



## 2025 Conduct, Courtesy & Rules Variance- Independence Division

Enclosed are the league rules that differ from the O.H.S.A.A. rules for play, and the leagues expectations for referee and coach's conduct.

*This league's goal is to instruct, boys and girls, in the fundamentals of football and the practice of good sportsmanship. This is an all volunteer organization. We strive to maintain the same standards throughout the league. We encourage all coaches to play all of their players so that they may reap the dividends of all their hard work. **We want to remind all coaches to always show good sportsmanship and to lead by example.** With a concerted effort by coaches, referees and league officials, we can overcome some of the inherent problems of being involved in youth sports.*

*Sincerely, Scott Donaldson - Clermont County Youth Football League, President*

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**REFEREE'S CONDUCT:** This league will play under the **Ohio High School Athletic Association Football Rules** with the exception of the rules stated below. Conduct from the coaches and fans are to be treated with the same regards.

**REFEREE COURTESY:** Because we are a volunteer group, we do not proclaim to be as exact as a paid professional. We only ask that you speak to our **Head Coaches only**, with a measure of guidance and advice. Please explain some calls and/or questions at the time, whether you deem them worthy of a reply or not (within reasonable tolerance).

CCYFL Rule Differences:

1. The Clermont County Youth Football League does not have a kickoff at any age group for safety reasons. Teams will have a coin toss to see who, theoretically kicks and receives. All options that are available to a team apply. The opening quarter and the start of the second half will start at the thirty-five (35) yard line going to the defender's goal.
2. The CCYFL utilizes an eight minute clock. The clock is to be run according to the O.H.S.A.A. rules. It is not a running clock. If the two competing teams agree to let the clock run due to score, weather, etc., they may do so. This must be a mutual agreement between the head coach of each team and the referees.
3. The CCYFL does not switch to the opposite end of the field at the end of the quarter. The switch comes at the half time only!
4. All Chain Crews must be staffed by personnel, from the team, on the side in which they are operated. Regardless of host location.
5. Football: The following leather and leather composite youth footballs have been approved for use by the CCYFL (no rubber footballs)
  1. Division 5/6/7 & 8/9 = Pee-Wee Footballs Only – With White Stripes
  2. Division 10/11 = Junior Footballs Only-With White Stripes
  3. All Footballs must be inflated to proper levels and will be checked by the Game Officials prior to each game
  4. No Football shall be altered
6. **Ties:** All games that end in a tie at the end of regulation play will, without exception, play sudden death overtime. This overtime will consist of each team getting four (4) downs attempting to score from the ten (10) yard line. First possession will be determined by the flip of a coin. There will be one time out per possession with no time outs carried over from regulation play. If the game remains tied at the end of this overtime, the ball will be moved to the five (5) yard line and the above process will be repeated. If the game remains tied at the end of this overtime period, the ball will be moved to the three (3) yard line and the above process will be repeated. If tied after the third overtime the ball will be moved back to the (10) yard line starting the overtime process again.

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7. Ages 5/6/7 are permitted to have (2) coaches on the field during play, 8/9 are permitted to have (1) Coach on the field during play must remain 15 yards behind the deepest player. **Once huddle breaks NO communication, verbal or non-verbal from the two coaches on the field is allowed. Huddle break is defined as, two (2) or more players leaving the huddle. ONLY ONE HUDDLE IS ALLOWED**
8. In the case of a 'No Huddle' being used, the 'Ready for Play Whistle' will be used to start the NO COMUNICATION rule.
9. Ages 5/6/7 & 8/9 do not physically punt the football. A twenty-five (25) yard punt rule is to be observed. Clock will be stopped and then a 10 SECOND RUN-OFF will occur. Under no circumstances can the ball be placed inside the twenty (20) yard line
10. 10U & 11U Games. If BOTH COACHES AGREE prior to the game, Live Punting is permitted for BOTH teams. If BOTH COACHES DO NOT AGREE -On fourth down, there is an optional free punt of 25 yards. Clock will be stopped and then a 10 SECOND RUN-OFF will occur. In no circumstances can the ball be placed inside the 20 yard line
11. 4 Year Old Players are **Not permitted to play in regulation game.**
12. 5/6/7 U Game- NO "A" GAP BLITZING (center given long snapper protection)
13. **ADDITIONAL GAME RULES FOR ALL AGES: Player Safety Rules**-Any Un-Sportsmanlike Foul will result in a 15 yard penalty and a PLAYER WARNING communicated to the Head Coach. A Second Un-Sportsmanlike Foul will result in EJECTION from the game for the Player and possibly the Head Coach. **PLAYER SAFETY FOULS INCLUDE:** Verbal Taunts and Insults. Leading with Helmet, Late Hit, Crack-Back Hit, Face Masks, and Horse Collar Tackles.
14. ALL FOOTBALL TEAMS MUST ATTEND A MINIMUM OF ONE CHEER EVENT THAT THEIR HOME ORGANIZATION IS ATTENDING. Failure to do so can result in discipline from the CCYFL EB
15. After one team gets a **20** point lead the opposing team will get the ball at the 50 to start (not 35 as usual)
16. Teams are granted an automatic extension to continue to sign players till the 4<sup>th</sup> Friday of the current season.