game on digital scales or balance type scales, furnished by the Host team. Spring scales are not acceptable.
 - (i) The Official Weigh-in shall be conducted two hours prior to game time. Players not making the weight limit at the Official Weigh-in shall be permitted a second or alternate weigh in conducted one hour prior to game time.
 - (ii) Teams not desiring to weigh-in two hours prior to game time shall be permitted to weigh-in one hour prior to game time but no alternate Weigh-in will be allowed.
 - (iii) Failure to meet the weight requirements at alternate Weigh-in shall constitute game ineligibility to carry/handle the ball.
 - (iv) *Players absent from their first game must weigh in prior to any following or subsequent games. Once weight requirement has been met, players will not be required to reweigh during same level of play unless challenged/protested (ie: District and State). Weigh-ins will be required again at state level. Teams advancing from district to championship play will not be required to reweigh. Players attempting to make weight after district may reweigh at regionals. Players that do not make weight at district or regionals may not make weight for state finals.*
****If a player is found to have not weighed in, penalty for player and/or coach will be as follows: Penalty-EJECTION FROM FACILITY AND PLAYER EJECTION FOR THE REMAINDER OF TOURNAMENT.***
 - (v) *All players will be weighed regardless of position and the actual weight will be recorded on the official roster prior to the first game played. Each team will be allowed two weight protests per game. If player is deemed eligible, protesting team will be charged with a time out. If all time outs have been used, then an unsportsmanlike penalty will be assessed. If a player is deemed ineligible, it will result in the player and coach ejections and/or disqualification of team from tournament. All protests must be made prior to the conclusion of the game. (All protested players must weigh within a five pound variance of the weight limit prior to first game of that division of play whether in District or State).*

If a child/player is found to be overweight at official weigh-in, they will be ineligible to carry or advance the ball in that game. They may weigh in again for the next game. THERE WILL BE NO EXCEPTION TO READING OF OFFICIAL SCALES!

Any team(s) found utilizing ineligible players will be penalized either by player ejection and/ or team forfeiting the game.

Weight Clarification/Interpretation: Applicable when a player was within weight to handle ball with the 5lb. variance and then discovered outside 5 lbs. during event ... see below)



Regarding eligible ball carriers being challenged and then found to be outside of the five pound variance (variance is five pounds from original weigh in weight)... the player's helmet will be striped and they will be unable to carry the ball and must play tackle to tackle from that point on until weight limits are met. However, players with striped helmets are eligible to punt and kick on kick-offs/field goal attempts.

Please remember if this is not the scenario then the penalties outlined in the manual will still apply. The child in the example above must have been eligible to carry the ball and then found to be outside the five pound variance. If they are inside of the five pound variance there is no penalty and the challenging team will be assessed a timeout or an unsportsmanlike penalty.

- c. All players whose names appear on the Official Roster must have met the weight requirement prior to the State Championship finals to be eligible to handle ball.

APPROVED RULING: If one of the teams to play in a State Championship does not have a game within one week of the State Championship game, players shall be allowed to weigh for official purposes at the Official Weigh-in of the game in which the team's opponent for the Championship games is determined, or on that same day by a State Athletic Committee Member not associated with the team agency.

3. *Mercy rule* – Beginning in the fourth quarter or any time in the fourth quarter a team gains a 21-point lead the clock will run continuously for the balance of the game except after touchdowns and during timeouts, injuries, penalties and scores. If the losing team gets within seven points the clock will return to regulation.
4. The playing field shall be 100 yards in length for 11-12, and 80 yards for 7-8 and 9-10. Kick-offs will be from the 30 yard line for 9-10 and 40-yard line in 11-12 divisions. There will be no kick-offs in the 7-8 division. The ball will be placed on the 20 yard-line to begin play.
5. All kick-offs out-of-bounds will be placed on the 35 yard-line or at the point of the out-of-bounds whichever is greater. If the receiving team fumbles the kick-off out-of-bounds, the ball will be placed at that point.

The offensive team must verbally state their intention of punting before leaving their huddle. After a verbal declaration of punting, the clock will stop until the change of possession. There will be **no punts in the 7-8 division**, the ball will be marked 30 yards from the line of scrimmage or half the distance from inside the 20-yard line by the referee. The ball cannot be spotted deeper than the 10-yard line. **9-10 division punts** will be a dead ball kick; all defensive players will take a knee during the kick except for one defensive punt receiver. The ball will be spotted where the receiver catches or controls the ball. All punts must be from long snapped formation. Delay of game can still be called even though punts are dead ball. In **11-12 division**, starts out as a dead ball and once the punter is in control of the snapped football the official blows the whistle and the play becomes live, the defense must have seven men on the line of scrimmage and two players whom cannot be no more than 5 yards off the line of scrimmage, this allows for two punt receivers for the punt return team. The intent of the rule is to keep teams from developing a wedge prior to the ball becoming live, and to help aid in the realism of the punt return portion of the game. By Rule, 11-12 Division Punts become live once the official whistles in that the punter has control of the snapped football which at that moment makes the punt returnable or gives the opportunity for a blocked punt. **No fake punts will be allowed.**

6. All coaches are required to stay within the boundaries of the coaching box with noted exceptions in the 7-8 and 9-10 divisions – one coach is allowed in the huddle of the offensive and defensive team. Once the huddles are broken, the coaches are to back up at least 10-yards. Coaches on the field are not allowed to communicate/talk to their players after the huddle is broken (penalty is 5 yards). No coaches will be allowed on the field in the 11-12 division. The coaches' box extends from the 25-yard line to the 25-yard line. There is a limit of 5 coaches on the sideline and all 5 should have the same color shirt on.
7. The time allowed to snap the ball after it has been declared ready for play is 30 seconds. **In the flea division, the football may be placed parallel to the line of scrimmage to assist in snapping the ball.**
8. If a game ends in a tie, the 10-yard line overtime procedure will be used with the ball being placed on the 10-yard line with each team getting a series (this is the same procedure used by the GHSA except the ball will be placed on the 10-yard line). 1st and 2nd Overtime will use 10 yard procedure and 3rd overtime will use penetration with the ball placed on the 10 yard line.



9. In the 7-8 division, a defensive player is not allowed to line up over the center. As a result of this rule, there will be no quarterback sneaks. The QB must be led by a running back if running up the middle. The QB may run outside the guards and there are no direct snaps to anyone other than the quarterback. The penalty for this infraction is the same as illegal formation.
10. Defensive linemen must be in a 3 or 4 point stance – any player tackle to tackle is considered a lineman on the line-of-scrimmage. Linebackers (tackle to tackle) must be off the line-of-scrimmage – depth must be the back of the farthest lineman position. The penalty for this infraction is the same as being off sides.
11. Extra Points and Field Goals: **Players with striped helmets are eligible to punt and kick on kick-offs/field goal attempts.**

Flea 8U Football – 1 point for running in the end zone
2 points for passing into the end zone

Mite 10U Football – 1 point for running or passing
2 points for kicking thru the uprights

(Dead Ball with no rush, defense can raise hands and try to block only – no jumping. The ball must be snapped to holder whom places on standard orange kicking tee and holder does not have to hold ball while ball is being kicked; in fact, kicker can actually adjust ball after being placed on kicking tee by holder) Ball would be placed on the regulation 3 yard line on a 100 yd. field. On an 80 yard field, a field goal attempt would be from 13 yards off the face of the goal/uprights.

Field Goal attempts have the same rule except team awarded 3-points

Midget 12U Football – 1 Point for running or passing
2 Points for kicking thru the uprights

(Dead Ball with no rush, defense can raise hands and try to block only – no jumping. The ball must be snapped to holder who holds football on a kicking block or ground for the extra point, once the official sees that the snapped ball is in place by the holder; the official blows the whistle and the kicker must immediately kick the extra point) Ball is placed on 3 yard line. Penalty is delay of game.

Field Goal attempts - the same rule except team awarded 3-points

ARTICLE III – EQUIPMENT

SECTION A – APPROVED EQUIPMENT

1. Shoes are mandatory for play in youth football games.
 - a. Shoes which have plastic, nylon, hard rubber or other synthetic materials, and which have cleats which are detachable are not allowed.
 - b. Shoes with rubber-molded cleats are permissible, as are smooth, soft-sole shoes such as tennis or basketball shoes.
2. The approved footballs are as follows (teams may use their own ball as long as it meets the below specifications):
 - a. **12 and Under:** Wilson TDY; Spaulding J2Y; McGregor MSJ; Rawlings KRB; Voit CF7S; Wilson F1544; or other youth size football.
 - b. **10 and Under:** Wilson TDJ or any other junior size football.
 - c. **7 & 8:** Wilson K2 or equal



SECTION B – UNIFORM REQUIREMENTS

1. A uniform for youth football shall include helmet with face guard, 2 or 4 point chin strap snaps, shoulder pads, football pants with pads protecting the hips, thighs and knees, and jersey with numerals on front and back. It is mandatory that all players wear such uniforms. No other youth sports organization patches will be allowed on uniforms in GRPA tournaments. – Penalty – Illegal Equipment
2. Mouth pieces must be worn by all players in the game and meet current GSHA requirements. They should be attached to the helmet and visible to the game officials. They cannot be clear.
3. GRPA waives the GSHA position numbering system requirements.

SECTION C – PLAYING FIELD REQUIREMENTS

1. The playing field and surrounding immediate area shall be in accordance with the specifications of the GSHA rules. Please refer to C-4 in this section.
2. The Host Agency shall be responsible for seeing that the playing field requirements meet the proper specifications.

ARTICLE IV – GAMES AND AWARDS

SECTION A – METHOD OF TEAM ENTRY

1. The State Athletic bracket Committee will set the state-wide pairings after the Fall meeting (October). The State Committee may, at its opinion, restrict the number of entries from an agency. The agency must meet all eligibility requirements of a GRPA member.
2. The process of selecting finalists will be single-elimination.
4. The State regionals and finals of Class “A” and “B” will be awarded by bid process at State President’s Assembly. State finals will be rotated on an odd/South and even/North as selected by the State Athletic Committee. District 1, 2, and 3 are considered South. District 4, 5, and 7 are considered North. District 6 will be based on location of entries/regional host.
5. Awards as determined by State Athletic Committee Bid- Team trophy for first and second and individual medals for first and second place.

ARTICLE V – OFFICIALS AND PARTICIPANTS

SECTION A – HOST

1. The Host Agency shall provide a minimum number of competent adults to serve as a statistician, a play-off director, and approved game officials in accordance with Rule II Article IV. The statistician must be agreeable by both agencies playing the game prior to kickoff and he shall keep all necessary records for the game.
2. The Host Agency shall be responsible for proper conduct of spectators.
3. Teams may provide their own game ball as long as it meets GRPA specifications.
4. The Host Agency shall be responsible for seeing that the playing field requirements meet GRPA specifications.

SECTION B – GAME OFFICIALS



1. A minimum of four Approved or Certified Game Officials (qualified game official in their third year or more of membership with a certified officials association acceptable by the Georgia High School Association and designated by GHSA Standards as an approved official for Football) shall be employed for State level GRPA competition. District levels must use at least three (3) Officials as stated in Rule II, Article IV, Section B.

ARTICLE VI – PROTESTS AND APPEALS

See Rule II Article I

(See Rule I, Article IV, Section C-11 for protest committee organization and responsibility – Page 56)

Exception: Weigh-ins would follow procedures listed herein.