



## 2026 Midwest Youth Elite Football Conference By Laws

### # ARTICLE II — CONDUCT, COMPETITION & GAME REGULATIONS (2026)

#### ## 2.1 Unacceptable Behavior — Member Organizations

- Failure to attend required Conference meetings or calls
- Failure to appear for scheduled games
- Failure to timely pay league or officials' fees
- Violations of residency, recruiting, or eligibility rules
- Failure to comply with AYF or Conference certification procedures
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#### ## 2.2 Unacceptable Behavior — Coaches

- Threats, intimidation, or aggressive physical contact
- Use of abusive or profane language
- Unsportsmanlike conduct toward officials, players, or spectators
- Use of alcohol, tobacco, or illegal substances at league events
- Any conduct detrimental to participants or the Conference

#### 2.3 Unacceptable Behavior — Participants

- Fighting or unsportsmanlike conduct
- Threats or intimidation
- Use of abusive language
- Use of alcohol, tobacco, or illegal substances at league events
- Conduct detrimental to the Conference

#### ## 2.4 Unacceptable Behavior — Parents / Spectators

- Harassment of officials, coaches, or players
- Threats or abusive language
- Unsportsmanlike conduct
- Alcohol or tobacco use at youth events
- Conduct detrimental to the Conference



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### ## 2.5 Zero Tolerance Policy & Discipline

All violations at league events shall be reported to the Executive Committee within 48 hours.

#### **\*\*Coaches\*\***

- 1st Offense: Warning
- 2nd Offense: Game Suspension
- 3rd Offense: Season Expulsion + \$150 fine

#### **\*\*Parents / Spectators\*\***

- 1st Offense: Warning
- 2nd Offense: Game Removal
- 3rd Offense: Season Ban

### ## 2.6 Game Equipment Standards (2026)

Division & Ball Size

- | 6U–8U | Wilson K2 or equivalent |
- | 9U–10U | Wilson TDJ |
- | 11U–12U | Wilson TDY |
- | 13U–14U | Official High School |
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### ## 2.7 Player Equipment Requirements

All players must wear:

- Helmet with secured chinstrap
- Shoulder pads
- Hip, tail, thigh, and knee pads
- Mouthpiece (mandatory)
- Game pants and jersey

**Clear or approved visors permitted. ( No Graphics, Mirror or Dark)**



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### ## 2.8 Game Length (Conference Standard — 2026)

| Division | Quarter Length |

- 6U–10U 8 minutes
- 11U–14U 10 minutes
  
- Halftime: 5 minutes
- Game official after 2 completed quarters
- 30-minute forfeit rule

### ## 2.9 Mercy Rule

If a team leads by three (3) scores or more:

- Clock becomes running clock
- Returns to regulation timing if lead falls below three scores
- Coaches notified when applied

### ## 2.10 Coaches on Field

Division | Coaches Allowed |

- 6U–7U 2 Coaches
- 8U 1 Coach
- 9U None

**Maximum five credentialed sideline media personnel per team.**



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### ## 2.11 Certification & Player Eligibility (AYF 2026)

- Player age is determined as of July 1 of the current playing year
- Player may roster on only one team per season
- No transfers after Week 2 certification deadline
- Government-issued ID required (no expired IDs)
- All players must complete Conference and AYF certification
- Use of ineligible player results in forfeiture and discipline

### ## 2.12 Divisions (Unlimited Weight — AYF Age Based)

6U, 7U, 8U, 9U, 10U, 11U, 12U, 13U, 14U

**A player must not turn older than the division age on or before July 1 of the current year.**

### ## 2.13 Overtime (Post-Season Only)

Regular season games may end in a tie.

Post-season overtime:

- **Ball at opponent 10-yard line**
- **4 downs to score**
- **Coin toss determines possession**
- **Alternate first possession each period**
- **After two overtimes, all TDs require 2-point attempt**
- **Continue until winner**

### **\*\*PAT\*\***

\* 1 point: run/pass from 3-yard line

\* 2 points: Kick

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### ## 2.14 Blocking & Defensive Rules

- \* Blitzing allowed at all divisions
- \* 6U–7U defenders must align at least 1 yard off ball
- \* Chop and cut blocking prohibited outside the tackle box

### ## 2.15 Kickoff & Punt Procedures (2026)

#### ### Kickoffs

- 9U–14U: Live kickoffs
- 6U–8U: No live kickoff; walk off 25 yards with a 15 second run off on the clock. possession begins at designated spot

#### ### Punts

- 9U–14U: Live punts permitted and returnable
- 6U–8U: Walk-off (dead ball) punts

#### \*\*Walk-off Punt Procedure (6U–8U)\*\* 15 second run off

1. Offense declares punt
2. Ball immediately dead
3. No snap or rush
4. Referee sets ball at appropriate spot
5. Defense takes possession

\* Fake punts prohibited in 6U–8U

\* Roughing penalties apply in live punt divisions



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### **## 2.16 Celebrations & Sportsmanship**

- Brief, non-taunting celebrations allowed
- Taunting or sexual gestures: 10-yard penalty

### **## 2.17 Field & Game Day Requirements**

Home organization must provide:

- Minimum two security personnel
- Certified field marshal
- Emergency medical plan
- League communication access

### **## 2.18 Authority & Discipline**

- Officials have final on-field authority
- Conference may discipline any participant or spectator
- Coaches responsible for team and spectator conduct
- Ejections subject to Executive Committee review