

## BOYS' FOOTBALL

### 2018-2019

**1. SEASON OF PLAY**

Boys = Fall Season

**2. LEVELS OF COMPETITION**

Junior Level                      Senior Level

**3. ELIGIBILITY**

Junior and Senior football classifications shall be determined at the sport specific meeting.

The Golden Horseshoe Bowl representative will come from the Tier 1 division. Any school wishing to compete for the right to play in the Golden Horseshoe Bowl game must declare up to play in the Tier 1 division. The NRHSAA winner will play the NCAA winner for the right to go to SOSSA, and from there to the Golden Horseshoe Bowl.

**ELIGIBILITY FOR JUNIOR FOOTBALL**

- The individual’s birth certificate indicates that he has **not reached his 16<sup>th</sup> birthday by August 31<sup>st</sup>** prior to the start of the school year in which the competition is held.
- Only students in their first two years of high school, based on the date they entered grade nine, will be eligible for junior team competition.  
**EXCEPTION:** a student who has been accelerated one year in elementary school shall be allowed to play at the junior level for a maximum of two (2) consecutive years in the first three (3) years of his/her high school career. The student shall meet the above age requirement and documentation of the acceleration shall be provided with the eligibility sheet.

**ELIGIBILITY FOR SENIOR FOOTBALL**

- The individual’s birth certificate indicates that he has **not reached his 19<sup>th</sup> birthday by January 1<sup>st</sup>** prior to the start of the school year in which the competition is held.

**SPECIAL CONSIDERATION**

If there is no athletic team in the specific sport desired by the student-athlete, that student athlete may play for another school’s team provided that:

1. He/she is declared eligible by both principals involved;
2. he/she plays for the nearest school in relation to their home school that offers the sport in question within the same system. However, a student-athlete may be eligible to participate for a

- school that is not nearest to his/her home school if the reasons are deemed “exceptional”. In “exceptional” cases, approval must be granted by both principals along with the convener;
3. He/she completes the Special Consideration Form (Appendix C) and submits it to the conveners prior to participating. In “exceptional” cases the student-athlete is ineligible to compete until approval is granted by both principals, the convener/s and the NRHSAA executive.

NOTE: As of April 2015 OFSAA AGM: OFSAA Championships or Festivals for team sports shall only involve teams which have used OFSAA-eligible student-athletes in all competition during the school year. OFSAA-eligible means the student meets all eligibility requirements as defined in the OFSAA playing regulations and the OFSAA by-laws. Any team using an ineligible student-athlete (s) in any competition during the school year forfeits the right to participate in the OFSAA Championship or Festival. Therefore Special Consideration athletes are not eligible to play on teams trying to qualify for an OFSAA Bowl (AAA).

#### 4. ELIGIBILITY SHEETS

Eligibility sheets are due to the zone Convener 48 hours prior to the first league game.

#### 5. GAME TIME

Due to the random availability of crews of officials, game start times will vary, especially if a double header is scheduled. The first game of a double header will not start before 11:00 am.

Home games may be played on a neutral site turf field without the consent of the visiting team. If game time is other than 3:00pm, the home team must have the consent of the visiting team’s coach and principal.

#### 6. GAME DAY AND HOME SCHOOL RESPONSIBILITIES

- prepare the field, which includes lining the field
- provide and prepare minor officials (chain gang, scorekeeper and timer)
- **use NRHSAA score sheets**
- provide a suitable leather game ball - game ball must be CFL or CIS approved.
- as of April 2011, both sets of players’ benches must be on the same side of the playing field. Spectator areas will be on the opposite sideline of the players’ benches. Where this cannot physically be possible, the players’ bench areas must be clearly defined and spectator areas are not to be in those areas.

#### 7. PAYMENT OF OFFICIALS

Each school participating in any level of Zone Football will be billed at the conclusion of the regular season and then playoff participants will be billed a second time after the championship games.

The designated amount will be a calculation determined by the convener and invoiced by the coordinator.

#### 8. REPORTING SCORES

The home team will report the scores to the Athletic Convener in charge.

Both teams are responsible for writing up the score sheet and sending it in to the convener. If only one score sheet is presented to the convener, it will be deemed to be the official score sheet, regardless of origin, ie home or visiting team’s score sheet. Score sheet should be signed by either the official or the opposing team’s coach. If no score sheet is presented to the convener, the official score will be deemed

to be the one sent to the convener's office. In this scenario, there will be no "official" half-time score for Tie Breaking Procedures.

## **9. OFFICIALS**

All officials must be accredited.

## **10. OFFICIAL RULE BOOK**

Zone policies first, then the Canadian Amateur Rule Book for tackle Football.

All NRHSAA football leagues will be governed by the Canadian Amateur Rule Book for Tackle Football with the following exception:

- field dimensions may vary from school to school

For all NRHSAA junior and senior football leagues: NO TIE GAMES: FOLLOW CIS/CFL RULE:

START AT THE 35 YARD LINE WHERE EACH TEAM GETS A SERIES OF PLAYS UNTIL ONE TEAM BREAKS THE TIE. (As of March 2014 this rule is in effect for ALL leagues, not just the Bowl Bound league)

2005 - Rule Clarification: re: BLOCKING BELOW THE WAIST: (addition to Rule 4: Section 5: Article 1)

On any play, blocking below the waist is illegal except, in the close line play area by a player who is occupying a position in this area at the snap of the ball.

If a player, during a game, accumulates any combination of Unnecessary Roughness Penalties or Objectionable Conduct Penalties totaling three, that player shall be disqualified for the remainder of that game and suspended for their next league or play-off game. If there is a second offence, the player shall be suspended for the remainder of the season.

## **11. FORFEITING GAMES/MATCHES**

The following policies are in place for game forfeitures:

(1)Should a team forfeit a game with less than 48 hours' notice, all costs associated with the game shall be charged to the forfeiting school.

(2)Should a team forfeit a game, the forfeiting team will be given a loss as a result of the forfeit.

(3)Should a team forfeit two (2) games during regular season play, the team shall be removed from the league and all points earned in games played against that team shall be removed from league standings.

(4)A team that forfeits a game during the regular season loses all rights with regards to tie breaking procedures. (ie if the team is tied for 3rd, the team will be relegated to 4th place).

(5)A team that forfeits a playoff game shall also forfeit the right to play any further playoff games at the current or subsequent level of playoffs (ie when two teams qualify for SOSSA). (April 2016)

## **12. TIMING OF GAMES**

- 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> quarters are 12 minutes of straight time; unless there is a time out, injury time out, penalty on the play, long gain, incomplete pass (for 2014-2015 football season passed at October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2013 NRHSAA semi-annual meeting) and/or touchdown scored.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> quarters are 12 minutes with the last 3 minutes STOP TIME; ie time stops at the whistle that ends the play and starts when blown in by the referee signal.
- The last minute of each quarter is indicated by a raised red flag.
- In the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> quarters, the timer will, at the nine minute mark, make the head referee aware that there are three minutes left in said quarter.

### 13. LEAGUE AND PLAY-OFF FORMAT

The format for league competition and play-offs will be determined at the Conveners Individual Sport Body Meeting. All schools participating are to send a representative to the Conveners Individual Sport Body Meeting otherwise forfeit all **rights for input in** the league and play-off format.

Any game / match not played will be recorded by the convener as a win for the school who did not forfeit. In team sports where standings are used to determine play-offs, the win/loss achieved against teams that drop out will be taken away (not added) to teams that are still yet to play them.

If a gate is charged at an NRHSAA league or play-off game then all expenses will be paid from the gate (referees, minor officials, linesmen, security, score keepers, etc.) and the remainder of the gate will be divided equally between the home and visiting team.

### 14. TIE BREAKING PROCEDURES

These procedures will be used when determining a play-off position when a league schedule leads to playoffs;

- (1) Record between tied teams (HEAD to HEAD);
- (2) Record against teams higher in the standings (1 above, then 2 above, etc.);
- (3) Record against teams lower in the standings (1 below, then 2 below, etc.);
- (4) Points given up in the first half. If more than two teams are tied, then accumulative points given up in the first half among the tied teams. (head to head to head...);
- (5) Points given up in the first half against teams higher in the standings (1 above, 2 above, etc);
- (6) Points given up in the first half against teams lower in the standings (1 below, 2 below, etc);
- (7) (a) coin flip to determine play-off position only. No team can be eliminated from the playoffs by a coin flip. See NRHSAA Constitution, Article XVII, Section 26, Number 7b. The conveners will perform the coin flip. The school that is alphabetically highest will have "heads" in the coin flip. The convener will notify schools of the results.

(b) In lieu of a coin flip eliminating a team from playoff participation, and, all other tie breaking procedures having been followed, a "playoff" on a neutral field will occur. Home field will be determined by a coin flip prior to the game. The "neutral field" can be eliminated if both coaches agree to play on a

home field. Home team will still be determined by a coin flip.

(c) In the event of a four way tie, the conveners in consultation with the NRHSAA Executive and the schools involved will determine a tie-breaking procedure.

**15. ATHLETIC THERAPY - EMS**

An athletic therapist (first response) shall be present at each NRHSAA football game. The football convener will make arrangements for this service. Schools will be directly invoiced by the provider upon season completion. The home school shall cover the cost of this service.

