

## UYFC Tackle Football – 2023 Officials

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| <b>Coaches and Badges</b>                             | 6 max on the sideline           | A team may only have 6 total coaches on the sideline. This includes the head Coach. All Coaches must have a badge. Communication with officials will only be made by the Head Coach. Freshman football does not have a Coach limit, but all coaches must have badges. Only one photographer is allowed on the sideline. Photographers must remain silent. If they are not, they will be sent back into the stands.   |
| <b>Field Supervisor &amp; Sidelines</b>               | League Policy                   | Coaches are to support and assist field supervisors in enforcement of league rules and policies. The Supervisor is part of the team that makes this league move forward. Coaches will work with Supervisor request. Spectators are required to sit on the same sideline as their team. Spectators should not be in the endzone. All spectators on high school fields must be seated in the stands.   |
| <b>Ejections</b>                                      | If a coach or parent or player. | When a Coach, parent or player is ejected, the player associated with said person is also to leave the field. Both are disqualified from the game and sideline. The next game the player will miss the first half and the adult will be suspend for the entire game. The only exception to this rule is the head coach's son. If the head coach is ejected, the player may remain in the game.   |
| <b>Concussion</b>                                     | Any player                      | Any player that is suspected of having a concussion will be removed from the game. This comes from his coaching staff or the officiating crew. Once removed, the said player cannot return without a medical professional giving clearance. No tinted faces shields are allowed. Players eyes must be visible.   |
| <b>Equipment</b>                                      | All players must                | All players must have all pant pads in their pants. Knee pads must cover the knee. No streamers or tails are allowed on any uniform. Eye black is limed to one solid line under the eye.   |
| <b>1<sup>st</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> Defensive rush</b> | League rule                     | The defense cannot cover the center at any time. Line backers cannot blitz the A gap. Defensive lineman may line up head up on the offensive guard. The Defensive lineman over the guard may rush the A or B gap. D-line man must start in a 3 or 4 point stance. Line backers must start 3 yards off the ball. Officials will flag defensive line man that line up in the A gap. Violation of this rule will result in a dead ball foul and a 5-yard penalty with a replay of the down. |

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| <b>PI – Pass interference</b> |             | <p>1. There is no 5-yard bump zone in HS rules. Once a receiver is presented as a receiver and not a blocker, contact must be eliminated.</p> <p>2. There is no such thing as an uncatchable ball in HS rules.</p> <p>3. Face guarding is not illegal in HS rules.</p> <p>4. A receiver pushed out of bounds may reenter and catch a pass.</p> <p>5. Offensive PI is not a loss of down.</p>  |
| <b>Blind Side Blocks</b>      | HS Rule     | <p>No player may hit an opposing player with a blind side hit. The following must happen for the block to be legal.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The hit must start with contact from the hands.</li> <li>2. Contact must be made on the front side of the defender.</li> <li>3. At no time may the blocker lead with his head.</li> </ol>   |
| <b>Horse Collar Tackle</b>    | HS Rule     | <p>Horse-collar tackle: Grab the inside back or side collar, or the name plate area (directly below the back collar), of either the shoulder pads or the jersey of the runner and subsequently pull (<b>backward or sideward</b>) that opponent to the ground (Horse-collar), even if possession is lost. To be a penalty, a horse collar tackle must involve a backwards/sideward motion pulling while tackling.</p> <p>To be clear, a high tackle is not a horse-collar. The player must be taken to the ground backward or sideways.</p> |
| <b>Defensive offsides</b>     | HS rule     | <p>Once a player breaks the plane, it is offsides. There is not getting back. This is a dead ball.</p>  |
| <b>Offensive Formation</b>    | HS rule     | <p>The offense must have at least five players on the line of scrimmage and no more than four players in the backfield. The offense may run a play with less than 7 on the line. This would be due to having less than 11 players on the field.</p>   |
| <b>Penalty Distances</b>      | League Rule | <p>80-yard fields will limit penalty distances to 10 yards.</p> <p>100-yard fields may have 15-yard penalty's</p>   |
| <b>Kickoffs</b>               | HS rule     | <p>No pop-up kickoffs. This is a kick that is driven immediately into the ground and goes into the air in a manner of a ball kicked directly off the tee. Kangaroo kicks, 2 or more bounces are legal. The kicking team must have at least 4 players on each side of the kicker at the time of the kickoff.</p> <p>80-yard field – kickoff from the 30-yard line.</p> <p>100-yard field – kickoff from the 40-yard line.</p>  |

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|                                     |             | 1 <sup>st</sup> & 2 <sup>nd</sup> grade will start from the 20-yard line. No kickoff.   |
| <b>Punt Return – First Touching</b> | HS Rule     | The kicking team touches a punt and assumes it is dead. The offense may pick up a touched punt and return it. The ball is live until the official blows it dead. If this return results in a fumble, the ball will remain with the return team at the spot of the original 1 <sup>st</sup> touched spot.  |
| <b>Punts</b>                        | League rule | 1 <sup>st</sup> to 4 <sup>th</sup> grade will have a free kick without a defensive rush. The kick team must announce their intention and there are no fakes.<br>1. The defense may attempt to block a punt from behind their side of the line of scrimmage.<br>2. A botched snap can be gathered and kicked.<br><br><b>5<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> grade will play HS Federation rules.</b>  |
| <b>PAT &amp; field goals</b>        | League rule | 1 point try will be from the 1.5 yard-line.<br>2 point try will be from the 3 yard-line.<br>(Teams choosing to kick for the try will have the ball placed on the 3 yard-line – A successful kick try will result in one point).<br>8 <sup>th</sup> & 9 <sup>th</sup> grade will be the only division that kick field goals.   |
| <b>Over Time</b>                    | League Rule | Each team will have equal possessions.<br>1 <sup>st</sup> to 6 <sup>th</sup> grade will start at the 10-yard line (They will have four downs – unless a penalty gives them a new series). Second OT the ball will be placed on the five-yard line. Teams must attempt a two-point conversion in the second overtime. Any subsequent overtimes teams will only attempt a two-point conversion.<br>7 <sup>th</sup> to 9 <sup>th</sup> will start at the 20-yard line. A first down may be obtained. Second OT the ball will be placed on the 10-yard line. Teams must attempt a two-point conversion in the second overtime. Any subsequent overtimes teams will only attempt a two-point conversion.<br><br>Each team will have 1 timeout per overtime period. |
| <b>Return a muffed kick</b>         | HS rule     | Free-kick (Kick-off) – Scrimmage-kick (Punt, PAT, or FG).<br>The Kicking team cannot return a kick of a free-kick or scrimmage-kick.<br>Free-kick: They may gain possession if recovered after the ball goes 10 yards and touches the ground (or touched first by the receiving team).<br>They may recover a scrimmage kick (punt or FG) if muffed (touched) by the Receiving team).  |

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|                                       |              | If the receiving team gains possession and then subsequently fumbles the ball, the kicking team may recover and advance the ball.  |
| <b>Automatic 1<sup>st</sup> Downs</b> | HS rule      | The only penalties that result in an automatic first downs are Roughing penalties. Roughing of the kicker, passer, snapper, or holder.   |
| <b>Intentional Grounding</b>          | HS Rule 2022 | Once out of the pocket the QB may throw the ball away without penalty. This is a safety rule to protect the QB.<br>The QB must be out of the pocket. The ball must pass the line of scrimmage. The ball may be thrown out of bounds. A receiver does not have to be present for the QB to dump the ball. Only the player that receives the initial snap has this option.   |
| <b>Holding</b>                        | HS Rule      | It is never ok to grab a defender by his jersey. An offense player may not hug or hold a defender and limit their movement. An offense player may block with an open hand or closed hand while blocking. Use of hands when blocking should take place inside the body cage of an offensive player. <b>New in 2023, penalties behind the line of scrimmage committed by the offense will be enforced from the previous spot (line of scrimmage). For example: Offensive holding.</b>  |
| <b>Chain Gang</b>                     | League rule  | Chains will be place opposite of the Cameras.  |
| <b>Game Time</b>                      | League Rule  | 1&2 <sup>nd</sup> , 3 <sup>rd</sup> , 4 <sup>th</sup> , 5 <sup>th</sup> 6 <sup>th</sup> , 7 <sup>th</sup> , & 8 <sup>th</sup> grades – Four - 16:00 quarters with a running clock.<br><br>9 <sup>th</sup> – 12-minute quarters with HS stoppage. Clock will start on the ready-for-play after a possession change.<br><br>The clock will stop in all leagues the last 2 minutes of each half, as per HS rules.<br><br>If a game clock is not available at the field, then time will be kept on the field by the White Hat. Between plays – 1 <sup>st</sup> to 6 <sup>th</sup> grade will have 30 seconds.<br>7 <sup>th</sup> to 9 <sup>th</sup> will have 25 seconds.<br><br><b>The game clock will run on timeouts, other than the last 2 minutes of each half.</b> |
| <b>Coach on the field</b>             | League rule  | Grades 1 <sup>st</sup> to 4 <sup>th</sup> are allowed one coach on the field. The coach may be in the huddle to help play instruction. Once the huddle is broken, the coach must be 15 yards back from the line of scrimmage. 15 yards for both offense and  |

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|                                     |             | <p>defense coaches. Changing out of the field coach can only happen on change of possession or a timeout. Once the teams come to the line of scrimmage the field coach <b>may</b> not call out run, pass or play calls.</p> <p>Coaches calling plays from wristbands (no huddle) need to do so from the sideline.</p> <p>In case of a hurry up offense, the last two minutes of the half, the officials will hold off the snap for 30 seconds, when needed.</p>   |
| <b>X man</b>                        | League Rule | <p>X man must line up in an offensive line position. They cannot line up as a running back, fullback, receiver, tight end or quarterback.</p> <p>X man may return a fumble or interception.</p> <p>X man must be on the front 2 lines of a kickoff return team.</p> <p>X man can be a punter or kicker. They may not fake punt.</p> <p>X man can play any position on defense.</p> <p>Offensive teams may only have 5 total X men on the field at one time.</p> <p>Plays that the officiating crew feel are designed to get the ball to a X man will be blown dead.</p> |
| <b>Field Size</b>                   | League Rule | <p>8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade will play on a 100 yard field.</p> <p>1<sup>st</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> grade will play on an 80 yard field.</p>  |
| <b>Video replay</b>                 | League Rule | Video is not allowed for review of plays or rulings.  |
| <b>Audio Devices in Helmet</b>      | League Rule | <p>No player may have communication equipment, ear buds or mic in their helmet or on the playing field. Coaches are not allowed to communicate with players through electronic means.</p> <p>Coaches that violate this rule will be removed from coaching for the season.</p>   |
| <b>League Practice instructions</b> | League Rule | <p>Once the Season has started teams are limited to 3 practices a week. An additional option of team game film or A team walk through are allowed. Practice and one of these two option must not exceed a count of more than 4 days a week.</p>   |