



2008
Rules and Regulation

Rules Summary

Approved July 2007

1. **Practice:** Practice start date will co-inside with NHIAA Rules. Coaches cannot have organized practices or contact as a team prior to the designated date of start of practice. The 10 hour no pad rule has also been adopted by the league. However, camps are not included. NHIAA coaches handbook states that a team is allowed to run a conditioning program as long as no footballs, football equipment is used or no running of plays, etc.**

*** Dave Tremblay and Sam Cavallaro will act together as the Rules Interpretation Committee.
Referee Issues: Cases of malice should be reported to Dave Tremblay.*

2. **There must be a Trainer/First Aid Certified person present before the game starts.**
3. There must be at least **one certified official** to start a game.
4. Home Team will notify of any changes in game times, location, jersey colors, etc., no later than the Monday prior to game day.
5. Legal Fields – due to the competitive nature all efforts need to be in place for goal post(s) are in place. Field size needs to be regulation size.
 - If you do not have an option and a mutual agreement is ok; otherwise, the other option is to move to another site (the team with the issue will need to align the refs).
 - Field issues need to be addressed the Monday prior to scheduled game.
6. **The Granite State Football League Teams are broken out as Varsity and Junior Varsity Team levels for the 6th through 8th grades.** The Varsity Team should consist of those players of age, size and ability level and should try to mainly consist of the groups 8th graders. The JV Team should consist of those players that of lesser age, size and less experienced.
7. **JV PLAYER to be classified as any PLAYER not deemed a starter for the A Team (Varsity), unless there is a numbers issue.** If you started in the Varsity game, you cannot play in the JV game unless there are 15 or less players on the roster. Use the non-starters first, regardless of their position to meet the number of 15 players.

It is the strong intent of the league that kids on the Varsity Team **DO NOT** play on the JV Team and it is treated as 2 separate teams. If kids are playing in both games for numbers reason, the team shall notify the other coach prior to the start of the game of those players.

What are too few players (roster size) to play: If a program has less than 26 players involved, that team has the option of not fulfilling the obligation of the JV team. Again, notify the Head Coach of the opposing team by the Monday before the scheduled game.

8. GSFL uses a TDY or equivalent size ball.

Granite State Football League will adhere to the NHIAA Rules of Football, except for the following amendments:

1. **For Both A and B Games, Quarters (4), 10 minutes** in length; the clock is run by the national federation rulebook. (Not running time.) The offense will have 30 seconds to put the ball in play. A 5 yd penalty will be assessed after a delay warning has been given. (Note: for games that may be running long and both coaches agree, running time may be used.)
2. Each team will have (3) 60 second time outs per half.
3. **Extra Points:** 2 for run or 1 for free kick.
4. **Field Goals:** 3 Points.
5. In the event of a tie at the end of regulation, play NHIAA overtime rules (10-yard line in).
6. We should have a minimum of 2 officials for each game and one **WILL** be patched. No game can start without at least 1 patched official. When using a volunteer, he/she will wear an official's jersey.

Zero Tolerance Policy

EXPECTATIONS OF SPECTATORS

The Granite State Football League has agreed that there will be **ZERO TOLERANCE** for fan misbehavior at all football events. This includes, but is not limited to booing, shouting at officials or arguing any call. Expressing any negative behavior or comments, threats or obscene gestures to players, coaches or officials is also unacceptable.

Cheering in a positive fashion, for both sides is highly encouraged. Many officials and coaches are volunteers and we should all appreciate their efforts, and support them, setting a good example for the children.

Any spectator who does not behave appropriately (as directed above) will be asked to leave, according to the following steps:

1. Official(s) will identify violators to the coaches, or vice versa.
2. Official(s) confer with both coaches, one of whom will then approach the spectator and may give a warning, or ask them to leave. If the spectator is not recognized by either coach, the home coach will speak to him/her.
3. If the decision is made for the spectator to leave, play will not resume until he/she has left the facility. If he/she refuses to leave, his/her team will forfeit and the game will be over.

Please help us foster good sportsmanship, and encourage positive experiences for our youth.

These towns/organizations are members of the Granite State Football League and have agreed upon the above guidelines: Bow, Concord, Gilford, Kearsarge, Laconia, Monadnock, Newfound, Pembroke and John Stark.