

GENESEEO YOUTH FOOTBALL, INC.
By-Laws

PURPOSE

The objective of Geneseo Youth Football is to inspire boys to practice the ideals of sportsmanship and physical fitness, to teach them good habits of fellowship with other boys, to respect adults, and to develop the ability to take adversity without complaint.

OFFICERS, BOARD AND ANNUAL MEETING

1. Officers shall consist of a president, vice-president, secretary-treasurer. They should be elected at the annual meeting which shall be held during the month of January. Each officer shall serve for one year unless re-elected.
2. Officers shall be members of the board of directors. In addition, three board members shall be elected each year to serve for terms of three years. The retiring president shall be a member of the board for one year.
3. Before each annual meeting, a nominating committee of three people shall be appointed by the president to nominate the three officers and three board members. A notice shall be mailed to all those interested at least seven days in advance of the annual meeting.
4. It is recommended that officers move up one place each year, so that the president may have the benefit of considerable experience when he holds office. Other nominations may be made if desired.
5. Additional meetings of the officers and board of directors may be held from time to time as the need may arise.

COMMITTEES

1. The president shall appoint committees necessary for the efficient functioning of the Youth Football program. These committees should include Equipment, Schedule, Program, Officials, Grounds, Finance, Gate, Tryouts, Publicity and any others deemed necessary.

2. The Weather committee shall consist of the three officers. Any one of the officers shall have power to decide if games shall be played in the absence of other officers. If no officer is present, then the board members in charge of the gate shall make the decision.

ORGANIZATION OF TEAMS

1. The Youth Football program shall consist of any number of teams the board finds is feasible because of the number of players and the ability of sponsors to provide excellent equipment.

2. Each team shall consist of not more than 30 players.

3. All boys in the Geneseo Unit School District 228 shall be eligible who are in grades 5, 6, and 7. However no boy shall be eligible to play more than 3 years.

REGISTRATION

1. Each coach shall submit to the secretary a roster of his players and their birthdays before tryouts, and also list all players lost from the previous year. This will show what players he will begin the year with and how many he must replace.

2. All boys who wish to tryout, or become a member of one of the teams, must register before or on tryout dates. Adequate notice of registration and tryouts shall be given.

3. The league secretary shall be custodian of registration cards.

4. All boys wishing to play must be registered before the first game.

TRYOUTS AND DRAWINGS

1. Tryouts shall be held not later than August 12th, on dates selected by league officials. No player shall be allowed to tryout who is not registered.

2. Tryouts and drawing shall be presided over by league officials.

3. Any player who is away at the time of tryouts will be treated as a special case. His weight, age, name, parents and athletic experience must be submitted for the inspection of all the coaches. He will then be drawn in the regular manner or placed in the player pool. If this is not done and his name is submitted too late for the drawing, he will be placed in the player pool.

4. Players for the various teams shall be chosen by a method suitable to league officials and coaches. League officials have the final decision in this matter.

5. Any coach having a son eligible for selection shall automatically receive his son as a second round pick. If he does not select his son on the second round, then his son becomes eligible for picking by any other team. If more than one coach has a son eligible, the pick shall be a second round, third round, etc.

6. The drawing shall be at a time set by League Officials, but it shall not be later than August 20th.

7. It shall be the duty of the committee in charge of player selection to balance teams as to age, to the best of their ability, so that no team is loaded with an unfair preponderance of 12 or 13 year olds.

8. Coaches may trade players, but all trades must be completed with the knowledge and approval of the League Officials.

9. Each team must fill its roster at the drawing, if enough boys are available.

10. Any brother eligible for selection shall automatically be received as a second round pick. If a brother does not want to play on the same team as the other brother, then he must make this factor known before the draft and he shall be eligible for picking by any other team. If more than one brother or combination of brothers (Example - twins or 5th and 7th graders) are eligible, the pick shall be a second round, third round, etc.

PLAYER POOL

1. All players who are not selected for a team at the drawing shall be placed in the Player Pool. No boy who has not registered shall be placed in the player pool.
2. No team may add any player except through the League Officials by selection, in turn, from the player pool. All teams must maintain a full roster.
3. Any boy lost from the squad shall be reported and replaced within 48 hours.
4. No new boys shall be added to the player pool after the date of the first game.
5. Any player who quits or is dropped from a team, shall not be allowed to enter the player pool for the remainder of that season. No boy shall be dropped without board approval. Any variation from this rule must be passed on by the board of directors. A player who quits or is dropped from a team before the mid - way point in the season, may be eligible to play next year either by returning to the same team or by trying out as a new player. If a player quits or is dropped from a team after the mid - way point, that player can only return to the same team next year. Only after sitting out a full year can that player be treated as a new player and tryout as such.

WEIGHING - IN AND PRACTICES

1. A weighing - in shall be held at the time equipment is issued. This shall be conducted by at least one authorized League Official, either officers or members of the Board.

2. No boy or team shall be excused from the weighing - in other than for sickness or vacation, and then weighing - in must be done by one League Official at the time and place they select.

3. All coaches must be notified at least five days in advance of the weighing - in date.

4. Boys in the player pool shall weigh - in the same manner as team players.

The same scales shall be used for all weighing.

5. All boys must be weighed in stocking feet, shirt and trousers or shorts.
(May be waived at the discretion of weigh - in official)

6. New boys to the community must register before the first game.

7. No boy weighing more than 120 pounds shall play in the backfield or at end or punt on offense, who exceeds the weight limit at the weighing - in date. There shall be no further checking of weights during the season.

8. Practice shall not begin sooner than the first day of school.

9. The date of the first league game shall be decided by the Board, but as early in September as possible, preferably not later than September 12th.

10. After teams are selected, each coach shall submit a list of players to the league secretary, along with their ages, weights, and their parent's names.

11. The first 3 practices shall be helmets only. No pads.

COACHES

1. No team shall have more than seven coaches. All coaches must be active; that is working at the job of coaching. No honorary coaching positions shall be allowed.

2. Head Coaches must indicate their bonafide intentions of coaching a team, or continuing to coach by June 1st, each year, so that a full and adequate coaching staff may be obtained well in advance of each football season. New Assistant Coaches having a son coming into the program as a first year player must indicate their intentions by June 1st.

3. All Coaches must agree to abide by Board decisions in all cases and continue to handle their squads and coach their players in the best interest of the boys involved for the full season.

4. Coaches who plan to resign, at the end of each season, should notify the league president by letter.

5. Coaches shall refrain from the following practices:

- A. Bawling out players in a loud, boisterous manner at games or practices. This is injurious to the boys, lowers the stature of a coach and offends the parents and fans.
- B. Baiting officials and disputing their decisions.
- C. Walkie-Talkie coaching moving up and down side lines. It indicates lack of confidence in players, tends to breakdown game and field discipline, and cause needless quarrels between coaches.
- D. Using profane language at any time in the presence of the boys.
- E. Practicing later than 6:00 p.m.
- F. Permitting excessive "Sweating Down" for a boy to make weight.
- G. Using tactics during games or practices which would set a bad example for the boys.

H. Warming up 3rd quarter teams or individuals in the end zone while the game is being played.

I. Home teams shall be on the west sidelines and the visitors on the east sidelines.

6. Violation of any rule in these by-laws shall result in a suspension of a Head Coach for one full week which will include both practices and game.

PLAYING RULES

1. All High School rules shall apply with the exception of points covered herein.

2. Football is two-thirds normal high school size.

3. The field is 44 yards by 80 yards.

4. The kickoff is from the 30 yard line. If kicked out of bounds, possession will be given at the 30 yard line.

5. The crossbar is 10 feet high.

6. All boys must wear tennis shoes or approved rubber - cleated shoes.

7. Each quarter is 7 minutes in length and halftime period is 5 minutes with 5 minutes between games.

8. All boys are required to wear approved mouth pieces for all practices and games.

9. For extra points the ball will be placed on the 2 yard line.

10. All 15 yard penalties will be 10 yards except when a penalty is assessed against a coach.

11. Official time shall be kept by one of the officials on the field.

12. No overtime periods or extra periods in Youth Football.

13. There shall be a 3rd Quarter Rule in effect as determined from year to year by the Board of Directors. The rules for the 3rd quarter shall be given to each Head Coach prior to the first game of the season.

GENERAL RULES

1. The Board shall arrange for adequate insurance.
2. No boy shall be allowed to practice with any squad or play with any team unless he has been accepted as a registered Youth Football Player. This is for insurance protection.
3. No awards shall be given to any player for his participation in Youth Football.
4. Geneseo Youth Football, Inc. teams shall not engage in post season games or intercity games of any kind.
5. No Youth Football banquets or honors shall be allowed.
6. Geneseo Youth Football, Inc. shall not sponsor trips by any teams or players.
7. No All - Star Teams shall be selected or allowed to play.
8. Individual coaches may have team - parent dinners, potluck, or banquets at their own expense. Other post - season activities are discouraged, since some coaches may not feel financially able to provide their players with trips, etc. We want Youth Football to be fair to all boys.
9. The best officials possible shall be obtained, and when paying them is necessary, it shall be done, if finances permit.
10. Everyone connected with Youth Football is urged to remember that the program is for the fun and value that it provides for the boys. It is not for the glorification of officials, sponsors or coaches.
11. The board of directors may suspend any rule or regulation covered by these By - Laws, if they feel that there is just cause and circumstances appear to make it necessary for the fair and proper functioning of the league.
12. Games will start at 6:30 p.m. or later with a second game to follow.
13. A player must practice at least 5 days before being allowed to play in his first game.

** Last revision in July of 1999.

RULES TO GOVERN THIRD QUARTER PLAY

1. Coaches will determine their third quarter players by identifying twelve to fourteen players who are designated for third quarter play.
2. These players are not to play in the first half.
3. All players playing in the first half are not eligible for play in the third quarter.
4. Players to be designated for third quarter play are to be established in the following order:
 - a. 5th grade players
 - b. 6th grade players
 - c. First year 7th grade players - given their talent level is the same as a. & b.
5. Substitution shall be made on a regular basis to see that all players receive the most playing time possible. (It is recommended that players be substituted on an every other play basis)
6. All players should be given an equal chance to play both offensively and defensively. No individual player should be designated for strictly offensive or defensive play.
7. Injuries and illness that reduce the total number of players on your team, may necessitate the use of third quarter players in the first half. However, this should only occur after all other substitutes have been used and the opposing team's coaching staff informed of the reason for using a designated third quarter player.
8. No boy weighing more than 110 pounds shall play in the backfield or at end or punt on offense, who exceeds the weight limit at the weighing - in date. There shall be no further checking of weights during the season.