

NMYFL 2nd Grade Football 2018
Playing Rules – This is 9-player Football
Field Length: 80 yards x Minimum 40 yards wide Ball Size: Pee Wee
All rules not modified below will follow the National Federation of High School Rules

Defense

1. 4-4-1 defense is required.
2. The 4 Lineman have to be head up with the Offensive guard and tackle (no outside shade).
3. The Inside linebackers have to be inside the Defensive tackles.
4. Outside linebackers have to be at least 3 yards outside the Defensive tackles.
5. The Safety has to be at least 1 yard behind the Inside linebackers lined up inside the D-line.
6. Blitzing by any linebackers or safety is strictly prohibited. Linebackers must, at the snap, be at least three (3) yards off the line of scrimmage. Linebackers and safety may not begin to cross the neutral zone until after the quarterback attempts to hand off the ball or after the quarterback leaves the box, which is defined as the area between the normal alignments of the defensive tackle.
7. Two coaches can be on the field to assist in aligning the players. Coaches must be at least five yards behind the safeties and silent as soon as the quarterback is under center and until the play ends.

Offense

1. A 5 man line is required: Center, 2 Guards and 2 Tackles on each side of the center.
2. QB, 2 RB in the back field. The other player can either be a TE, WR or even a 3rd RB.
3. Two coaches can be on the field in huddle and aligning players. Coaches must be at least five yards behind the offense and must be silent as soon as the quarterback is under center until the play ends.

Weight Restrictions

1. A 2nd Grade player weighing over 85 pounds must have a red stripe affixed to their helmet and cannot carry the ball.
2. Red stripe players may not line up in the offensive backfield, but may line up at Tight End, but under no circumstances may run the ball or receive a pass.
3. Red stripe players may only run the ball if they are involved in a fumble recovery or a pass interception.

Playing Rules

1. No Kickoffs, teams will start on their own 20 yard line.
2. No punts – teams declare a punt and move the ball forward 20 yards, unless you are inside the opponent's 40 yard line (mid field). Then, it would be half the distance to the goal. If you are on the 20, you could only move it to the 10. Punts do not count as a play.
3. Games will be 60 plays and two halves. There will be 30 plays per half. Teams will switch ends at Halftime and take 5 minute break.
4. The referee's will keep track of all plays.
5. A half cannot end on a penalty. Therefore, another play will be allowed.
6. The game ends at 80 minutes (1 hr 20 minutes), whether 60 plays are complete or not.
7. The referee will warn both coaches with 15 minutes remaining.
8. There will be no Overtime until the Playoffs.
9. Referee in the Offensive backfield will keep 45 seconds play clock. The referee will tell the coach when the clock starts as needed.
10. Offensive "Off-sides" or "false start" will not count as a play, but all other penalties will.
11. Extra points are 1 for a run, 2 for a pass and do not count as a play.
12. A mercy rule will be used in the 2nd half when a team gets up by 21 points - all plays will count when a team is up 21 pts. This will include penalties, extra points and punts. Once the score drops below a 21 pt. difference the regular rules will be back in order.