

903 YOUTH FOOTBALL AND CHEER BY-LAWS

I: SEASON OF PLAY

II: DIVISIONS

III: DIVISION WEIGHT LIMITS

IV: ROSTERING

V: LEAGUE DISCIPLINE

I: SEASON (SUBJECT TO CHANGE ANNUALLY)

The 903 Youth Football & Cheer season start dates and playoff structure will be determined each Spring. Proposal will be made by the League Board in conjunction with all town's district football schedule, homecoming dates, stadium and referee availability. Proposal will be made and approved by Commissioner's Board. Weather and Holidays may adjust season dates.

The Football Season shall consist of each town playing a minimum of 6 games with a bye week (home/away) and playoff and a championship.

Playoffs will follow the results of the regular season with the top team in each age division receiving a bye, and teams #2-#7 playing a traditional seed format of #2 vs #7, #3 vs #6, and #4 vs #5. The winner of these advances to a final 4 format. The remaining 2 winners play in the championship with the highest seeded team always declared the home team.

Regular season schedule and playoff format is subject to change with League expansion.

Playoff award money will be due at the playoff planning meeting midway of the season by all towns in the amount of \$ _____. All towns in the league will be responsible for contributing for playoff fees.

Championship trophy money will be due at the playoff planning meeting midway of the season by all towns in the amount of \$ _____. All towns in the league will be responsible for super bowl fees.

Outside Events: Towns will be eligible to participate in events outside of the regular season of play and the league restrictions, provided it doesn't violate UIL rules, not playing more than one game in a five-day period.

II: DIVISIONS

All divisions will be determined based on player grade and age as of December 31st of that football season year. 5 and under flag division TBD.

K/2 division consists of K, 1st & 2nd grade, may not turn 9 before December 31st.

3/4 division consists of 3rd & 4th grade, may not turn 11 before December 31st.

5/6 division consists of 5th & 6th grade, may not turn 13 before December 31st.

Players in Older Divisions: A younger player may play in the next higher age group with parents', coaches', and commissioner's consent. The coach retains the right to carry that player on the next season's roster or to release the player to return to his/her own age group as a pool player.

Players Outside Age Limit: The playing of any player below his/her age division as defined above shall result in the forfeiture of all games up to that date. Female participants are allowed within the appropriate age division but fall under all the same guidelines as male athletes. All age limit violations are subject to review by League Board and the Commissioner's Board.

III: DIVISION WEIGHT LIMITS

K/2 Division X Man Weight Limit – 90.00 lb. Any player over 90.00 lbs. will be an X player.

3/4 Division X Man Weight Limit – 115.00 lb. Any player over 115.00 lbs. must be and X player.

5/6 Division X Man Weight Limit – 135.00 lb. – Any player over 135.00 lbs. must be an X player.

Players over the X weight limit in each age division may not carry or advance the ball, even in the event of a fumble or interception when playing defense.

Players over the weight limit must play on the line for both sides of the ball and must wear a minimum 3"x 3" X on the back center of their helmet, and a minimum 1.5" x 1.5" X on the front center in a bold, contrasting color for the referees to easily recognize.

X Players can be the placekicker for any age division provided no fake kicks result in them advancing the ball. X Players can play other Special Teams positions but may not advance the ball.

K/2 Division Overall Weight Limit – 120.00 lb. Any player over 120.00 lbs. may play up to the next division. Any Kinder or 1st grade player under 7 for the duration of the season over 120.00 lbs. must wear a RED X and may only play offensive line and may not pull, trap block, lead block downfield, cut block, wedge, or pancake.

3/4 Division Overall Weight Limit – 160.00 lb. Any player over 160.00 lbs. may play up to the next division. Any 3rd grade player under 9 for the duration of the season over 160.00 lbs. must wear a RED X and may only play offensive line and may not pull, trap block, lead block downfield, cut block, wedge, or pancake.

5/6 Division Overall Weight Limit – 230.00 lbs. Any player over 230.00 lbs. may not play. Any player over 210.00 lbs. must wear a RED X and may only play offensive line and may not pull, trap block, lead block downfield, cut block, wedge, or pancake.

Player weight will be determined pre-season at weigh-ins.

IV: ROSTERING

Registration: Each player in the organization must have their parent or legal guardian sign a contract giving permission for their child to participate. The contract will specify the players full name, birthday, address, telephone number, and school attending. In addition, the contract must contain a release allowing the League Board to verify with players school his/her grade and address. A birth certificate, physical form, and most recent report card is required for all players on a team's roster.

Eligible participants will live within the following parameters: Attend a school within the district of a League town or live within the school district of a League town if home-schooled or private-schooled. Players MUST play for the team of the school district they reside.

If a player has no team available in their town, they may play for the closest district with a team to their physical address. Non-district players may ONLY make up 10% of the town's team.

Edgewood and Mineola are granted an additional 10%, totaling 20% due to their smaller size in relation to other towns in the league.

Waiver Requests: Each town may submit a waiver request for players wishing to play out of district or abnormal to standard league rules under the following circumstances:

1. Town the player resides in does not offer football.
2. Medical circumstances as it relates to the player's physical safety.
3. The player lives in district but attends another school for logistical reasons (or private school)
4. The player attends the district school but does not live in district.

*Out of district players upon the original formation of the 903YFC league are grandfathered with their town given their status in relation to League eligibility rules does not change. (examples: Player moves or changes districts then they are no longer eligible under our grandfather rule)

Waiver requests must be submitted in a timely manner prior to roster verification to the 903YFC League President. League Board will review each waiver request and approve or deny by vote, then the request will be subject to a Commissioner's Board vote. League Board members and League Commissioner's will not vote on waivers from their respective town.

(See Attached waiver document)

Roster Deadline: Rosters with all required information and birth certificate copies will be due to the League Board at the designated League Roster Meeting prior to the first regular season game. Rosters and birth certificates could be required to be present at designated league weigh-in for verification.

V: LEAGUE DISCIPLINE

To ensure the best experience for all members of 903 Youth Football & Cheer, the league must maintain a level of fairness and discipline. Therefore, all Coaches and town Representatives have entered a verbal contract, this contract is to ensure that a coach or leader understand their role as it applies to the league.

All towns will place their parents under a verbal parent contract as well. This is a simple way to make sure the parents understand their responsibilities to not just their child but the team. It also allows an opportunity for the parent to become aware that the league will tolerate no acts of verbal or physical violence.

Violations of contracts or By-Laws: The league reserves the right to ban any player, parent, coach, or any individual from all events if the act is found to require said action as decided by the Commissioner's Board with a unanimous vote.

*League Board makes the final and official decisions for all violations or discrepancies of the by-law's penalties.

Coach Ejections: If a coach is removed from a game, the coach will be subject to an automatic suspension of 4 quarters to not include the playing quarter of the ejection. Town Presidents or Commissioners will notify the League Board of all disciplinary issues with coaching staff and may call for an appeal of a coach suspension. The League Board and Commissioner's Board may hear circumstances of the situation and vote to reinstate the coach or uphold the suspension.

If the coach is removed from the game for the 2nd time, anytime during the remainder of the season, the coach will be removed from the league for that season and must be approved by the League Board & Commissioner's Board before returning as a coach the following season or through a town appeal of the season of the suspension. Removal of coaches includes practice. It is the Town Representatives responsibility to uphold these rulings.

It is also agreed that if the parents/fans start to get out of control it is the responsibility of the town representative and town board members to handle this immediately. A time-out can be taken to ensure the safety of the players, if the problem continues the game can and will be stopped. The League Board will then vote on the actions taken to stop the game, the outcome of the game, or if a rematch will be played.

If a town fails to roster all three teams, that town is responsible for paying referee crew for 3 games when hosting as a home site. That town is also responsible for paying the increase in referee fees above standard rates to the hosting town.

A monetary fine of \$20 will be imposed for any late document that was requested in advance, for football or cheer. Examples: Rosters, Insurance Checks, Background checks, or not submitting game scores. (Penalty money is applied to trophies and championship costs)

All penalty fees must be paid by the final week of regular season play. Any town not in good financial standings with the League by the final week of regular season play will forfeit all playoff eligibility for all its teams.