**Santa Rosa County Youth Football League (SRCYFL)**

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**Article 1 Preface**

1. Santa Rosa County Youth Football League (SRCYFL) Board of Directors (BOD) is presiding   
 authority made up of 1 appointed member from each of the following parks:

1. Navarre
2. Milton
3. Gulf Breeze
4. Pace
5. SEFOA Representative

2. Changes in rules and daily operations are subject to oversight of the BOD.

3. The SRCYFL BOD reserves the right to interpret and amend rules in the spirit of   
 fair competition.

4. There is currently a $1K league fee each year to LLC for incidentals. Each park will also   
 pay portion of referee fees. Each park is solely responsible for their own security person   
 who must retain arrest authority.

5. The rules, policies and procedures contained herein apply to all football activities   
 involving SRCYFL.

**Article 2 Dates and Time Frame**

**A – Off Season**

1. August 1 will be recognized as official start of the season.
2. First Monday in August will be first day of official practice.
3. Week 2 first day of full pads practice.
4. SRCYFL has no authority for when teams begin conditioning and practicing without pads prior to official start of season.
5. Championship Saturday is held Saturday before Thanksgiving. The season schedule of events will be backfilled from this date.

**B – Season Format**

1. The First week will be an acclimation period

1. First 2 days Helmets and Shorts
2. Next 2 days in shells

2. Each team will complete 2 weeks in full pads before 1st game

3. Players must be at practice 1 week before eligible to participate in a game.

**C – Pre-Season**

The time elapsed between 1st day of practice to the first game.

**D – Regular Season**

The time elapsed between 1st regular season game to the final scheduled regular   
 season game.

**E – Post Season**

The time elapsed between final regular season game to end of the final   
 Championship game.

**F – Shootouts**

TBD if needed

**Article 3 – Eligibility of Players**

**A – Member Park Responsibilities**

Member Parks are required to:

1. Certify eligibility of their student-athletes before participation in any   
 practice or contest

2. Withhold ineligible student‐athletes from all contact, participation and   
 contests until eligibility issues are resolved.

3. Must have certified scale for weigh-ins at park location.

**B – Player Eligibility**

No Player will be allowed to participate until they have been certified by the SRCYFL.

1. Players must provide to the SRCYFL proof in the form of original birth   
 certificate, current passport or military ID. **NO COPIES WILL BE ACCEPTED**.

2. Players must be enrolled in public, private or home school and in regular   
 attendance.

3. Must meet age requirement and be at least 5 years old on August 1

\*\*\* NOTE: Participation of an ineligible player will constitute a forfeit whether   
accidental or intentional of all contests the player participated in.

**C – Player Disqualification**

If a player is disqualified, he/she will remain ineligible until the SRCYFL receives   
 proper documentation to the BOD.

**D – Transfers**

Transfers from 1-member park to another member park is permitted as long as the   
 following criteria is met.

1. Only 3 players may transfer from 1 team to another team in each age group.

2. No money or equipment is owed to the departing park.

3. There can be NO recruiting.

4. No player or coach will be permitted to transfer after certification date.

5. No transfer is valid until approved and signed by the SRCYFL.

**Article 4 – Eligibility of Coaches**

**A – Member Park Responsibilities**

Member Parks are required to certify their coaches and attendants before they are   
 allowed to participate. Parks are required to withhold ineligible coaches.

**B – Coach Eligibility**

1. Must have background check from the county/city Government that is   
 presiding over the park.

2. All background checks approval/denials must be submitted to SRCYFL BOD   
 before coach will be certified.

3. All coaches must take and pass USA Football Level1 Tackle certification   
 and /or recertification each year prior to being certified.

4. Must Present a valid ID (State issued ID, Driver’s License, Military ID or   
 Current Passport.

5. Coaches must always display a current coach’s card anytime on the field.

6. Must only coach for 1 park in a season.

7. Must Display good sportsmanship, follow the rules and the SRCYFL Coaches   
 Code of Conduct.

9. All Coaches must be certified by the SRCYFL.

10. The Head Coach is responsible for his/her sideline to include Coaches, Athletes   
 and Fans.

11. The park president/football commissioner of each age group per park is   
 responsible to present a binder to the SRCYFL BOD at weigh-in/certification that   
 includes each coach and team mom’s background, USA football certification,   
 rosters with jerseys.

**C – Disqualification of a Coach**

Any coach that is disqualified (ejected) for unsportsmanlike conduct or foul,   
 will be ineligible to compete for the remainder of that game and the next game.   
 The coach will have 5 minutes to leave the field, if he/she does not leave the field   
 then a forfeit may occur, and Security personnel will be called. If a disqualified   
 coach continues to cause a problem, then the coach may be disqualified for the   
 remainder of the season or permanently at the discretion of the SRCYFL.

Any coach that has been disqualified for a 2nd time can be banned from   
 coaching in the SRCYFL for life.

A disqualified coach has the right to appeal

1. To appeal you must notify the SRCYFL within 24 hours of the disqualification.
2. The SRCYFL will convene an Appellate Board consisting of BOD.

**Article 5 – Member Park Responsibilities**

**A – Fulfilling SRCYFL Responsibilities**

Member Parks will fulfill their schedule responsibilities. Failure to meet these   
 requirements can result in forfeitures, fines, probation and/or expulsion from   
 SRCYFL.

**B – Admission Fees**

No admission fees will be charged for regular season game unless it is agreed   
 upon by both parks and approved by SRCYFL BOD in writing. The request must be   
 approved at least 7 days prior to game day. It must be clear that it is not a SRCYFL   
 sponsored gate fee.

**C – Chain Crew**

Host Park must ensure a chain crew is present and ready to go at the beginning   
 of each game. The chain crew members must be at least 15 years old. The Chain   
 crew must remain neutral. No electronic equipment can be used on the sideline.   
 The chain crew can only communicate with the officials.

**D –Staff**

Parks are required to provide staffing at events according to SRCYFL requirements

**E – Facility Requirements**

Any Park that intends to host pre-season, regular season or post season games   
 must meet a minimum of the following requirements:

1. Must have a concession stand.

2. Must have 2 restrooms (1 male, 1 Female) in working condition.

3. Field must have a working scoreboard with clock.

a. Must be at least a high school student

4. Field must be in good condition and lined IAW FHSAA rules.

5. Playing field must have a barrier between playing field and fans.

6. There must always be a park representative POC on site.

7. The facility must be able to control gate for purpose of admission   
 charges if necessary.

8. The SRCYFL reserves the right to deny any event if the requirements are   
 not met.

**F –Game Balls**

U06, U07, U08 will use Wilson K2 or equivalent

U09, U10, U11, U12 will use Wilson TDJ or equivalent

U14 will use Wilson TDY or equivalent

**G –OPEN FOR FUTURE USE**

**H – Officials**

1. All games will use SRCYFL contracted officials.

2. All problems with Officials should be written up and sent to the SRCYFL.

3. Minimum Officials

a. U06, U07, U08, U09 – 3 Officials

b. U10, U11, U12, U14 – 4 Officials

4. Parks must provide water for the officials throughout the Game

**I – Reporting of Scores**

Scores to be uploaded by home park on SRCYFL website NLT Saturday night 10pm.

**J – Security**

1. It is host parks responsibility to provide 1 security personnel by a city, county or   
 state officer. Security must be on site prior to U6 and present through U14 game.

2. The host park is responsible for paying security for regular season games.

3. The host park will be responsible for scheduling and paying security for all post   
 season games.

**Article 6 – Post Season Site Selection**

A **– Post Season**

1. All teams will make playoffs.

2. Playoffs

a. Teams will be ranked by season win/loss results and overall record.

b. Ties will be determined by head-to-head record, if there is no head to   
 head record then the seeding will be determined by draw/coin flip.

**C- Event Site Location**

1. Playoff games/sites will be selected by SRCYFL BOD on rotational basis.

2. Championship game sites will be selected by the SRCYFL BOD on a   
 rotational basis at high school stadiums.

**D – Special Events**

Special event locations will be selected by the SRCYFL in the best interest of the   
 event and members. These will be rotated as permitted.

**Article 7 – Team Make Up and Limits**

1. **Certification**

All teams are required to certify eligibility of their players prior to participation in   
 any event. It is parks responsibility to resolve eligibility problems with the SRCYFL.

**B. Team Composition**

The SRCYFL recommends optimum team size is 35 players.

1 Maximum roster size is at each park’s discretion.

2 Teams may not have less than 11 players to start a game, if roster drops   
 below 11, the result will be a forfeit.

3 A team can have 1 head coach plus 9 assistant coaches, with 1 team mom   
 and 1 photographer. All coaches must be USA certified, and all must have   
 cleared background check.

4 The Head Coach is ultimately responsible for the accuracy of the roster.

1. **Practice Limits**

1 Teams will limit practice to 2hrs 15 minutes or less for an exertive practice   
 per day.

2 No practice past 9pm.

3 No practice on Sunday.

1. **Sunday Games**

1 No game will take place on Sunday except under emergency conditions. A   
 Sunday game must be approved by both Head Coaches and SRCYFL.

**Article 8 – Rules of Competition**

1. **Governing Rules**

All games will be played under current NFHS rules, with exceptions of the rules herein. SRCYFL reserves the right to interpret, add, amend, revoke, suspend or delete any rule in the interest of fair competition.

**B. Age Divisions**

1. The age of record will be August 1st.

2. Age groups will be as follows U06, U07, U08, U09, U10, U11, U12, and U14

**C. Certification**

All athletes will be certified by SRCYFL before participating in any regular season or   
 post season contest. Each athlete is required to present to SRCYFL 1 of the   
 following:

1. An original State or Federally issued Birth Certificate

2. An original Birth Certificate issued from a Foreign Country

3. A court certified document stating the athletes complete name (as it   
 appears on the birth certificate), date of birth and the parent/legal   
 guardian’s name.

4. A current Military dependent ID card

5. Any State or Federally issued ID card that includes the child’s full name,   
 current photo and date of birth.

6. An original shot record from the Department of Health.

\*\*\*\*COPIES OR NOTORIZED COPIES OF ANY DOCUMENTS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED\*\*\*\*

SRCYFL may request further proof of identification at any time during season. The Athlete will have 3 business days to provide proof or will be declared ineligible.

**D. Electronic Equipment**

1. No communication equipment should be allowed to include cell phones.

2. If chain crew is caught coaching or directing players will get 1 verbal warning,   
 followed by a personal foul 15-yard penalty. Second offense is a permanent   
 removal from chain crew and forfeiture of game.

3. Photography and filming are allowed outside of coaching box but no drones may   
 be used above playing field surface.

**E. Point After Touchdown**

Extra point will be – 1 point if ran/passed in and 2 points for a kick through goalpost.

**F. Forfeiture Due to Failure to Appear**

If for any reason a team is not able to make a scheduled game, it’s a forfeit.

**G. High School Students**

No Athlete enrolled in 9th grade or higher will be eligible to participate.

**H. Inclement Weather**

SRCYFL Officials, Park Officials and /or game Officials on site may use their best   
 judgement in the case of bad weather. They may stop playing and get the players to   
 a safe place until play can resume.

In the case of a hurricane or other large-scale storm, all practice will stop when the   
 first park is declared closed (IE – if a park is in a mandatory evacuation zone).   
 Practice may resume after all parks are declared open. SRCYFL will make a   
 decision when games will resume.

1. **Game Make-Up**

SRCYFL will determine makeup game times and locations. Consideration will be   
 made to both parks with the officials to make best decision for all involved.

1. **Mercy Rule**

* 1. Once a 30-point spread is reached between 2 teams at any time; or 21 points at any time during 4th quarter of game will be officially over.
  2. The scores will be recorded as 30-0 or 21-0 respectively.
  3. The game will continue as normal with score erased to allow **developmental players** to finish games and earn playing time with normal operating clock
  4. The officials may declare a game over at any time if they deem necessary due to bad conduct will result in forfeit of current game.

**K. U06 and U07 Rule Variations**

1.In U-6 and U-7 games, each team is allowed to have 1 coach on the field to assist   
 with play calling, huddle and lining up. The offensive coach must be 15 yards   
 behind deepest offensive player at snap of the ball. The defensive coach must be   
 10 yards behind deepest defensive player at snap of the ball. Neither coach may   
 give any instruction after huddle is broke. The coach may help with lining up but   
 may not give blocking assignments, adjust or delay the game. On field coaches will   
 make every attempt to avoid the play so not to interfere once the ball is snapped.   
 The on-field coach may not deceive the opposing players.

2. No defensive player may line up ‘head up on center’. No defensive player will   
 directly engage or rush the center. Defensive players may, however line up and   
 rush the Guard/Center gap.

3. In lieu of a punt, the ball may be placed 25 yards up field and turned over to the   
 opposing team. The ball may not be placed inside of the 20-yard line if a team   
 chooses to punt inside the 45-yard line.

**L. Moving Down in Age Division**

There will be no playing down in any age division.

**M. Moving Up in Age Division**

An Athlete may play up 1 weight division. This must be approved by SRCYFL.

**N. Player Equipment**

The FHSAA guidelines will govern the equipment used with the exceptions herein.

1. Mouth Pieces – all players must use an approved mouthpiece. No clear   
 mouthpieces will be accepted.

2. No Detachable cleats may be worn in the U-6, U-7, U-8, U-9 or U-10 age   
 groups. U-11, U-12 and U-14 may use ‘screw in type ‘cleats, but cannot   
 wear metal cleats

3. Each team must have home and away jerseys.

4. Numbers must be minimum 6” on front and 8” on back of jerseys. Each   
 player will be issued a number and once certified may not change.

5. Sponsor Logos may be worn on jerseys shoulder/arm area only. Front and   
 back of jersey will only have number, mascot, and name printed on it.

**O. Pre-Game Procedure**

1 Roster checks will be performed at halftime of preceding game. Teams will meet   
 at scoreboard during halftime. First game of day will do roster check 30 min prior   
 to kickoff. Coaches can challenge players red stripe eligibility during this time.

2 Host Park must provide the same facilities it uses (if you have a tower to film, you   
 must make same area available to opposing team as well). After pregame check-  
 in, jersey should not be removed unless in case of an emergency.

**P. Red-Stripe Players**

1. Red Stripe Players only utilized in U06, U07, U08, U09, U10 aged divisions and   
 must meet weight requirements for their age division.

2. Rosters will denote an athlete as a red stripe player.

3. Red Stripe players must have a 1” red stripe applied on center of the helmet from   
 front to rear.

4. All Red Stripe Players must play interior line position (Center, Guard or Tackle) and   
 may not be more that 2 positions outside of center offensively or defensively.

5. Red Stripe Players must line up within 1 yard of the line of scrimmage.

6. Defensive Red Stripe Players must line up in a 3 or 4-point stance.

7. Offensive Red Stripe Players may line up in a 2-, 3- or 4-Point stance.

8. A Red Stripe Player may play on the extra Point/Punt team.

9. A Red Stripe Player is not permitted on the kick-off or kick return teams.

10. A Red Stripe Player may be a kicker on the extra point team.

11. A Red Stripe Player may not possess the ball at any time except for the center, if   
 the Red Stripe Player does possess the ball (Fumble recovery, interception) the   
 ball is dead and placed down at that position.

12. No Ball advances or laterals will be permitted by a Red Stripe Player.

13. Once certified a Red Stripe Player, this cannot change even if the weight is lost.

14. Any team using a Red Stripe Player illegally will be assessed a 15-yard penalty,   
 and the player will be removed until problem can be resolved.

15. A red-stripe player may elect to weigh in at any point prior to team’s roster check

a. Must notify opposing teams park by Wednesday of game week

**Q. U08, U09 and U10 Kicking Rules**

There will be no rush in these age groups for punt/kick.

**R. U11, U12 and U14 Kicking Rules**

a. Standard NFHS rules will apply to these age groups. The center cannot be   
 engaged directly when long snapping however, you may line up on center but must   
 shoot the gap.

b. A center direct snapping to a Quarterback or other eligible player shall have no   
 special protection rule in any age division.

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**S. Tie Games**

a. Tie games will be decided by the ’10-yard line tie breaker’

1. Each team will get the ball at the 10-yard line up to 2 possessions each.

2. A TD score = 6-points, a run or pass for extra point = 1-pt, a kicked extra   
 point = 2-pts.

3. After two possessions each and tie remains; each team will get one line of   
 scrimmage play from the 3-yard line until a winner is determined with   
 alternating possessions.

**T. Time Limits**

All age groups play 8-minute quarters except U-14 who plays 10 Minute quarters.

**U. Rosters**

1. SRCYFL will:

a. Provide certified rosters in an electronic format.

b. Will have current and official roster online; it will be up to the Head Coach   
 to make sure current roster is download.

c. Rosters will be online Thursday prior to Saturday games. Roster should be   
 downloaded as close to game as possible.

d. Rosters will be password protected; the password will be emailed to park   
 representative each week. It is responsibility of parks to get the correct   
 password to Head Coaches each week.

**V. Weight Limits**



**W. Weigh in Procedure**

Weigh ins will be done by certification at beginning of year by SRCYFL BOD. Any   
 player can challenge the weight restriction at any time.

**X. Scouting**

Scouting is allowed at games. You may film or chart an opposing team’s plays but cannot scout at any practices.

**Article 9 - Code of Conduct**

**A. Athlete Code of Conduct**

1. Athletes will have respect for other athletes, cheerleaders, coaches, SRCYFL   
 officials, officials, other teams and fans.

2. Athletes will not engage in any type of fighting or abusive behavior.

3. Athletes will not engage in any form of verbal or physical intimidations to include   
 threatening gestures and use of profanity.

4. Athletes will display good sportsmanship and follow rules of play.

6. Athletes will not possess alcohol, tobacco, drugs or performance enhancing   
 drugs.

**B. Coaches Code of Conduct**

1. No alcohol, tobacco, tobacco products or drugs permitted.

2. Coaches will not use profanity, engage in any fighting or abusive behavior.

4. Coaches will display good sportsmanship and follow the rules of play.

5. Coaches will have respect for everyone to include players, coaches, and officials.