

Official Rules Ohio Valley Youth Football League (OVYFL)

General Rules

The rules by the Ohio High School Athletic Association shall govern the play in all football games within the Ohio Valley Youth Football League (OVYFL), unless specified by these general rules.

Article I GENERAL RULES

Section I Ball Size

K-4th K-2 (Wilson or Nike)
5th-6th- TDJ (Wilson or Nike)

Section II Player Weight Limits

K-1- 66 pounds
2nd- 76 pounds
3rd- 91 pounds
4th- 106 pounds
5th- 126 pounds
6th- No Weight Limit

A player that does not meet the above weight requirements may line-up on the line of scrimmage and is eligible to catch a pass down field. He/she may not line up in the backfield and be eligible. That player may line up as a tight end only, one yard past the last person on the line of scrimmage. He/she may not line up as a split end or wide out.

A team found to be in violation will result in a 15 yard penalty and loss of down.

Section III Forfeit Time

The forfeit time for all programs/organizations is 15 minutes after the scheduled starting game time. A forfeit shall be declared when there are less than 11 players of a team. Officials shall not permit coaches to hold up the start of the game while waiting for additional players, when 11 players are present for play.

Section IV Game Length

All games, at all grade levels will play four (4) nine (8) minute quarters. The halftime will not exceed five (8) minutes.

- When a game cannot continue due to weather or darkness? The game will be completed the following day. If the following day is not available, the OYVFL President will be contacted and he/she along with the two teams involved will determine the make-up date and time.
- If a game is postponed, the game will resume where it ended: clock, down, distance, spot of the ball, score and quarter.

Section V Ties

There shall be no ties. The game will proceed into overtime. The officials will explain the procedure. In the first overtime period the ball will be placed on the 20 yard line. In any additional overtime period needed to break the tie, the ball will be placed on the 10 yard line until the tie is broken and a winner is declared.

Section VI Safety

When a safety is awarded, the ball will be placed at the 50 yard line.

Section VII Eighteen Point Rule

When a team is eighteen points ahead of its opponent, 3 of the 4 starting offensive backs must be removed from the backfield. If the 18th point is scored on a touchdown, the extra point is a continuation of play the backs need to be removed on the next offensive series.

This rule will be 24 points for the SUPER BOWL ONLY.

Failure to do so will result in an unsportsmanlike penalty (15 yards)

If a team wins by more than 40 points, that team will be subject to review by the OYVFL Board for unsportsmanlike conduct. That could result in disciplinary action.

Section VIII Punting

K-5: when the offensive team declares a punt, the clock will stop running. The referee will then step off 25 yards and the clock will run off 15 seconds. The 15 seconds will elapse regardless of the time it takes to walk off the 25 yards. The clock will not begin again until the offense has snapped the ball. Any punt from the 40 yard line will be placed on the opponent's 25 yard line. No punting inside the opponent's 30 yard line.

4th- 5th grade Punt Declaration- The head coach may declare at the coin toss that his team will be punting. Once the head coach has declared that his team will be punting, they must punt the entire game. If the head coach declares that his team will be punting, the following apply.

- A dead ball punt, no return, no rush or contact with the center.
- No fake punts, if there is a bad snap or goes over the punter's head. The punter must punt the ball, behind the line of scrimmage. He/she is not permitted to run.
- The receiving team will be at an advantage to try to catch the ball. As they will be given the option of putting the ball in play from first touching the ball, or where the ball comes to rest. The receiving team cannot lose possession of the ball on a muffed catch.
- The officials will run 15 seconds off the clock, in the same manner as if the team elects not to punt the ball.
- Any punt inside the 40 yard line will be placed on the opponent's 25 yard line, regardless of the distance of the punt. No punting inside the opponent's 30 yard line. No punt will be placed inside the opponent's 25 yard line.

6th grade punt is live, with the exception of no contact with the center.

Section IX Field Goals and Extra Points

K-6- Field goals is live except there is no contact with the center.

Field Goal- 3 points

Two Point- 2 point

Extra Point (Kick)- 1 point

Section X Protest

The correct procedure for placing a game under protest for a non-judgment call will be as follows:

- Time of infraction "Time-Out" must be requested.
- Notify the officials and site administrator that a protest is being lodged.
- Protest fee of \$50.00 is given to the site administrator.

- Once the protest is lodged with the officials and site administrator both head coaches will be brought to the center of the field and informed that the game is being played under protest. Excessive delays in the game by either team will be cause for a delay of game penalty.
- Protest will be written and given to the OVYFL Board within five (5) days of the infraction.
- Once reviewed by the OVYFL Board and a decision is rendered, the \$50.00 fee will be refunded If the protest is awarded or forfeited if defeated.

Section XI Coaches on the Playing Field

K-1 thru 2nd - Two coaches on the field

3rd thru 4th- One coach on the field

5th thru 6th- No coaches on the field

Coaches must be at least 5 yards deeper than the deepest man behind the offensive and defensive lines after the quarterback is under center. There will be no talking from any coach on the field once the quarterback is under center or starts his cadence.

Section XII Officials

K-1 – 2nd (2) Referees

3rd- 6th-(3) Referees (Game may proceed with 2 officials)

Playoff and Super Bowl- 4 Referees and Referee must run the clock.

Officials must report to the sites concession stand to sign-in and receive the referee cards.

Cards for all games must be returned to the site concession stand at the conclusion of the day to receive payment.

\$40.00/ Referee

\$25.00/ Clock operator for Playoff and Super Bowl Games