

Tri-West Youth Football Peewee **Division Rules**

Football League Goal

The goal of the Tri-West Youth Football League is to promote a positive experience for all participants by educating and developing football skills and the basic knowledge of the sport. Our prime objective is to maximize playing time for all players, and to promote good sportsmanship while providing the basic fundamentals of the game of Football to all participants. Our goal is that each player receives no less than 50% playing time.

League Rules

The purpose of these rules is to promote safety and participation in the execution of a positive learning football experience for all players in the program. To ensure consistency of play, the league will use IHSA Rules. Some of the rules are modified for specific use within our youth football league and approved by our board members.

Conduct of Players and Coaches

1. Head coaches are responsible for maintaining control of the conduct of their players, assistant coaches and spectators.
2. All players and coaches are to conduct themselves in such a way as to promote good sportsmanship, a safe atmosphere and the integrity of the Tri-West Youth Football League at all times. Any player ejected from a game, for any reason, will be given a warning on the behavior or causes of ejection. A second ejection will result in a one game suspension, of both player and head coach, which will be served at the next scheduled game. A third ejection from the same player will result in suspension from the league for the remainder of the season and depending on the severity, consideration to suspend any involvement within the Tri-West Youth Football League for the following year will be brought before the Board of Directors for review.
3. Any coach being ejected from a game, for any reason, will serve an automatic one-week suspension. This will include all practices and the next scheduled game. A second suspension, for any reason, will result in suspension from the league.
4. Any coach that displays an act of violence towards a player, official or another coach will be permanently banned from coaching and possible criminal charges

filed with the local law enforcement agency, there will be absolutely NO TOLERANCE for this behavior.

5. Notification of any and all ejections will immediately be made to league officials. Review and final determination will be made by league officials.

Coaches Responsibilities:

1. Head coaches should always be aware of weather conditions and should always keep the safety of the players in mind.
2. Any accident or injury should be reported whenever an injury occurs that requires first aid or when a participant must be removed from competition.
3. All head coaches must attend any league called coaches meetings or league required coaching clinics. Failure to do so without an accepted excuse may result in suspension of participation or dismissal from the league for repeated violations.
4. Practice time is limited to twice during the week and 1 game or practice on Saturday.
5. All Head Coaches will be responsible for providing a chain game when they are designated the visiting team.
6. All Head coaches will nominate at least 1; no more than 3, Official Assistant Coaches and 1 Team Mom after their team's roster has been finalized.
7. It will be the responsibility of the Head Coach to ensure that all League information is passed down to the participants of their team.
8. To ensure that each Player receives equal coaching time and that the players are learning the basic fundamentals of football, each player will be given a specific position and guaranteed to play either offense or defense of each game.
9. To assist in the advancement and good integrity of the Tri-West Youth Football League.
10. To maintain a professional attitude and demeanor especially in the presence of our leagues children, and to always treat all participants, volunteers, sponsors, coaches, affiliates and board members with the utmost respect at all times regardless of the situation.
11. Any violation of these rules will be brought to the immediate attention of the Tri-West Youth Football League's Board of Directors and official action may be taken to prevent any further violations and to uphold the intentions and integrity of the League.

Team Responsibilities:

1. Every effort should be made to maintain good sportsmanship. Game officials have the right, **with proper warning to head coaches**, to assess a 10 yard penalty for inadequate crowd control and unruly behavior on part of coaches, players or fans. **Officials may remove any person from the area. Penalty and/or removal are solely at the discretion of game officials.**
2. The Home team in the first game is responsible for setting up the field, ensuring all markings are present, i.e. cones, yard markers, down markers (chains).

3. The Home team in the last game is responsible for putting away, in a neat manor, all equipment as well as cleaning up trash around the field.
4. Each team is responsible for cleaning up their side line area after each game.
5. It will be the responsibility of the HOME team to report the score of their game to the Peewee Football Director.
6. The Visiting Team will be responsible for providing a 3 person Chain Gang and providing the game ball.
7. Each Team will be required to provide a person to assist in the concession stand at various times as directed by the Tri-West Youth Football League Director of Concessions.

Participation Rules:

1. **Number of Players:** A maximum of 11 players can be on the field during play. If a team does not have the required amount of players, it will be at the coach's discretion and mutual agreement to continue the game with an equal amount of players on both sides. In the case that a game cannot be played due to inadequate participants, the game will try to be rescheduled. If this is not possible then the game will be documented as a tie, 0-0, or if a player(s) were lost at any point during the game, the score will be called and documented at the time of loss.
2. **Line of Scrimmage:** The maximum number of players allowed on the line of scrimmage when the ball is snapped will be 4 on defense and 7 on offense. The League will follow the tackle standard defense rules, in that there will be no defensive player lined up over the center, defensive players will not be allowed to blitz between the Guard and Center and the defensive line must line up 1 yard behind the line of scrimmage.
3. **On-Field Coaches:** Coaches will be allowed on the field (no more than 2 for each team) to assist with play calling and education of the participants. Coaches on the field **may not** direct any player, by word or gesture, once the Quarterback **begins** his cadence until the whistle blows the play dead.
4. **Rotating Players:** Each team **must** clear the bench of players whenever there is a change of possession.
5. **Player Selection:** Players will be selected in a league sponsored draft, supervised by the Director of Peewee Football, and assigned to teams.
6. **Head Coaches:** All Head coaches, including official assistants, will be approved by the Tri-West Youth Football League Board Members and will be required to sign letters of agreement to all League rules and participate in criminal history checks to stay in accordance with all current and/or future revisions to state and federal laws or court findings to ensure the safety and well being of all participants and maintain the integrity of the Tri-West Youth Football League.
7. **Team Mom:** Each team will nominate a Team Mom, who will assist the Head Coach in logistical issues such as Fund Raisers (handed down by the Tri-West Youth Football League Director of Fundraising), Concession stand duties, after game

snacks, organizing end of season parties (if so desired) or handing out information sheets passed down by the Tri-West Youth Football League.

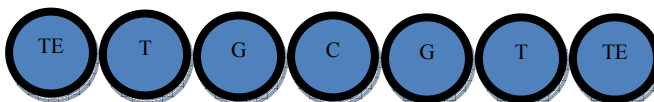
8. **Official Assistants:** Any Person wishing to volunteer their time as an Official Assistant Coach will first be approved by the Tri-West Youth Football League Board and then be held to the same standards as the Head Coaches. **Consideration to an Official Assistant Coach will not be given until after the Teams roster has been created and finalized by the Director of Peewee Football.** Exceptions to this rule will only be given to direct family members or in case of hardship or burden and will be at the sole discretion of the Director of Peewee Football.

Game Rules:

1. **Officials:** Each game will be played under the supervision of at least one (1) official. The decisions of these referees are final. No protests will be allowed.
2. **Coin Toss:** Each game will begin with a coin toss. The team that wins the toss will have the choice to start with the ball on offense or defer to the second half. The other team will have the choice of goal to defend. The same choice will be given to the defensive team to begin the second half.
3. **Spot of the Ball:** At the beginning of the game and at the beginning of the second half, the team electing to "receive" will take possession of the ball at their own 20 yard line. Following a touchdown the ball is spotted at the 20 also.
4. **Neutral Zone:** The neutral zone is defined as a one yard (1) margin between the ball and the defensive front line. No defender may line up in this zone prior to the snap of the ball. No defender may line up over the center at any time, nor may any player rush between the guards. The referee will help establish the neutral zone prior to each play.
5. **Game Duration:** The games will consist of (4) - 10 minute quarters with a 5 minute half-time. The clock will run the entire time except after a score, or a time out called by a coach or an official.
6. **Time Outs:** Each team is permitted two time outs per half.
7. **First Downs:** First Downs will be awarded when the offense moves the ball 10 yards or whatever yardage is necessary to achieve ten (10) yards from the original line of scrimmage.
8. **Defensive Penalty:** The half or game cannot end on a defensive penalty. After the penalty is worked out the offense will be given one final play.
9. **Injured Player:** Any player who is injured during the course of a game must sit out a minimum of 1 play if an official timeout is used.
10. **Punting:** If a team decides to punt the ball, the referee will mark off 20 yards after both teams line up in formation. If the mark off places the ball within the ten (10) yard line, the ball will be re-placed on the ten (10) yard line and the receiving team will take possession.
11. **Tie Score:** A game may end in a tie.
12. **Running Weight Limitations:** The weight limit for any person advancing the ball will be 65lbs. without pads.
13. **Weigh-ins:** Weigh-ins will be conducted only two (2) times, once at registration, once before the Jamboree (if needed).
14. **Stripers:** Stripers are defined as any participant over the running weight limitation of 65lbs. All Stripers will be required to wear a single stripe from front to

back down the center of their helmet. Strippers will not be allowed to advance the ball except in the occurrence of an interception or fumble generated by the offense. Fumbles recovered by a stripper on offense will be considered dead balls and spotted at the point of initial contact.

15. **Running plays up the middle:** Quarterbacks may hand the ball to a running back that can run between the guards, the specifics to this rule is that the running back must be lined up behind the quarterback and that the quarterback is **NOT** allowed to advance the ball between the guards. (I.e. quarterback sneaks).
16. **Linebackers:** Only 3 Linebackers are allowed to line up between the inside shoulders of the Ends. Linebackers can be no closer than four yards from the line of scrimmage—only exception to this rule will be goal line situation or 4th down and less than two yards.
17. **Defensive Line:** Interior defensive lineman must be directly lined up in front of the guard or the tackle. No gap play will be permitted. Defensive Ends can only line up directly in front of the tight end or the tight ends outside shoulder.
18. **Cornerbacks/Safety Positions:** Each team will have two (2) safeties and two (2) cornerbacks. Corners **MUST** be lined up at least 5 yards away from the defensive end and five (5) yards off the line of scrimmage. Safeties must be ten (10) yards off the line of scrimmage.
19. **Offensive Line: Must be the same as below.**



20. **Backfield:**



I Formation



Deuce



Single back

21. **Quarterback:** The first player to touch the ball (take the snap) from the center must be the quarterback. The quarterback can either take the snap from underneath center or directly behind the center in the shotgun formation.
22. **Receivers, Flankers and Wings:** These types of players can be lined up on either side of the formation at least five (5) yards off the last player on the line of scrimmage and cannot be more than one (1) yard off the line of scrimmage. Motion will be permitted as long as the player doesn't stop moving prior to the snap of the ball. No forward motion will be permitted.

The TWYFL Board of Directors holds the right to make changes to these rules to ensure the safety of the participants, the education of the participants and to maintain the successful advancement of the Tri West Youth Football League. Any questions or suggestions pertaining to these rules should be directed towards the Director of Peewee Football.