

# OAK CREEK



# Football



Jr. Knights

2018 Rules & Terms of Agreement

Grades 1<sup>st</sup>–4<sup>th</sup>, OCYF-LL

(Oak Creek Youth Football - Lower Level)

Grades 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>, AAYFL

(All American Youth Football League)

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All rules are subject to change. Updated 2/27/18

# I. General League Rules & Regulations

## 1. Age Requirements

- a. Players entering 1<sup>st</sup> thru 8<sup>th</sup> grade in fall 2018 can participate.
- b. No person who is 15 years of age may play in OCYF or the AAYFL. Player may not turn the age of 15 before November 1, 2018.

## 2. Age Groups & League Affiliation

- a. Teams will compete in the following age groups:
- b. 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> grade - League Affiliation OCYF-LL
- c. 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> grade – League Affiliation AAYFL(Rules modified from 5th-8<sup>th</sup> grade)
- d. 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, & 8<sup>th</sup> grade – League Affiliation AAYFL

## 3. Residency Requirements

- a. OCYF-LL, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> grade - No residency requirements to play.
- b. AAYFL - All players in 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade will play in OCYF/AAYFL. In order to play in the AAYFL, players must reside in Oak Creek or be open enrolled into the Oak Creek–Franklin School District for 2 years (school verification is required).
  - **EXCEPTION:** For the 2018 season, the AAYFL is allowing non-resident players who played on an OCYF 7<sup>th</sup> grade team in 2017 to continue with OCYF/AAYFL until they choose to leave or age out of the program.
- c. New players outside the district will not be allowed to join OCYF/AAYFL and any non-resident players in the 1<sup>st</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> grades will not be able to continue in OCYF/AAYFL when they reach the 5<sup>th</sup> grade **UNLESS** they have been enrolled in the Oak Creek – Franklin School District **for at least 2 years.**

## 4. Registration of Players

- a. Player registration will be done at <http://ocyf.net>
- b. All families new to Sport Engine will need to create an account prior to registering! If you already have a Sport Engine account, you can log into that account to register for OCYF.**
- c. All players or parents (where applicable) must complete **ALL** of the following in order to receive game jersey:
  - i. New enrollment players must upload to OCYF (via Sport Engine) a copy of player's birth certificate for age verification & most current school year's report card for residency verification (non-Oak Creek residents only). Upload must be completed by July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018.

- ii. Upload or have on file a current athletic permit or approved physical by July 1, 2018. *Note: Athletic permits are good for 2 years. Example: If your child had a physical prior to July 2016 they will need an updated physical to participate in the 2018 season. If your child had a physical prior to July 2017 they will need an updated physical to participate in the 2019 season.*
    - iii. Attend an OCYF in person equipment fitting/handout on designated day or designated make up day.
  - d. All players must be weighted and measured, by an official OCYF representative. Date TBD.
  - e. AAYFL – Any player weighing within ten pounds of the allowable weight for their team level, playing a ball carrier, offensive back, or receiver position, must have an official weight verification slip signed by either a physician or registered nurse. Weight verification and documentation will be done by an OCYF representative.
  - f. Provide OCYF with the required volunteer deposit check by July 1<sup>st</sup> of current year.
  - g. Volunteer check postdated for 11/12/18 in the amount of \$400 for a single player or \$500 for a family of multiple players.
  - h. Pay the registration fee (separate check for volunteer) if not prepaid online by credit card.
    - \$225 For 1<sup>st</sup>–2<sup>nd</sup> Grade
    - \$250 For 3<sup>rd</sup>–4<sup>th</sup> Grade
    - \$275 For 5<sup>th</sup>–8<sup>th</sup> Grade
  - i. There will be a \$40 returned check fee. Players will not be allowed to participate in any OCYF function until full payment is made.
  - j. Parents/Guardians are responsible for keeping family account up to date by logging into their Sport Engine account at <http://ocyf.net>. Changes include home address, email address, phone #, etc.
  - k. If the above guidelines are not met, the individual will be placed on a wait list. Selections from the wait list will be on a first come first serve basis, and there is no guarantee the individual will be placed on a team in the current year.

## **5. Weight Restrictions – OCYF-LL**

- a. Weight restrictions for ball carriers for grades 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> 80lbs 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> 90lbs.
- b. All players will be weighted and measured by an official OCYF representative. Date TBD.

## **6. Weight Restrictions – AAYFL**

- a. No player lined up in an eligible position at the snap may exceed 160 lbs. without equipment at the "A" level. This restriction will be determined prior to league play based on roster weight verification rules.
- b. Maximum weight at the "B" team level is 140 lbs.
- c. Maximum weight at the "C" team level is 120 lbs.
- d. Maximum weight at the "D" team level is 100 lbs.
- e. All players must be weighted and measured. Date TBD.
- f. Players over the maximum weight for each level must wear jersey numbers 50 through 79 if playing on offense.
- g. Any player weighing within ten pounds of the allowable weight for their team level, playing a ball carrier, offensive back, or receiver position, must have the official AAYFL weight verification slip signed by either a physician or registered nurse. No other form will be accepted. Weight verification will be done by an official OCYF representative.
- h. Players, who are lined up in an eligible position must remain at or below the maximum weight allowed for each level throughout the season to play those positions. Players are subject to random weight verification.

## **7. Equipment**

- a. Only OCYF issued equipment is to be worn.
- b. OCYF issued equipment is as follows:
  - a. Helmet with facemask and chin strap. Chin strap may be substituted, however, it cannot have a cover or sleeve. Shoulder pads, integrated pants (with built in hip, thigh and knee pads) and jersey(s).
- c. Grades 1 – 4 - Each player will receive one jersey that they will keep at the end of the year.
- d. Grades 5 – 8 - Each player will receive two jerseys. A royal blue (home) jersey and a white (away) jersey.
- e. All OCYF issued equipment must be returned to OCYF at the end of the season or parents will be billed for replacement equipment.

- f. All OCYF issued equipment, including helmet, chin straps, shoulder pads, pants and jersey are to be cleaned prior to returning them to OCYF on designated equipment turn in day. Please do not return muddy/dirty equipment to OCYF.
  - g. Players are required to supply and wear the following non-OCYF issued equipment:
    - a. Mouth guard that attaches to helmet, athletic support cup, socks, football cleats (no metal) and a water bottle for proper hydration.
  - h. Coaches will be issued the following equipment:
    - a. Practice and game balls, tackling dummies, blocking dummies, first aid kit and toolbox.
- 8. PRACTICE - 1<sup>st</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup> Grade**
- a. Conditioning week will begin early August. Please refer to the calendar page at [ocyf.net](http://ocyf.net) for exact dates and times. Each player must complete **6 hours** of conditioning prior to player to player contact. Helmets and cleats are the only equipment allowed during conditioning.
  - b. **Player contact and pads are NOT ALLOWED during conditioning week.**
  - c. If a player needs to make up conditioning hours, those make up hours must be done with a certified coach from said players team or a certified coach from said players grade level.
  - d. Practice times and locations TBD. All practices must be held within the city of Oak Creek.
  - e. Only OCYF certified coaches may run a practice. Assistant team managers or parents are not allowed to run a practice or instruct players.
  - f. Before the school year begins, practice is limited to a maximum of 6 hours per week.
  - g. During the school, year practice is limited to a maximum of 6 hours per week.
  - h. Scrimmages are allowed but must be held between teams at their same grade level. Scrimmages are defined as any practice in which two or more teams participate in player-to-player contact.
  - i. Team Meet and Greet and Equipment Handout Day are the only allowed team gatherings prior to conditioning week. **No practices are allowed.**
- 9. PRACTICE 5<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> Grade (AAYFL)**

- a. Conditioning week will begin early August. Please refer to the calendar page at [ocyf.net](http://ocyf.net) for exact dates and times. Each player must complete **10 hours** of conditioning prior to player to player contact. WIAA Acclimatization Guidelines for Football must be followed. Go to [ocyf.net](http://ocyf.net), league documents for more detailed information.
- b. If a player needs to make up conditioning hours, those make up hours must be done with a certified coach or OCYF representative. Please email [ocyfnews@ocyf.net](mailto:ocyfnews@ocyf.net) and your player's head coach if your player will need to make up conditioning hours.
- c. Practices for grades 7 and 8 will be held at Oak Creek High School. Practices for grades 5 and 6 will be held at: Marquette Manor Park.
- d. All grade levels will practice on the same days and times.
  - a. Unexcused absences may result in loss of play time for that week's game:
- e. Only OCYF certified coaches may run a practice. Assistant team managers or parents are not allowed to run a practice or instruct players.
- f. Before the school year begins, practice is limited to a maximum of 8 hours per week except conditioning week, where 10 hours are allowed.
- g. During the school, year practice is limited to a maximum of 6 hours per week.
- h. Team Meet and Greet and Equipment Handout Day are the only allowed team gatherings prior to conditioning week. No practices are allowed.
- i. Teams are allowed 2 scrimmage dates prior to the Sunday of the week that the league game schedule begins. Additional games or scrimmages are not allowed until after a team's league season has ended. Scrimmages are defined as organized competition between two teams from different organizations. Teams from the same organization may practice together including drills that involve contact. For example: 8<sup>th</sup> grade Blue and 8<sup>th</sup> grade White may practice against each other; this would not be considered a scrimmage.
- j. A practice is defined as an organized gathering of players and coaches. This includes speed camps, special training camps or any

other type of organized practice while acting as a representative of OCYF.

- k. OCYF will conduct all football practices, scrimmages and games in a reasonable manner, with sufficient water and rest periods. If a child chooses not to participate in the rehydration during practice due to religious or other beliefs, the parents and players are assuming the possible medical risks that are associated with inadequate nutrition/hydration.

#### **10. GAMES – 1<sup>st</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> Grade**

- a. Grades 1 – 4 - All games will be played in four quarters of eight minutes each.
- b. OCYF will try to provide an 8 game season. If needed, an attempt to schedule a scrimmage to provide an 8<sup>th</sup> game will be made.

#### **11. GAMES - AAYFL**

- a. Grades 5 – 8 - All games will be played in four quarters, eight minutes each.
- b. All players will play 8 games.
- c. 8<sup>th</sup> grade conference champions will play a 9<sup>th</sup> game.
- d. **Head coach must submit game scores to designated OCYF representative by end of day of scheduled game.**

#### **12. Field Locations (Home Games)**

- a. 1<sup>st</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup> grade – Oak Creek, American Legion Post, Upper Field
- b. 5<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> grade – Oak Creek High School, Knights Stadium
- c. Field locations for away games will vary.

#### **13. Parking**

- a. **1<sup>st</sup>-4<sup>th</sup>** - Parking is strictly prohibited on all Legion black top/paved parking areas. This rule is in effect at any and all times during an OCYF sponsored game. As a courtesy, this applies even if you are a patron at the American Legion Post.
- b. No parking is allowed in the designated areas that are marked for emergency vehicles. Your vehicle may be towed away at your expense.

#### **14. Bathroom Facilities:**

- a. While attending games at the American Legion, players, parents and guests should not use the American Legion indoor bathroom facilities unless patronizing their establishment. Outdoor bathroom facilities will be available.
- b. No Cleats are allowed in the American Legion at any time.

#### **15. PARKING – AAYFL**



- a. Parking is available in either of the two Oak Creek High School parking lots as well as any available street parking.
- II. Emergency Action Plan**
  - a. An EAP shall be followed in case of an emergency, e.g.: tornado, lightening. Written documentation will be at both the legion concession stand and high school concession stand.
- III. Injuries**
  - a. Any injury, whether in practice or during a game which results in a player being unable to return to play, must be documented (by the head coach) via the ocyf.net website within 24 hours.
  - b. Once an athlete has been removed from a game due to injury or suspected injury, they shall not return to play until assessed by the OCYF designated athletic trainer if playing at home or the home team's designated professional.
  - c. Any player that is removed from play due to serious illness or injury shall be required to have a medical release before returning to play or practice.
  - d. The diagnosis and treatment of injuries is a medical problem, which should not fall under the duties of the coach, but under the auspices of trained medical personnel. A coach's responsibility is to see that injured players receive prompt and competent medical attention and that physicians' orders are carried out to the letter.
- IV. Refunds**
  - a. A full refund will be given if OCYF is notified in writing (letter, email) before the draft of players date.
  - b. A refund of the registration, fee minus \$50, will be given if OCYF is notified between the draft date and equipment handout date.
  - c. A refund of the registration fee, minus (1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> - \$100, 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> - \$100, 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> - \$150), will be given if OCYF is notified after equipment handout date. This covers the cost of OCYF's financial commitments and the cost of the player's jersey(s).
  - d. No refunds will be given after August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2018 with the following exception: A partial refund may be granted up until opening day if the request is due to a season ending injury. All requests will be judged on a case by case basis, and proper medical documentation will be required before consideration of a refund.
  - e. OCYF must be notified via our website or by sending an email to [ocyfnews@ocyf.net](mailto:ocyfnews@ocyf.net) if a player quits the league.

## **V. Service Hours Volunteer Deposit**

- a. You must submit by July 1<sup>st</sup>, a check post-dated for November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2018 for the dollar amount of \$400 for a single player or \$500 for a family of multiple players.
- b. You (or your designated person over the age of 18) must complete 6 hours of volunteer time per player. Volunteer time cannot be completed during your child's game to qualify. If your player quits or gets injured during the first game of the year, volunteer hours must still be completed.
- c. If you have 2 players in the league, you must complete 12 hours of volunteer time to receive credit.
- d. There will be many volunteer opportunities throughout the year. These volunteer opportunities will be sent via email and will include, but are not limited to:
  - i. Concessions, Apparel, Equipment handout/return/cleanup, running scoreboard, chains/yard markers, sponsorship and various other opportunities.
- e. All volunteers must sign in and out in the volunteer book located at the concession stand at the legion and high school. Failure to do so may result in loss of hours worked.
- f. If you do not complete your required hours by the end of the season, you will be notified that your check will be cashed on 11/12/18.
- g. There are several committee positions available which can be a great way to fulfill your volunteer requirement. Please consider becoming part of this great organization! Email [ocyfnews@ocyf.net](mailto:ocyfnews@ocyf.net) for more information on committees.
- h. Grades 1 – 4 - Head coach and three assistant coaches will be exempt from the 6 hour volunteer rule.
- i. Grades 5 – 8 - Head coach and 4 assistant coaches will be exempt from the 6 hour volunteer rule.
- j. Teams may have additional assistant coaches, however, these coaches will still be required to fulfill their volunteer hours.

## **VI. Mandatory Fundraising**

- a. OCYF has made a concerted effort to avoid raising fees and making football as affordable as possible. In order to keep our registration fees low but still ensure that our players have current, certified equipment, well-maintained fields, and trained referees, we need to supplement our registration fees with fundraising and

sponsorship. AAYFL rules prohibit sponsorship on uniforms, and we will no longer have the option of coaches finding a sponsor for a colored jersey, so we have had to look at other options for raising additional funds. At this year's online registration, you will be given the option of paying a \$100 per player buyout which eliminates your need to do any sponsorship or fundraising. If you do not choose the buyout, you must either sell Collectivo Coffee products that bring in \$200 or more in products or acquire a \$250 sponsor for the 2018 season. For more detailed information on the Mandatory Fundraising requirements or to see additional options for larger sponsors, visit [ocyf.net](http://ocyf.net).

**VII. League Complaints/Protest/Appeal**

- a. Parents, players or coaches wishing to lodge a complaint may do so via [ocyf.net](http://ocyf.net) / contact us / file a complaint within 24 hours of said incident. Your concern and or complaint will be directed to the appropriate board member(s). If necessary executive board will work to resolve the issue. Contact to the person lodging the complaint will be made via phone, email or in person within 48 hours acknowledging the complaint.
- b. Do Not File A Complaint with AAYFL directly.

**VIII. Rules, Proposals, Changes, Adoption Procedure:**

- a. Proposals for changes in the rules may be brought to the attention of the board of directors at any time by emailing [ocyfnews@ocyf.net](mailto:ocyfnews@ocyf.net). Your proposal will be brought before the Board of Directors for a vote at the next board meeting. The proposed changes will be adopted if a majority of board members vote "Aye".

**IX. Terms Of Agreement**

**a. Legal Liability**

- i. Oak Creek Youth Football, its Officers, Directors, Coaches and personnel assume no responsibility or liability for any injury to persons or damage to property occurring as a consequence of any activity of the league or any of its members. All players, coaches and other participants, participate in league activities at their own risk.

**X. Social Media Waiver**

- a. OCYF may compile information, including pictures, regarding a child's participation in OCYF sponsored events and activities. OCYF may use that information to provide information to the

press, [www.ocyf.net](http://www.ocyf.net), Facebook, Twitter and other entities in order to promote Oak Creek Youth Football. There will be no compensation for such information.

- b. Players and player's family members are welcome to honest, friendly and open conversation on social media managed by OCYF, AAYFL and their communities. OCYF and AAYFL have the right to remove comments or discussion posts that are deemed inappropriate.

#### **XI. Helmet/Equipment Warning: Release of Claims**

- a. Football involves substantial inherent risks of serious personal injury, including disability (including, but not limited to, by serious head or neck injuries) or death, which no helmet or other equipment can completely eliminate. By voluntarily choosing to participate in football, participants voluntarily assume these risks in exchange for the actual or perceived benefits provided by the sporting activity. OCYF Members should carefully review any warning labels included with their helmets and other equipment, and are further advised:
- b. Do not use the helmet to butt, ram or spear any opposing player.
- c. Do not duck or lower the head when attempting to tackle an opposing player - participants should see what they intend to hit. This is a violation of the football rules and such use can result in severe head or neck injuries, paralysis or death to participants and possible injury to opponents.
- d. Contact in football may result in a concussion or serious brain injury, which NO helmet can prevent all of the time. Symptoms may include: loss of consciousness or memory, dizziness, headache, nausea or confusion. If participants have any of these or other relevant symptoms, they should immediately stop playing and report them to their coach, trainer, and parents. Participants should not return to the game or practice until all symptoms are gone and they have received proper medical clearance.
- e. Notwithstanding the availability of cleaning equipment, the wearer of the helmet assumes all risks and responsibility related to proper sanitation and cleaning of the helmet from bacterial and germ related diseases.
- f. The helmet and other equipment may not be modified in any manner. Participants and their parents/guardians are responsible

for inspecting the player's helmet and other equipment before use for, without limitation, proper padding; cracks; secure chinstraps', rivets, and screws; exposed metal on faceguards and broken welds. If the inspection reveals the need for any repairs or replacement, an authorized coach or league representative should be notified immediately.

- g. I understand safety is OCYF's top priority and I will discuss with my player the need to cooperate and follow the recommendations of the league, coaches and athletic trainers.
- h. Ignoring these warnings and the instructions of the league, coaches and trainers may lead to injury, including serious brain or neck injury. Serious injuries can also result accidentally, without the intention of taking any of these actions.
- i. I hereby release and hold OCYF and its officers, volunteers, contractors and representatives harmless from and against any and all claims, actions, suits, and proceedings of any kind arising from or related to the use of any helmet or other equipment provided by OCYF.

**XII. EQUIPMENT RESPONSIBILITY**

- a. I assume full and complete responsibility for the proper care and maintenance of all equipment loaned by OCYF. All equipment is to be used for OCYF authorized activities ONLY and all equipment remains the property of OCYF. I understand failure to return equipment on the date of request will jeopardize my good standing; this may include putting my player at risk of future involvement of OCYF, along with assuming full financial responsibility of replacement value of equipment. Only OCYF issued equipment is to be used by my player. I understand the rules on equipment and that I am responsible for my child's uniform and equipment. I will supply, at my expense, and ensure that my child wears a protective cup, a regulated mouth guard and non-metal football cleats.

**XIII. PARENTAL CONSENT, ASSUMPTION OF RISK AND RELEASE OF CLAIMS.**

- a. I, the parent/guardian of a participant in OCYF programs, assume all risks and hazards relating to or associated with my player's participation in OCYF, including transportation. I hereby give my consent to said player's full participation in OCYF and hereby release and hold OCYF and its officers, volunteers, contractors and representatives harmless from and against any and all claims,

actions, suits, and proceedings of any kind arising from or related to any injury to said player and/or any injury or condition caused by or aggravated by my refusal to obtain available medical treatment based on religious or philosophical beliefs or otherwise.

- b. I agree to discuss the contents of this Terms of Agreement as well as all OCYF and AAYFL rules with my player, other family members and guests at OCYF and AAYLF events and make them aware of the requirements herein. I will be responsible for any action of my player, other family members or guests who violates these terms.
- c. *It is my and my player's responsibility to comply with all rules of OCYF. Any noncompliance with these rules will be cause for disciplinary action by OCYF. This disciplinary action may include, but is not limited to, suspension or removal from the league.*