

# **RIVERSIDE YOUTH FOOTBALL LEAGUE**

## **Rules and Regulations**

2017



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## SECTION 1- GENERAL

- 1.1: The Riverside Youth Football League is a member of the Great Lakes Youth Football League. The Rules and Regulations of the RYFL are to be used in conjunction with the Rules and Regulations of the GLYFL.
- 1.2: All players, cheerleaders, parents, coaches, and other volunteers of the Riverside Youth Football League shall abide by the Rules and Regulations of the Riverside Youth Football League and the Rules and Regulations of the Great Lakes Youth Football League.
- 1.3: The Board of Directors reserve the right to impose emergency Rule changes for safety and league integrity.

## SECTION 2- REGISTRATION

- 2.1: The registration process, fees, and dates will be designated by the Board of Directors.
- 2.2: All players are required to pay the registration fee, unless the fee is waived by the Board of Directors.
- 2.3: No registration will be accepted after the registration cutoff date without the approval of the Board of Directors.
- 2.4: Registration fees are non-refundable. The Board of Directors may make exceptions for special circumstances. Any refund would be minus the processing fee of \$10.00.
- 2.5: All players in the RYFL must provide a copy of their birth certificate before the start of practice.

## SECTION 3- PRACTICES AND GAMES

- 3.1: No player shall participate in any league practices without being registered.
- 3.2: Parents shall notify their Head Coach as soon as they know their child is going to be absent from any practice or game.

### **Absenteeism:**

It is the policy of league to insure safety of the children. Thus being said we only allow for one unexcused absence during the practice week. If there is more than one unexcused absence per week then your child will not be allowed to participate in the game that week. When your child cannot make practice the head coach must be notified before practice. If your child has more than one unexcused absence during the practice week then the head coach will notify you before the game that weekend and your child will not suit up for the game but is expected to be at the game to be part of the team.

**Unexcused absence** – An absence that typically is not scheduled in advance or an absence that is determined to not have a valid reason by the head coach....No call, no show. Note: If a player misses more than half the practice without notification to the coach beforehand it will be considered an unexcused absence.

**Excused absences**- Typically scheduled in advance, absence that is determined valid by the head coach....school function, planned vacation, religious function, illness, unforeseen family circumstances such as illness or a death.

- 3.3: Players are expected to attend all team practice sessions. Failure to attend all practice sessions may result in being withheld from participating in games. If a Head Coach has a concern for player safety because of lack of preparation due to absence, he may withhold the player from playing in a game.
- 3.4: Any scrimmage or game with any other team or league outside the RYFL must be approved by Board of Directors.
- 3.5: No dogs or other pets shall be allowed around the players or fields during practices or games.

#### **SECTION 4- PLAYER DRAFT PROCEDURE**

- 4.1: The player draft procedure will be determined by the Board of Directors.

#### **SECTION 5- TEAM ROSTERS**

- 5.1: The Board of Directors shall have the right to set the number of teams and the number of players for each team based on the number of registrations received.
- 5.2: Players/parents cannot make requests to be assigned to a specific team. Only in instances of serious issues or concerns may parents make a request to the Board of Directors for a team assignment or change. The Board of Directors shall review the request and make the decision based on the best interests of the RYFL and the player.
- 5.3: Coaches cannot make promises to players and families regarding team assignments.
- 5.4: No coaching staff, including the Head Coach, shall exceed six (6) members. Each team must have a minimum of four (4) coaches.
- 5.5: No coach can be assigned to more than one team's roster during a season. Coaches with more than one child in different divisions can only have the child they are coaching be assigned to a team before the draft.
- 5.6: Assistant coaches cannot be added to coaching staffs once practices start. The Board of Directors may make exceptions under certain circumstances.

## **SECTION 6- COACHES**

- 6.1: All coaches must apply and be approved by the Board of Directors before each season. Selection will be based on experience, attitude, communication skills, leadership qualities, technical knowledge, and support of the RYFL objectives. Recommendations from current coaches in good standing will be factored in for all new coaches.
- 6.2: Selection of Head Coaches and Assistant Coaches shall be determined solely by the Board of Directors and shall not be subject to review.
- 6.3: Coaches must receive a “green light” from NCSI’s background investigation before they proceed with USA Football’s coaching certification.
- 6.4: Coaches must complete and pass the “Tackle Certification” course through USA Football. A copy of the certificate shall be made available upon request.
- 6.5: Coaches must complete one of the online concussion training courses provided by the National Federation of State High School Associations or the Centers for Disease Control before they can participate in practices. Certifications are good for 3 years. Coaches must recertify as necessary. A copy of the certificate shall be made available upon request.
- 6.6: Coaches are expected to participate in league activities, events, fund raisers, and meetings.
- 6.7: Head Coaches shall be responsible for all equipment in their possession and have the responsibility for teaching proper care and respect of the equipment to their players.
- 6.8: Coaches will dress and maintain their appearance in a manner that is appropriate for the sport.
- 6.9: Prior to, during or after practices, scrimmages or games, coaches will not drink any alcoholic beverages or smoke on or in the vicinity of the playing field. Drugs are prohibited.
- 6.10: Any Coach who physically or verbally abuses a child shall be subject to discipline by the Board of Directors.
- 6.11: Coaches shall not use obscene gestures or profanity during practices, games or other RYFL events.
- 6.12: Head Coaches are responsible for communicating with their team’s Cheerleading Coach and keeping them informed of any changes in game scheduling and any other information that may affect them.
- 6.13: All Head Coaches shall be responsible for the end of season collection of all the equipment issued to their players.
- 6.14: The Board of Directors shall evaluate all coaches at the end of each season. Evaluations will be based on attitude, communication skills, leadership skills, technical knowledge, and participation in league functions.

## **SECTION 7- EQUIPMENT**

- 7.1: The health and safety of the players is the league's upmost concern, and all decisions regarding equipment will be made with that in mind.
- 7.2: The equipment issue process, date and location will be designated by the Board of Directors.
- 7.3: No equipment shall be used by any player unless authorized by the RYFL.
- 7.4: No player, parent, or coach shall be allowed to cut, paint, or alter any RYFL provided uniform or equipment. No helmet stickers or jersey patches shall be applied without approval from the Board of Directors.
- 7.5: No player shall wear their league issued black game pants during practice. Game pants are for games only.
- 7.6: Players/parents shall notify their Head Coach immediately of any lost/stolen or damaged equipment.
- 7.7: The end of season equipment turn in date will be designated by the Board of Directors.
- 7.8: Parents are responsible for cleaning all of their child's equipment prior to returning it to the league.
- 7.9: All equipment shall be turned into the league before any banquets are scheduled. No trophies or banquet funds will be issued until all team equipment is accounted for.
- 7.10: Parents shall be held liable for any equipment that is not returned at the end of the season. The value of the equipment shall be based on the cost to replace the equipment.
- 7.11: A player who fails to return their equipment to the league at the end of the season may be denied the opportunity to play in the RYFL the following year.
- 7.12: An end of season equipment inventory and inspection will be conducted yearly.

## **SECTION 8- CONCUSSION AWARENESS AND INJURIES**

- 8.1: Any player who suffers a concussion symptomatic head injury shall sit out the remainder of practice and/or game and shall not return to practice or games until he/she is cleared to return by a medical examination performed by a medical doctor.
- 8.2: A concussion symptomatic head injury is defined as
- A player who appears dazed or stunned after making contact with a player or the ground.
  - A player who moves clumsily after making contact with a player or the ground.
  - A player who can't answer questions properly or answers slowly.
  - A player who loses consciousness after making contact with a player or the ground.
  - A player who experiences headaches, nausea, lack of balance, or blurred vision after making contact with a player or the ground.
- 8.3: Any player who is injured during the season which requires medical attention by a medical doctor, must be cleared by a medical doctor to return to practice or play.

## **SECTION 9- GAME DAY RESPONSIBILITIES**

- 9.1: The Head Coach playing the first home game of the day shall be responsible for setting up all field equipment, if necessary.
- 9.2: Every Head Coach playing a home game shall be responsible for providing three volunteers to work the sideline “chains” during their game, if necessary.
- 9.3: Every Head Coach playing a home game shall be responsible for providing a volunteer to run the score board during their game, if necessary.
- 9.4: Every Head Coach playing a home game shall be responsible for providing two volunteers to work the concession stand either before, during or after their home game, if necessary.
- 9.5: Every Head Coach playing a home game shall be responsible for cleaning up any garbage on the grounds and emptying trash cans on both the home and visitors side after their game, as necessary.
- 9.6: The Head Coach playing the last home game of the day shall be responsible for putting away all field equipment, if necessary, and ensuring all garbage has been removed from the field, stands, and other relevant areas.

## **SECTION 10- PARENTS**

- 10.1: Parents are reminded that the Riverside Youth Football League is an instructional yet competitive football organization and it is recommended that they become familiar with the Rules and Regulations of the RYFL and the GLYFL.
- 10.2: Parents must display good sportsmanship towards each other, coaches, players, officials, and cheerleaders during all RYFL games and activities.
- 10.3: Parents must limit themselves to the designated spectator areas at each game field and not be a distraction to any RYFL game or practice.
- 10.4: Parents shall refrain from allowing their child to enter the designated spectator area while their child’s team is actively practicing or playing a game. Only in cases of an injury or a coach’s approval may a player leave the sidelines or a parent enter onto the sidelines or field.
- 10.5: Parents are prohibited from using obscene gestures or profanity during any practice, game, or other RYFL events.
- 10.6: No smoking or the use of any tobacco product shall be allowed by anyone associated with RYFL while on school property. LaMuth School does not permit the use of tobacco anywhere on their property.
- 10.7: No parent or family member shall consume any alcoholic beverage in the vicinity of the playing field during any practice or game.

## **SECTION 11- GENERAL DUTIES OF CHAIRPERSONS**

- 11.1: Web Site Administrator: The Web Site Administrator shall be responsible for maintaining and updating the Riverside Youth Football League web site.
- 11.2: Fundraising Coordinator: The Fundraising Coordinator shall be responsible for the coordination, implementation, completion, and collection of funds for all fundraising activities.
- 11.3: Equipment Manager: The Equipment Manager shall be responsible for the inventory, care, storage, and distribution of all football related gear and uniforms. The Equipment Manager shall also be responsible for the care and maintenance of all training equipment.
- 11.4: Concession Manager: The Concession Manager shall be responsible for overseeing the operation of the concession stand during practices and games. The coordinator shall keep a daily in/out inventory record of all products.
- 11.5: Spirit Wear Manager: The Spirit Wear Manager shall be responsible for ordering and maintaining an inventory of all Riverhawk merchandise. The Spirit Wear Manager shall also monitor and keep a record of all Spirit Wear sales.
- 11.6: Volunteer Coordinator: The Volunteer Coordinator shall be responsible for recruiting Team Moms, and any other league member who is willing to volunteer their time or services. The Volunteer Coordinator shall be the liaison to all Team Moms.

## **SECTION 12- FUNDRAISING**

- 12.1: The Board of Directors shall determine which fundraising activities the RYFL will participate in each year.

## **SECTION 13- VIOLATIONS**

- 13.1: Violations of the Rules and Regulations of the Riverside Youth Football League or the Rules and Regulations of the Great Lakes Youth Football League shall be referred to the Board of Directors for review. The disciplinary process as stated in Article X of the RYFL By Laws will be followed.
- 13.2: Any coach in violation of any RYFL Rule or Regulation may be subject to probation, suspension or dismissal from the RYFL.
- 13.3: Any player in violation of any RYFL Rule or Regulation may be subject to game suspension or dismissal from the RYFL. Violations may also result in a player not being allowed to play in the RYFL the following year.
- 13.4: Any parent in violation of any RYFL Rule or Regulation may result in their child/children not being allowed to play in the RYFL the following year. If a violation occurs during a RYFL activity, the parent may be asked to leave the premises.



**ADOPTION AND RATIFICATION**

The foregoing Rules and Regulations of the Riverside Youth Football League are hereby ratified and adopted as amended by the Board of Directors of the Riverside Youth Football League and shall become effective on August 15, 2017.

\_\_\_\_\_  
President, Kevin Weirich

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Date

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Vice President, Art Moore

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Date

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Treasurer, Adam Davis

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Date

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Secretary, Todd Soppitt

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Date

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Director of Football, Matt Snyder

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Date

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Trustee, Joe Putney

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Date