



A. UNACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOR OF MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

Examples of unacceptable behavior of Member Organizations shall include, but are not limited to the following: Failure to show or send representatives to Conference meetings or conference calls; failure to show for scheduled games; failure to pay league and ref fees promptly; willful disregard of residency and recruiting policies.

B. UNACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOR OF COACHES

Examples of unacceptable behavior of Coaches shall include but not be limited to the following: Badgering, threats, aggressive touching, grabbing or contact with Participants, use of foul language, consuming alcohol or tobacco at any practices or games, and any other conduct detrimental to the Conference.

C. UNACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOR OF PARTICIPANTS

Examples of unacceptable behavior of Participants shall include, but shall not be limited to the following: Badgering, threats, fighting or displaying unsportsmanlike conduct outside of the aggressiveness of contact football, use of foul language, consuming alcohol or tobacco at any practices or games, and any other conduct detrimental to the Conference.

D. UNACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOR OF PARENTS

Examples of unacceptable behavior of parents shall include but shall not be limited to the following: Badgering, threats, use of foul language, consuming alcohol or tobacco at any practices or games or displaying unsportsmanlike conduct. Unsportsmanlike conduct on the part of parents shall include but shall not be limited to the following: badgering referees or opponent's coaches and Participants, and any other conduct detrimental to the Conference.

E. VIOLATION OF THE ZERO-TOLERANCE POLICY



If any Coach, participant, parent, or member of the Conference exhibits unacceptable behavior and violates the Zero Tolerance Policy, while at any league-sanctioned event (practice or game), the member's unacceptable behavior shall be reported to the EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE in the form of a Verbal Complaint or Written Letter of Complaint within 48 hours after the incident occurred. Violations of the Zero Tolerance Policy shall not expire on a calendar year basis and shall be cumulative during any individual's involvement with the Conference.

## 2. Violation by Coaches

1st Offense Warning (either Verbal or Written)

2nd Offense Suspension from the Game (Coach must leave the field and stadium)

3rd Offense Expulsion from Conference for the Season (no participation of any kind in any practice or game) and a \$50 monetary fine.

## 3. Violation by Participants

1st Offense Apologizing to other participant(s)

2nd Offense Suspension from Game

3rd Offense Expulsion from Conference (or Suspension for Season)

## 4. Violation by Parents

1st Offense Warning (either Verbal or Written)

2nd Offense Suspension from Game (individual not allowed to attend game)

3rd Offense Expulsion from Conference (or Suspension for Season (no participation of any kind in any practice or game))



## 2.5 ADDITIONAL COACH EXPECTATIONS

- A. Coaches will be expected to offer only that level of football that youth of this age can reasonably be expected to absorb and perform, keeping in mind the limitations, physically and emotionally, of this age group.
- B. Coaches will be expected to conduct themselves, both at practices and games, in a manner, which will furnish a desirable example for the youths to follow.
- C. Coaches should be aware of the purposes of the Conference as stated and they should not run up large scores on the weaker opponents, but rather play more Participants and give them more playing time.
- D. Coaches should not encourage individual member organizational rivalries, which might tend to get out of hand and/or cause ill feelings.
- E. The important thing to teach at this level of competition is solid fundamentals of blocking and tackling.
- F. Coaches should consider limiting defenses and offenses at this level and concentrate on doing fewer things well, in the area of execution.
- G. All coaches shall have the responsibility for teaching proper care and respect for all equipment. Also, the coach should require the Participants to care for the equipment and not abuse it.
- H. All coaches and assistants will be issued badges after the Conference rules have been read and rule forms are signed.



I. Before the start of the season, all head coaches will attend a mandatory special meeting to review the Competition Rules of the Conference and to meet with a group representing the referees to discuss the rules of football.

J. All coaches must complete MYEFC Professional Conduct training, USA Football Certification, and a Background Check

## 2.6 ADDITIONAL VIOLATIONS AND SANCTIONS

A. Any coach who physically or mentally abuses a child shall be immediately brought before the BOARD for discipline, including possible permanent expulsion from the Conference.

B. During practices, if a coach is caught not warming up or cooling down Participants, a warning will be given for the first violation. The second violation will result in a one (1) game suspension given to the head coach.

C. Failure on the part of the coaching staff to comply with having Participants exercise for two (2) minutes before the start of the second half of a game will result possible in action by the BOARD.



D. Running up the score is never condoned. Each incident will be judged on its own merit and be subject to possible action by the BOARD.

E. Any member organization found by the BOARD to be condoning the willful misconduct of a coach may be stripped of its membership.

F. Any coach ejected from a scheduled game for "unsportsmanlike conduct" will be suspended from his team's next game. Unsportsmanlike conduct on the part of Coaches shall include but shall not be limited to the following: utilizing dirty tactics, badgering referees or opponents coaches, and Participants.

1. A suspended coach is prohibited from coaching at games or practice during the period of suspension. As such, a suspended coach SHALL NOT be on the game or practice field or sidelines and SHALL NOT coach from the stands or the parking lot. Any coach caught breaking this rule will be subject to indefinite suspension.

G. The first violation of the MPR rule will result in an automatic suspension for the remainder of the season of the head coach.

H. Conduct by a coach, that is found to be willfully unsportsmanlike and/or detrimental to the Conference, may also result in said coach being suspended.

I. Any member organization sponsoring a suspended or banned coach will be placed on probation with the Conference for one (1) year.

J. No participant shall participate in more than one (1) scheduled game per week. If a participant does participate in more than one (1) game per week, each Conference game the participant participated in will be forfeited to the opposing team(s).

## 2.7 APPEALS and Protests



Any person not satisfied with the action of an individual member organization, or the BOARD may appeal to the EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE. Any appeal must be submitted in writing accompanied by a \$100 protest fee, clearly outlining the specific facts which form the basis of the appeal and setting forth the specific relief requested. The EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE will decide whether a presentation to the BOARD or the EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE by the appealing party is necessary to render its decision on the appeal.

It is the hope of the BOARD that each member organization can deal with disciplinary issues as they pertain to not only their coaches but their own programs as well. The EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, however, will review each individual violation or situation that is observed by any member of the BOARD or reported to the EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, and the EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE will take appropriate action based on the facts presented.

A violation of any Conference rule shall be referred to the EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE and may result in forfeiture of games and/or any other action that the EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE deems appropriate.

## 2.8 PROTESTS

The prime importance and emphasis of the Conference is not on the winning and losing of games, therefore, protests regarding matters other than participant eligibility are discouraged. However, protests on the eligibility of Participants will be submitted by the challenging coach within 24 hours to an EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE Member whose member organization was not involved in the game accompanied with \$100 protest fee. Said Officer will present the protest to the EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE at the next possible EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE meeting at which time a decision concerning eligibility will be made. If it is determined that an ineligible participant was used, it will be recorded that the member organization whose participant was ineligible lost the game. If both teams utilize an ineligible participant, it will be recorded that both teams lost the game.

Protests/challenges on any matters other than participant eligibility will be submitted within 24 hours to an EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE Member whose member organization was not involved in the game. Said Officer will present the protest to the EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE at the next possible EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE meeting at which time a decision concerning the matter will be made.



The EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE will investigate all alleged infractions as listed in the Competition Rules or the Rules, Regulations and By-Laws, as well as any alleged infractions not specified herein. The members of the EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE whose member organizations were not involved in the alleged infractions will recommend disposition/penalty to the EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE and said EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (excluding members from member organizations involved) will make the final disposition, which may include, but is not limited to, a fine and/or suspension/ejection from the Conference. In case of a tie, the highest-ranking Officer, upon consensus of all officers whose member organization was not involved in the infraction, will cast the tie-breaking vote.

Protests on matters of judgment rendered by a game official WILL NOT be heard under any circumstances.

## 2.9 GAME SCHEDULES

The BOARD will determine the team game schedules based on the total number of teams. All attempts will be made to satisfy each member organization's "special dates" and keep organizations home and away together. It is mandatory that all teams play at the time, place, location, and date that are scheduled by the BOARD. Any failure to do so may result in a severe sanction, including, but not limited to, a fine, suspension, or ejection from the Conference.

## 3.1 PARTICIPANT REGISTRATION AND ELIGIBILITY

### A. FALSIFICATION

**FALSIFYING BIRTH OR ANY OTHER DOCUMENTS TO MAKE A PARTICIPANT ELIGIBLE IS GROUNDS FOR FORFEITURE OF ALL GAMES IN WHICH THE PLAYER HAS PARTICIPATED AND PERMANENT SUSPENSION OF THE ADULT(S) AND OR ORGANIZATION RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ACT AND ALL EVIDENCE WILL BE TURNED OVER TO THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES FOR ANY CRIMINAL PROSECUTION THAT MAY BE RELEVANT. HEAD COACH WILL BE SUSPENDED FOR THE YEAR 2nd OFFENSE WILL RESULT IN THE ENTIRE ORGANIZATION BEING SUSPENDED**



## B. CONSENT TO PLAY

Parents or legal guardians are required to furnish to each Member Organization a written statement declaring their child has permission to participate in local and any and all AYF activities and that they understand the risks involved. The written and signed statements must include a:

### 1. Waiver/Release and Image Release

Sample copies of these documents can be found online under the MyEFC control panel under "Forms". Teams, leagues and associations should consult with local legal counsel to determine if these sample forms meet their individual needs.

### 2. Emergency Information & Consent to Treat

This document must contain emergency medical information, emergency contacts and consent to treat in the event of a medical emergency. This form must be in the possession of the team at all times in the event an injury occurs.

All Coaching appointments and their appropriate contact info must be submitted to the National Office each year by August 31st.

## HEAD COACHES

Head coaches must be at least 21 years of age and have graduated from high school or hold a GED certificate. They must have a general knowledge of the game of football. The rest of the coaching staff will be under their direction and supervision.





## ASSISTANT COACHES

Assistant coaches must be at least 18 years of age and have graduated from high school or hold a GED certificate. They must have a general knowledge of the game of football.

## COACH TRAINEES

Coach Trainees must be a minimum of 16 years old and may only carry out the instructions of the Head or Assistant coaches.

## RED CROSS CERTIFICATE

Each team must have a Coach or Volunteer that is the holder of a current Red Cross Certificate in Community CPR and First Aid or its equivalent.

## HEAD COACH RESPONSIBILITY

Head coaches are in complete charge of their players. They are responsible for their own actions or inactions, their assistants' actions or inactions and the actions of their players.

## SCOUTING RULES

Minimum scouting rules are as follows: any videotaping allowed by your local Conference is prohibited from the field level end zone. **SCOUTING OF ANY KIND DURING A TEAM'S PRACTICE SESSION IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED.** Any coach, team member or associate found or determined to be scouting another teams practice will be cause for the immediate suspension of the person involved and the head coach. MYEFC and the Conference will allow scouting of teams during post-season play in the form of written reports as long as the minimum rules listed above are followed.



## STANDARD OF CONDUCT

All Administrators, Coaches, and Volunteers will abide by a Standard of Conduct, which includes the following provisions. If any of these provisions are violated, the Member Organization / Conference shall have the authority to impose any penalty they see fit. If any of these provisions are violated during a Regional or National event, the National Office at its sole discretion shall have the authority to impose any penalty it sees fit with no right to appeal. Administrators, Coaches, and Volunteers, having already accepted and agreed to abide by the Coach and Administrators Pledge and the Coach and Administrators Code, by their accepting and active participation in membership, shall follow the intent of the Pledge and Code and shall inclusively and/or additionally agree to:

1. Not smoke and/or use smokeless tobacco on the field or in front of participants at any time.
2. Abstain from the possession and drinking of alcoholic beverages and the possession or use of any illegal substance on the field or in front of participants at any time.
3. Accept decisions of the game officials and judges on the field and in competitions as being fair and called to the best of their ability.
4. Not criticize an opposing team, its players, spirit participants, coaches, or fans by word of mouth or by gesture.
5. Together with team officials, be jointly responsible for the conduct and control of team fans and spectators. Any parent, guardian, or fan that becomes a nuisance and out of control must be asked to leave.



6. Not use abusive or profane language at any time.
7. Not encourage their team to intentionally run up the score on an opponent. In the event of a commanding lead every effort shall be made to let all players play.
8. Not permit or encourage, “extreme dieting”, or “sweating down” tactics of any kind for any reason. Must report any instance witnessed or suspected to the parent/guardian and local administrator.
9. Not recommend or distribute any medication, controlled or over the counter
10. Not deliberately incite unsportsmanlike conduct.
11. Not criticize/berate participants ever, to provide constructive criticism, in private, or in the presence of team/squad members if others might benefit.
12. Remove from a game or practice any participant when his/her health is in question, whether or not as a result of injury, until competent medical advice is available.
13. A coach will follow the parameters of the Anti-Substance Abuse Rule and see that it’s carried out faithfully and that all players understand its importance.
14. A coach will not use ineligible players and will take the responsibility of having proper and legal documents on each and every player proving his eligibility at all times.
15. Ensure that all participants meet the minimum required number of plays under the Mandatory Play Rules and Regulations.



16. Uphold all rules and regulations of Member Organization, Conference, Region, and National AYF.

17. A coach must discourage the wearing of Gang colors or any gang symbol and the use of any gang related forms of communication during any and all team related activities including but not limited to team practices.

### 3.7 ANTI-SUBSTANCE ABUSE RULE

Each team will present a Substance Abuse lecture to players and cheerleaders at all levels of play. The lecture will be presented during the first week of practice and will be repeated as many times as necessary to ensure all American Youth participants are aware of the harmful effects of drugs, alcohol and tobacco.

The lecture must be given by a member of the coaching staff or an adult volunteer designated for that purpose. Some examples would be “just say no” or “DARE” programs. Also included with this talk should be topics like “Academics,

### BALL SIZES

7U, 8U, 9U = Wilson K2

10U, 11U = Wilson TDJ or TDY

12U = Wilson TDY

14U = Official ALL SIZE



Overtime Rules: (Only in the post season. No overtime in the regular season)

- Each team will have a chance to score during an overtime period.
- The visiting team will call the coin toss to start overtime.
- The team that wins the coin toss will have a choice to take the ball first or defer to the other team.
- Each team will start at the 10-yard line and will have 4 downs to score
- If the first team scores and the second team does not score, the game is over.
- If both teams remain tied after the first overtime period, the game continues into another overtime period until one team wins.
- Whichever team goes second during the first overtime period, starts with the ball during the next overtime period (if another overtime period is needed).
- If a game is tied after 2 overtime periods, then teams must go for 2 points after they score a touchdown.

- PAT:
- One Pt Conversion can be run or pass from 3-yard line
- Two Pt conversion must be a pass from 10-yard line
- Two Pt conversions can be a kick from the 10-yard line. 2 rushers allowed one from either end.

Blitzing & Blocking:

- .Blitzing is allowed during the entire game at all levels
- A player is allowed to stand 1 yard off the ball at ages 6u and 7u
- There is no chop or cut blocking allowed

Celebrations:

- Celebrations are allowed after scores in a tasteful manner.



•Taunting the other team, any un-sportsmanship like celebrations and/or any sexual gestures will not be tolerated and will receive a 10-yard penalty. If penalty happens after a scoring play that penalty will be assessed on the following kick-off

#### Football Equipment / Protective Wear:

- All athletes must always wear full protective equipment during game play (all pads and mouth pieces).
- All athletes must always have their chinstraps buckled.
- All athletes must always wear their mouthpieces.
- All visors are permitted

#### Game Time:

- Game is considered official after the completion of 2 quarters of play
- Game Times are 8 minutes per quarter and 10 minute half times.
- If a team does not show up after 15 minutes of scheduled Kick-Off Time, they forfeit the game.
- 13u and 14u are 10 minute quarters
- Divisions 6u – 11u will play 8 minute quarters
- Divisions 12u -14u will play 10 minute quarters

#### Certification and Check in

- Paper IDs accepted until week 4. MUST HAVE STATE SEAL
- No expired ID
- No kid allowed on more than one roster
- No kid can transfer after week 2

#### Home Field

- 2 person security team
- Mobile device with Band App installed
- 1 league-trained field marshall

#### Mercy Rule:

•If a team is ahead of the other team by 24 points or more, the game clock will switch to a running clock for the remainder of the game. Unless a team comes back to deficit of 20 points or



less, than and only then will the clock return to regular running. Both head coaches will be notified before the change to and from regular running clock is enforced.

#### Team Personnel On-Field:

- 6U, and 7U are allowed two coaches on the field.
- 8U teams can have one coach on the field.
- Five media personnel are allowed for each team

#### Team Sportsmanship / Conduct:

- Coaches are responsible for the behavior of their coaching staff, team manager, parents and athletes always.
- Referees have final say on the field. Harassment of the referees by coaches, players, or fans will not be tolerated.
- The World Youth Championship staff have the right to eject anyone and no refunds will be given.
- The Event Director has final discretion on conduct matters which supersede any referee's call pertaining to sportsmanship / conduct.
- An athlete can be ejected for a single game or for the entire tournament for misconduct. The Event Director has final discretion on the amount of games an athlete can be ejected for based on the severity of the misconduct.
- All players, coaches, parents, and any representatives of an organization must adhere to code of conduct of the Pro Football Hall of Fame World Youth Championship and uphold the best interest of the Pro Football Hall of Fame World Youth Championship both on and off the field. In the event a person, player, or group is banned or removed from a World Youth Championship event, any further altercations will result in the team being held responsible. The National Director has the authority to override or extend any decisions.

#### Team Classifications:

The age groups for the League Team Divisions are:



Unlimited weight -6U, 7U, 8U, 9U, 10U, 11U, 12U, 13U, 14U