

Special Requests for Team Placement & Carpools

If you would like to *request your child be placed (or perhaps NOT be placed) with a certain coach, teammate, or group of school classmates, you can specify that during registration in the Special Request field. You can also use this field to specify certain days that you are available or unavailable for practice if it would create a scheduling conflict for your family. Making mention of multiple sports being played and what they are would be helpful too.

**Please be mindful of the fact that you are making a request rather than setting a requirement or making a demand.*

We make every attempt to accommodate as many of the requests as we can each season (*including basketball), but there are often circumstances that prevent a request from being met. Below are some of the criteria we use to help you understand our process.

**For basketball we use a specific grading process prior to team placement to make teams more balanced for size and skill. Grading results may override a special request.*

Primary Considerations for Special Requests:

- If a specific coach is requested
- If two friends request each other to play together
- If a carpool is essential for the child to play
- Specific days needed for practice to avoid schedule conflicts
- If a teammate or coach is requested to NOT be placed with
- If a certain school/childcare center is listed so a child is placed with friends

Less Consideration Given:

- If one family makes a request to play with a friend but the other family does not
- Date of registration (early registration does not guarantee placement requests)

Suggestions & Best Practices:

- Always try to make your requests during registration rather than contacting us after the fact. It gets very busy and can be extremely difficult to shuffle kids after placement has taken place.
- Be brief and very clear in your request.
 - Example: Coach Johnson, Tyler Smith, no Wednesday practices
 - Example: Cannot play unless carpooling with Tyler Smith

- Example: place with other Belmont ES kids
- If your registration is in a Pending Financial Aid or Pending Payment status, special requests will be considered only once you are moved into an Active status.
- DO NOT list every child on a team to be placed with, choose one or two.
- DO NOT request “last year’s team”, specify a coach instead.
- If your child is playing multiple sports in a season our system does not notify us of that automatically, so please make mention of which sports might conflict (for example: playing flag and baseball).
- Registrations that are made late or last minute (including Waitlisted players) cannot be accommodated for special requests since team placements have likely been completed.

We put a lot of effort into trying to accommodate these requests and we appreciate your understanding when we cannot. Sometimes 20 families request the same coach on a team with space for 12 kids. Disappointments will happen. But these are recreational sports and the goal is to get as many kids out there to play as possible and sometimes that means joining a different team and making new friends! We do recognize that we make mistakes and schedules change so if you need to contact us over a critical placement issue you can always do that at obgcadm@obgc.com and we will do what we can.