

**SYFA Expectations Contract - Tackle**

**Parents, Players, Coaches and Board Members:**

- Read this document thoroughly
- Electronically sign the agreement in the online registration
- Keep this document for your reference

**Table of Contents**

**I. Introduction..... 1**

**II. Registration: Paperwork and Key Dates..... 2**

**III. Fundraising..... 3**

**IV. Volunteering..... 4**

**V. Equipment..... 4**

**VI. Attendance..... 5**

**VII. Academics..... 6**

**VIII. Behavior..... 6**

**A. General Code of Conduct..... 6**

**B. Player Conduct..... 7**

**C. Parent Conduct..... 7**

**D. Coach and Board Member Conduct..... 8**

**IX. Incident Reporting and Management..... 8**

**X. Disciplinary Actions..... 9**

# Sherwood Youth Football Association

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## I. Introduction

In order to maintain a quality program, all parties involved in SYFA (including players, parents, coaches and board members) must work together, strive for excellence, and be held to the highest standards. We expect that all members of our organization will act in accordance with our mission statement and core values.

**SYFA Mission Statement:** The Sherwood Youth Football Association (SYFA) will provide the children of Sherwood an opportunity to play competitive tackle football in a safe, structured, and enjoyable environment.

**SYFA Core Values:** Our organization remains committed to maintaining a no-pay-to-play structure so that we can provide children from all economic backgrounds the opportunity to participate in a youth sport. We will teach discipline, responsibility, perseverance, teamwork and sportsmanship knowing that lessons learned through youth sports will further benefit players in their everyday lives. We recognize that children learn best by example and will actively encourage all coaches and board members to model these core values.

SYFA's expectations of players, parents, coaches, and board members are detailed in the sections to follow. Please read the information thoroughly. Reading and signing this document is mandatory for all members of SYFA. If you have any questions about this information, please contact the SYFA Commissioner.

## II. Registration: Paperwork and Key Dates

Parents shall complete, sign and submit all required paperwork to the SYFA Registrar via the online registration portal. No player may practice until registration is complete and all of their paperwork has been received by the Registrar.

Registration opens in May and closes in July. For registration to be complete, the SYFA Registrar must receive ALL of the following (completed and signed) by the close of registration:

- Registration Form (completed online)
- \$100 Fundraising Deposit (paid online or received by the registrar)
- TVYFL Player Contract (online)
- TVYFL Approved Medical Release (uploaded to the online registration portal or received by the registrar)
- SYFA Expectations Contract (online)

**Medical Release:** Please note that in order to practice or play football with SYFA, every player must turn in a completed TVYFL Approved Medical Release form every two years. A licensed medical professional (i.e., a doctor or nurse practitioner) recognized by the State of Oregon is required to sign the form after February 1st of the current calendar year. His/her signature

# Sherwood Youth Football Association

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indicates a release for full participation in Sherwood Youth Football. Note: If your player has had a physical recently, your doctor may determine if a new physical is required.

**Waitlist:** It is SYFA's goal to place all interested Sherwood youth on a football team. Due to circumstances beyond our control (e.g., field space, number of coaches, etc.) waitlisting may be required. Players will be prioritized based on the date the registration is considered completed (all forms and payments are in). If a player's registration is not complete by the close of registration, that player will be automatically waitlisted. The automatic waitlisting applies to all players whether returning or new. Please review, in detail, SYFA's team formation policy under the By-Laws. All incoming 8<sup>th</sup> grade players will go through an evaluation process within the first two weeks of practice to determine the best level of competition for your player. *SEE SECTION D, POINT 3*

**Practice begins** the first Monday in **August** unless a different date is determined by TVYFL. Players are expected to report on this day and will be behind in conditioning and hitting if they do not. **The last day to report for practice is the second Monday in August**, or one week after the beginning of practices. This is the last possible day to report to be eligible to play on a team with SYFA this season.

**Players must have their official headshot taken and submitted to the SYFA Registrar by picture day (TBA).** If the photo is not received by this date, the player's registration will be canceled, and they will not play for SYFA this season. No refunds will be issued.

### III. Fundraising

SYFA remains committed to maintaining a no-pay-to-play structure. This means that we give every family the opportunity to fundraise their financial obligation to SYFA. We are wholly dependent on our two main fundraisers, and we need every family's support to keep the program running. Therefore, parents and players are required to participate in SYFA's fundraising efforts in order to help cover our program's many necessary expenses:

- **Car Wash**
  - Each player shall **pay for at least \$100 in car wash tickets**. This money is paid at registration and is a pre-payment for your first **20** car wash tickets. When you receive the tickets in August, they are yours to keep, give away, or sell. If you choose to sell, you can recoup your money.
  - Each player shall have at least one parent work a one-hour shift at the car wash. If the assigned car wash time is inconvenient, it is the parent's responsibility to find a replacement person over 18 years of age or trade times or your child will not be eligible to play the 1st game.

# Sherwood Youth Football Association

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- **Family Vacation Raffle**

- Each player shall also **sell 15 fundraising tickets** at \$10 each for the Family Vacation Raffle, which will be provided by the Team Parent.
- Players are required to turn in \$150 to their Team Parent upon completion of selling the 10 fundraising tickets within the time frame, communicated by the Team Parent.
- These tickets will be named by each purchaser and entered in a drawing/raffle for the Family Vacation.
- **Ticket costs are non-refundable.**

Players will not be eligible to participate in league games until pre-payment or payment deferral has been submitted. Parents/Guardians are expected to participate in all fundraising activities. If a parent/guardian is absent, or unable to find a replacement (18 years or older) for the assigned time for the car wash, their player(s) shall be ineligible to participate in the first regular season game. If a parent/guardian does not return the \$150 received in raffle tickets for the Family Vacation Raffle within the timeframe communicated by their team parent, their player(s) shall be ineligible to participate in the next season game.

SYFA remains a no-pay-to-play organization. Parents/Guardians will be able to reimburse their \$100 prepayment fee upon selling and collecting \$100 of car wash tickets.

#### **IV. Volunteering**

Each player shall have at least one adult family member (18 years or older) volunteer for a minimum of two hours during the season. This could include any of the following positions during games:

- Weigh Master
- Play Counter
- Chain Gang (Excluding Varsity - Chain Gang will be assigned to field officials for all Varsity games only.)
- Photographer
- Videographer
- Snacks
- Concessions (Parents can be assigned to work concessions if they have not met their minimum volunteer hours. Parents can designate another adult, 18 or older, to work Concessions in their place.)

#### **V. Equipment**

For each player, **parents will need to provide** athletic shoes (cleats), practice jerseys, and black game socks. Shoes must have molded cleats or cleats with posts that screw internally into the shoe. The maximum allowable size of the cleat is ½ inch (measured from tip of cleat to base of shoe). No all-metal, primarily-metal, or metal-tipped cleats may be worn.

## Sherwood Youth Football Association

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**SYFA will provide at no cost:** a helmet, shoulder pads, game jersey, practice/game pants with pads and belt, a mouth guard, and pink socks for our Pink Out game. Players have the option to purchase a helmet and/or shoulder pads. This equipment must be ordered in the spring (in April) well before the season begins. If interested in purchasing equipment, contact the Equipment Manager ASAP.

Parents and players shall check-out and turn-in gear on the advertised days. We expect the equipment to be properly cared for and returned clean and in good condition. A parent must sign for the equipment with the promise to pay for its replacement if it is not returned, or if it is returned in unacceptable condition. Failure to return or loss of game jersey will result in a fine for the replacement of said item.

**All gear shall be returned in November.** If gear is not returned in acceptable condition by the date in November communicated by the SYFA Board of Directors, the player may be ineligible to play for SYFA or Sherwood High School the following season.

**Basic equipment cleaning guidelines:** clean gear as needed using the instructions below.

- Pads/Shoulder Pads: Wipe with water or light soapy sponge. Towel dry excess water. Lightly spray with Febreze (not Lysol) if needed. Air dry overnight.
- Helmet: Wash with water or light soapy sponge inside and out to remove dirt. Remove the cheek pads and chinstrap and softly scrub. Towel dry everything. Air dry overnight. Do not use solvents (ie goof off). This will void the warranty of the helmet.
- Game Jersey: Machine wash on gentle cycle. Hang up to air dry overnight. Jerseys should never be machine dried.
- Pants/Belt: Machine wash. Dry (dryer ok).
- All-in-One Pants: Machine wash. Hang up to air dry overnight (all-in-ones should not be machine dried).

### VI. Attendance

Practices begin in early August. Each player must have at least 10 hours of conditioning before they can practice in full pads. This conditioning occurs during the first five nights of SYFA practice (no other practices, camps or workouts count towards conditioning requirements). If players miss all or part of conditioning for any reason, upon their return, they will have to come to practice and earn conditioning requirements prior to putting on full gear. According to TVYFL bylaws, teams may practice up to 10 hours per week before Labor Day. After Labor Day, teams can practice only 6 hours per week. All games are held on Saturdays.

Players and parents shall abide by the practice and game policies:

- Players shall attend and participate in practices and games.

# Sherwood Youth Football Association

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- Players shall be dropped off and picked up on time for practices and games. On game days, players shall arrive at the field at least 60 minutes prior to the game. Players must make weigh-in 30 minutes prior to each game, or they will be ineligible to play.
- After Labor Day, if a player has one unexcused practice or two excused practices during the week, he/she will not be able to play in that week's game.
  - o Excused practices include illness, injury, required school functions, family emergencies, and religious commitments. A player must call the coach prior to practice for a missed practice to be excused.
  - o During the season, one exception may be granted for a missed practice that does not meet the criteria for an excused absence (i.e., once during a season, a player may miss a practice for any reason, and it can be counted as excused). The player's coach must be notified 24 hours in advance of the missed practice, or it will be unexcused.

## **VII. Academics**

According to SYFA policies, all players are student-athletes and shall make schoolwork a priority. To prepare 7th and 8th graders for high school athletics, SYFA works with the local middle schools to check students' grades. Any 7th or 8th grader with one F or more than one D for the school week will be ineligible to play in the upcoming league game on Saturday. In addition, all players may be ineligible for games if they incur serious disciplinary actions at school, during practices, or at home. In early September, a more detailed explanation of this year's grade check process will be communicated to the JV and Varsity players and parents.

## **VIII. Behavior**

All members of SYFA are expected to show excellent sportsmanship and represent SYFA and the City of Sherwood with the highest standards. In promoting the ethics, safety, and spirit of youth football, SYFA has adopted the following Code of Conduct. This Code of Conduct is binding upon all SYFA participants: players, parents, guests, coaches, and board members. Violations of this Code of Conduct will result in disciplinary action.

### **A. General Code of Conduct**

SYFA's mission statement is to provide the children of Sherwood an opportunity to play competitive tackle football in a safe, structured, and enjoyable environment. We believe that a "safe, enjoyable environment" is one that affirms and fosters respect for human dignity and diversity.

SYFA will not tolerate harassment, disruptive behavior, or discriminatory behavior, and expects everyone in our organization to conduct themselves in a manner consistent with our mission and core values. All members of our organization and guests are expected to use appropriate behavior and act in a sportsmanlike manner when in the presence of

## Sherwood Youth Football Association

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and in contact with players, opponents, parents, spectators, cheerleaders, coaches, board members and officials.

**What is considered unsportsmanlike conduct** (including harassment, disruptive behavior, and discriminatory behavior):

- ✓ Saying words, jokes, or comments based on an individual's sex, race, ethnicity, age, religion, weight, or any other legally protected characteristics
- ✓ Taunting, baiting, or using 'trash talk'
- ✓ Using inappropriate comments or actions that may be construed as sexual harassment
- ✓ Threatening to harm a person or property directly or indirectly, with or without a weapon
- ✓ Being hostile and uncooperative after a reasonable request
- ✓ Throwing, kicking, or abusing equipment or other objects
- ✓ Fighting
- ✓ Using intimidating actions (BULLYING)
- ✓ Causing a person to fear for their safety
- ✓ Swearing or using profanity
- ✓ Using obscene gestures
- ✓ Showing excessive celebration during a game or at the immediate conclusion of a game

### **B. Player Conduct**

In addition to adhering to the General Code of Conduct detailed in Section VII, Part A (above), players will not:

- ✓ Leave the team-designated area(s), unless excused to leave, by a coach, parent, or guardian.
- ✓ Instigate flagrant or violent fouls on the practice or game field.
- ✓ Harass, bait or show objectionable demonstration or dissent regarding any official's or coach's decision.
- ✓ Refuse to abide by an official's or coach's decision.
- ✓ Disobey or attempt to circumvent SYFA or TVYFL rules and regulations or the intent thereof.
- ✓ Use illegal substances or act in any way that is detrimental to themselves, their team, SYFA, or TVYFL.

This Player Code of Conduct applies to players during practices, games, team-sponsored events, SYFA-sponsored events, or any time the player is wearing an SYFA jersey.

## Sherwood Youth Football Association

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### **C. Parent Conduct**

In addition to adhering to the General Code of Conduct detailed in Section VII, Part A (above), parents and guests will not:

- ✓ Harass, bait, or show objectionable dissent towards any official, board member, coach, player, cheerleader, spectator or other(s).
- ✓ Interfere with coaches or players during a game or practice.
- ✓ Be in the coaching box, player's area, or on the game field/area prior to, during, or at the conclusion of a game, unless the Commissioner, Field Greeter, or Head Coach has given permission to do so.
- ✓ Use tobacco, alcohol, marijuana or illegal narcotics in front of players or cheerleaders during practices, games, team-sponsored events or SYFA-sponsored events.
- ✓ Be present during practices, games, team-sponsored events or SYFA-sponsored events while under the influence of alcohol, marijuana or illegal narcotics.
- ✓ Act in any way that is detrimental to themselves, their team, their community, SYFA or TVYFL.

Further, parents and guests are instructed to always stay in the bleachers and away from the players to let coaches coach and to let the players focus on the game, their teammates, and their coaches.

### **D. Coach and Board Member Conduct**

In addition to adhering to the General Code of Conduct detailed in Section VII, Part A (above), coaches and board members will not:

- ✓ Harass or bait or show objectionable dissent towards any official, player, coach, cheerleader, spectator or other(s).
- ✓ Use tobacco, alcohol, marijuana or illegal narcotics in front of players or cheerleaders during practices, games, team-sponsored events or SYFA-sponsored events.
- ✓ Be present during practices, games, team-sponsored events or SYFA-sponsored events while under the influence of alcohol, marijuana or illegal narcotics.
- ✓ Act in any way that is detrimental to themselves, their team, and their community, SYFA or TVYFL.

Coaches and board members will:

- ✓ Show the proper respect to all and be held to the highest standards of moral conduct and character both on and off the field.
- ✓ Report any Code of Conduct or rule violation to an appropriate SYFA board member. This includes violations made by players, parents, coaches, board members, or other parties.

## **IX. Incident Reporting and Management**

If you have witnessed a player violating the SYFA Code of Conduct or have been subject to a player's unsportsmanlike conduct, contact the player's head coach immediately. If the head coach is unavailable or if you believe it would be inappropriate to contact the head coach, contact a SYFA Coach of Coaches. If the unsportsmanlike conduct is exhibited by a parent, coach or board member, contact an appropriate board member.

Upon receiving a report of unsportsmanlike conduct, the head coach will immediately report the incident to the SYFA Coach of Coaches. The Coach of Coaches will inform an SYFA Commissioner. Depending on the severity of the incident, the Commissioner may inform the full SYFA board of directors.

All parties are encouraged to raise concerns, in good faith, without fear of reprisal or retaliation. SYFA will not tolerate retaliation against anyone who reports a concern in good faith. Anyone who engages in retaliation is subject to disciplinary action.

## **X. Disciplinary Actions**

At least one SYFA board member (more if necessary and appropriate) will thoroughly investigate all incidents or reported concerns. Any player, parent, coach, or board member who violates the TVYFL Bylaws, SYFA Bylaws, SYFA Policies, or the SYFA Expectations Contract, will be subject to appropriate corrective action. Disciplinary action can range from a verbal or written reprimand to suspension from practices, suspension from games, and removal from the Sherwood Youth Football Association. The decision to suspend or remove someone from the program will be determined by a vote of at least two thirds of the SYFA board of directors after thorough review of the situation.

Anyone who does not abide by the TVYFL Bylaws, SYFA Bylaws, SYFA Policies, or the SYFA Expectations Contract, can and will be asked to leave the game or event, and may be barred from attending any other SYFA-sponsored game or event.

Any coach, player, parent, board member, spectator, or anyone else – whether associated or not associated with SYFA or TVYFL – who is ejected (removed) from a game or practice is automatically suspended from attending and/or participating in the next scheduled game or practices for a week. Anyone ejected from a game or practice must leave the premises immediately. While on suspension, the affected person (player, parent, coach or other) may not attend any practices or games in which any SYFA team participates.

If a parent or guardian is ejected from a game or practice or is removed from SYFA, their player may also be suspended from games, practices or removed from the program pending SYFA board recommendation.

## Sherwood Youth Football Association

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The SYFA board of directors shall reserve the right to impose any penalties or disciplinary actions it deems necessary and appropriate for violations of the TVYFL Bylaws, SYFA Bylaws, SYFA Policies, or the SYFA Expectations Contract.

**XI. Expectations Contract Signature Page** - This will be agreed to and signed online.

Please read, agree & sign online, and keep this form for your records.

Player:

I have read the Sherwood Youth Football Association (SYFA) Expectations Contract or have had it read to me. I understand the rules and responsibilities that come with being a player in SYFA. I understand that it is a privilege to play football for SYFA, and that privilege can be revoked if I do not abide by the expectations detailed in this contract.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Player Name (Please Print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Player Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**Parent/Coach/Board Member:**

I have read the Sherwood Youth Football Association (SYFA) Expectations Contract. I understand the rules and responsibilities that come with being a member of SYFA. I understand that it is a privilege to be associated with SYFA, and that privilege can be revoked if I do not abide by the expectations detailed in this contract. I hereby release SYFA from any and all liability should I not comply with all requirements necessary for myself and/or my son/daughter to be associated with SYFA.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name (Please Print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

# Sherwood Youth Football Association

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## Fundraising, Volunteering

I have read Sections III and IV in the Sherwood Youth Football Association (SFYA) Expectations Contract. I understand the rules and responsibilities that come with being a member of SYFA; and agree to participate in the Car Wash Fundraiser, as well as the Family Vacation Raffle. I agree to volunteer during games, as needed, and when able to; and will perform other volunteer duties as needed and when able to. I acknowledge there will be a need for volunteers to work Concessions, and will volunteer as needed and when able to.

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Parent/Guardian Name (Please Print)

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Signature

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Date