



Golden Empire Youth Football “Participant Try Out Policy”

As a competitive youth tackle football feeder program, Golden Empire Youth Tackle Football will utilize a league wide standardized “**Try Out Policy**” for all prospective GEYF Participants regardless of age, experience, and or ability.

Formal Try Out Period:

- As of March 1st of each season all GEYF Teams in each division may initiate **Get-Togethers** for the purpose of try-outs, recruiting, and readying their programs for the upcoming season with the intent to fill every team’s thirty (30) person Roster .
- All GEYF Teams are allowed to conduct Formal league sanctioned “Participant Try Outs” from the period beginning March 1ST and concluding no later than June 1st. of each Football Season. GEYF Teams may add players to their roster after the Formal Try Out Period has concluded (June 1St.) based on team and league need only.
- Get-togethers may only be two **(2)** hours in length, and no more than **(3)** three times in a **(7)** seven day period. Area coaches must be in attendance and under the direction of a league approved Area Representative, and no one athlete may participate in get-togethers until a GEYF Waiver/ Release agreement and authorization has been signed by parent/guardian of participant. Coaches will keep such agreements on hand at all times.

Participant Eligibility & Placement:

- Prior to the start of any one Get – Together/Try Out, it is the responsibility of each program’s Area Representative and Head Coach to ensure that each prospective participant meets all pre determined GEYF Residential Boundary/Placement Requirements as well as GEYF Age & Weight Criteria as it relates to predetermined divisional placement. For the purpose of Get – Togethers/Try Outs, Practice, Scrimmages, and or Games, participants will always be placed in the appropriate division based on age and weight.

Participant Try Out Format:

- All GEYF Team Try – Outs will be conducted in a safe, structured, and organized manner. All Try Out Activity will be done so in a manner consistent with GEYF League Policy and reflective of each participant's divisional placement and ability.

Participant Selection Criteria:

- During the GEYF Formal Try Out Process, every participant wishing to be considered for a roster spot will be given the opportunity to compete for that position through a series of regulated Team Try Outs. Each participant will be given the opportunity to attend and participate in a league wide minimum of two **(2)** GEYF Formal Team Try Outs. During that process, each team's head coach will select players based on the following criteria.
 - a. Team and position need**
 - b. Participant ability & performance**
 - c. Participant effort & desire**
 - d. Participant attitude, conduct, and participation**

Although final player selection will be at the sole discretion of each team's head coach, every participant will be evaluated equitably utilizing the above referenced criteria.

Participant Notification:

- During the GEYF Formal Try Out Period and after a minimum of two **(2)** regulated team try outs per participant, GEYF Head Coaches under the direction of his or her GEYF Area Representative are eligible to begin the participant notification process. With great care, compassion, and in a respectful professional manner, GEYF Head Coaches will inform each and every participant trying out for his or her respective team whether or not said participant has made that team.
- All participants will be notified in person as to whether or not they have been selected to a team. Email, voicemail, text messaging, or online postings are not acceptable forms of notification. GEYF Coaches are to communicate directly with both parent and player during the notification process and must do so in a respectful professional manner as to prevent any type of embarrassment. Participants who have been selected to a team will be given direction as to when, where, and how to register. (Parent/Guardian should be provided with this information). Participants not selected to a team will be formally released. Participants not selected to a team will be released in a reasonable time period to allow for greater opportunity to compete for a roster spot on a GEYF out of area program.

Release Process:

- During the GEYF Formal Try Out Period and after a minimum of two (2) regulated team try outs per participant, players not selected to a team in his or her respective GEYF area will be released to play out of area for a period of one (1) year. After completion of said year, participants are required to return to his or her respective GEYF area for future consideration. Any participant who was not selected to a team will be issued a formal written release from the exiting programs Area Representative and head coach. The release process will also apply to teams that are full and no longer accepting players. Every exiting program's Area Representative and Head Coach will make every effort to assist and redirect participants to GEYF teams that are both in need of players and continuing to conduct team try outs.

League Notification:

- It is the responsibility of All GEYF Area Representatives to notify the league office when teams and divisions are full with a roster of thirty **(30)** players and no longer conducting Team Try Outs.

It is the responsibility of all GEYF Board Members and Coaches to ensure that this policy is strictly enforced.

GEYF Board of Directors