

Please view BOTH pages 1 and 2 in order to view ALL items which are important regarding eligibility!

AAU eligibility is a combination of age AND grade which determines which age/grade division an athlete may play for. **However, the MOST important part is the AGE. If an athlete meets the correct age cutoff, then he may play in that group NO MATTER what grade he is in. In simple terms, if an athlete is AGE eligible, then his grade is NOT a factor.** The ONLY time the grade is a factor is if the athlete is one year older by the cutoff date (see the Grade based policy below each group below).

Age/Grade Based Competition Rules

8U/2nd Grade: An athlete can be no older than 8 on August 31, 2024 (born AFTER 8/31/2015). 2nd GRADE Policy – An athlete MUST be in the 2nd grade as of October 1, 2023 and can be no older than 9 on August 31, 2024 (born AFTER 8/31/2014).

9U/3rd Grade: An athlete can be no older than 9 on August 31, 2024 (born AFTER 8/31/2014) & be in any grade. 3rd GRADE Policy – An athlete MUST be in the 3rd grade as of October 1, 2023 and can be no older than 10 on August 31, 2024 (born AFTER 8/31/2013).

10U/4th Grade: An athlete can be no older than 10 on August 31, 2024 (born AFTER 8/31/2013) & be in any grade. 4th GRADE Policy – An athlete MUST be in the 4th grade as of October 1, 2023 and can be no older than 11 on August 31, 2024 (born AFTER 8/31/2012).

11U/5th Grade: An athlete can be no older than 11 on August 31, 2024 (born AFTER 8/31/2012) & be in any grade. 5th GRADE Policy – An athlete MUST be in the 5th grade as of October 1, 2023 and can be no older than 12 on August 31, 2024 (born AFTER 8/31/2011).

12U/6th Grade: An athlete can be no older than 12 on August 31, 2024 (born AFTER 8/31/2011) & be in any grade. 6th GRADE Policy – An athlete MUST be in the 6th grade as of October 1, 2023 and can be no older than 13 on August 31, 2024 (born AFTER 8/31/2010).

13U/7th Grade: An athlete can be no older than 13 on August 31, 2024 (born AFTER 8/31/2010) & be in any grade. 7th GRADE – An athlete MUST be in the 7th grade as of October 1, 2023 and can be no older than 14 on August 31, 2024 (born AFTER 8/31/2009).

14U/8th Grade: An athlete can be no older than 14 on August 31, 2024 (born AFTER 8/31/2009) & be in any grade. 8th GRADE Policy – An athlete MUST be in the 8th grade as of October 1, 2023 and can be no older than 15 on August 31, 2024 (born AFTER 8/31/2008).

HIGH SCHOOL Based Competition Rules

15U/9th Grade: An athlete can be no older than 15 on August 31, 2024 (born AFTER 8/31/2008). 9th Grade Policy : An athlete who is in the 9th grade as of October 1, 2023 and who is no older than 16 on August 31, 2024 (born AFTER 8/31/2007) is eligible to play in the 15U/9th grade division

16U/10th Grade: An athlete can be no older than 16 on August 31, 2024 (born AFTER 8/31/2007). 10th Grade Policy: An athlete who is in the 10th grade as of October 1, 2023 and who is no older than 17 on August 31, 2024 (born AFTER 8/31/2006) is eligible to play in the 16U/10th grade division

17U/11th Grade: An athlete can be no older than 17 on August 31, 2024 (born AFTER 8/31/2006). 11th Grade Policy: An athlete who is in the 11th grade as of October 1, 2023 and who is no older than 18 on August 31, 2024 (born AFTER 8/31/2005) is eligible to play in the 17U/11th grade division

20U: An athlete can be no older than 20 on August 31, 2024 (born AFTER 8/31/2004).

1.) For all **AAU World (formerly National) Championship** events 1(one) of the following (options A thru E below) **MUST be presented to verify a player's age and photo ID and option G must ALSO be presented to additionally verify a player's grade if your team is participating in a GRADE based event or any 15u/9th thru 20u event:**

A.) Electronic Age Verification through **SportsAge ID** (a one-time \$15 fee) or **National Sports ID** (a yearly fee of \$10). Both of these options meet age and photo ID requirements PROVIDED parent/coach provide SAAU with login info at SAAU event in order to verify on site. In simple terms, NO PAPER copies!!

B.) Valid Passport (Meets age and photo ID requirements)

C.) Valid Driver's License or Learner's Permit (Meets age and photo ID requirements)

D.) Military ID card (Meets age and photo ID requirements)

E.) Dept. of Motor Vehicles State Identification card (Meets age and photo ID requirements)

F.) A current school picture ID AND (in addition to) an original **raised seal** birth certificate (Meets age and photo ID requirements ONLY for Louisiana & Mississippi SAAU State events)

G.) Report Card from the 2023-24 school year (Meets grade requirement **ONLY**)

Failure to present any/all documents upon request during any part of the AAU event will result in immediate FORFEIT and disqualification!

2.) For all SAAU Championship events 1(one) of the above options in #1(A-E) OR #1(F) a Birth Certificate with the state seal or logo CLEARLY visible **MUST be presented UPON REQUEST AT ANY TIME to verify a player's age in Louisiana and/or Mississippi sponsored AAU events IN ADDITION to picture verification - that is a PHOTO ID).** If an athlete is participating as part of the Grade based Policy, then you must ALSO present a 2023-24 report card for that player. **Failure to present any/all documents upon request during any part of the AAU event will result in immediate FORFEIT and disqualification!**

3.) A player becomes attached to a registered AAU club once he participates in a licensed AAU event (NOT a practice or tryout) for that club. If the player later wishes to transfer to another registered AAU club he has only 2 options: (A) get his current AAU club to complete the AAU Club release form & allow immediate transfer to another registered AAU club or (B) sit out 60 days from the last licensed AAU event he participated if his current club does not complete the AAU Club release form. Click this link for the: **[AAU Club RELEASE Form](#)**

4.) A player MAY participate in up to 2 (two) age/grade divisions for which he qualifies (e.g. – a 8U player MAY qualify to play "UP" in the 9U division as long as he meets the age requirements & therefore he may play on both the 8U and 9U teams with the SAME club as long as the events are not at the same time-we cannot have players playing 4 to 5 games in a day). In ALL "play up" cases, the player **MUST play with the SAME AAU club/team when playing up for STATE competition.**

5.) COACHES are responsible to see that their team meets all eligibility requirements (all requirements listed in section # 5 below). If a coach thinks a player is ineligible, he must protest in WRITING during pool play. Once championship bracket play has begun, protest concerning player eligibility will NOT be heard unless it's concerning a fake player (i.e. John Smith playing as Bill Sims). A written request of protest along with \$150 cash must be turned into the tournament director within 2 hours of completion of the game in question. Protest CANNOT be heard regarding officials' calls during a game. If your protest is upheld your \$150 will be returned. If not upheld, you will forfeit the money. If a player is found to be ineligible, BOTH the player & coach could be banned from AAU for at least one year after a review hearing from the eligibility board after the event.

6.) A coach MUST complete the AAU online roster by the stated deadline for each AAU event they participate in during the 2024 season in order to compete.