OHIO VALLEY YOUTH FOOTBALL LEAGUE (EST.2013)

CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

RULES AND REGULATIONS

OVYFL

Table

ARTICLE I - NAME 3
ARTICLE II - PURPOSE 3
ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP 3
ARTICLE IV - ORGANIZATION AND STRUCTURE 3
ARTICLE V - MEETINGS 4
ARTICLE VI - BONDS AND INSURANCE 4
ARTICLE VII - VIOLATION OF OVYFL CONSTITUTION /BYLAWS 4
ARTICLE VIII - TERMINATION FROM THE LEAGUE 5
ARTICLE IX - PROCEDURE FOR DISSOLIVING 5
RULES AND REGULATIONS
RULE I - STATEMENT OF PURPOSE 6
RULE II - PLAYER REQUIREMENTS 6
RULE III - PLAYER SANCTIONS, CERTIFICATION, AND ROSTERS 6-7
RULE IV - WEIGHT OF PARTICIPANTS 7-8
RULE V - COLLECTIONS AND GAME RESPONSIBILITIES 8
RULE VI - SEASON 8
RULE VII - UNIFORMS AND EQUIPMENT 9
RULE VIII - COACHES AND STAFF 9
RULE IX - RULES AND REGULATIONS 10-11
RULE X - BANTAM LEAGUE RULES AND REGULATIONS 12

ARTICLE I - Name

This organization shall be known as The Ohio Valley Youth Football League (OVYFL), an Ohio nonprofit corporation.

ARTICLE II - Purpose

(A) The purpose of the League shall be to control, supervise, encourage and promote football games and related athletic activities for youth.

(B) The purpose will be achieved by providing supervised football games and related activities. The supervisors shall bear in mind that the attainment of exceptional athletic skill or the winning of games or contests is secondary, and to develop unity, sportsmanship and enthusiasm along with maintaining safe and sound mental, physical and moral conditions at all times is of prime importance.

ARTICLE III - Membership

Organizations representing any Tri-State community, which are able to satisfy requirements as outlined in the league Bi-Laws, and are interested in promoting the above purpose. Any new applicant must get approval from ¾ of the current membership in order to be a probationary member. Once selected, an entry fee of $2000 will be paid to the OVYFL. A probationary member will remain in probationary status for a period of two years, where at that time a league vote will be conducted to permit full membership into the OVYFL. A $1000 dollar holding fee will be held by the OVYFL while probationary status is in effect. Once the organization achieves full time membership through a league vote, the $1000 will be reimbursed by the league.

ARTICLE IV - Organization and Structure

This organization shall have an executive board, consisting of the elected officials, the President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. The commissioner will sit as a member of the Board of Directors.

(A) . The order of priority of presiding officers shall be: Commissioner, President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer.

(B) Offices and Responsibilities:

1. COMMISSIONER - NON-ELECTED. Appointed annually by the Board of Directors and will be the presiding officer at all league meetings. Will appoint such committees, arbitrate and review findings in all disciplinary matters brought before the board. Be present at preview and sanctioning ceremonies. Participate in trophy and award ceremonies at the end of the season. May sit on the Board of Directors.
2. PRESIDENT - ELECTED. Shall be elected annually as provided in the By-Laws, and shall have such authority and perform such duties as may pertain to such office or as may be required of him. He shall be the managing officer acting for assistance of such assistant officers as the board may provide, shall have the care and management of the corporations business not otherwise herein provided for.
3. VICE PRESIDENT - ELECTED. Shall he elected annually as provided in the By-Laws, and have authority and perform such duties as may pertain to such office, or as be required of him. The Vice-President, in the absence of the president, shall have the power of President.
4. SECRETARY - ELECTED. Shull be elected annually as provided in the By-Laws, and shall be directly responsible for records and correspondence and shall have such authority and perform such duties as may pertain to such office, or may be required of him.

5. TREASURER - ELECTED. Shall be elected annually as provided in the By-Laws, and is the Executive Financial Officer and is directly responsible for the receipt, care and disbursement of funds and shall have authority and perform such duties as may pertain to such office, or as may be required of him.

(C) Elections of Officers: Election of officers will be the first order of business at the January (1st regular meeting of the New Year) meeting. All officers' terms will be for one year. The Secretary will open the floor for nominations beginning with the Office of President. Balloting will be conducted for each officer in its turn with the office of commissioner being last. Incumbents may run for any office as nominated.

ARTICLE V – Meetings

Meetings of the OVYFL will be held monthly throughout the entire year at a location deemed convenient to all member organizations. All member organizations will be notified by email as far in advance as possible. Minutes of all meetings will be transcribed and promptly displayed on the league website. Special meetings may be called at any time. The Board of Directors will meet one hour before each league meeting if needed. Representation at League meetings is vital. All member organizations must be represented by at least one voting member at regularly scheduled meeting. Any organization that fails to be represented at three (3) consecutive meetings will be deemed in violation of league bylaws.

(A) Violations:

1. Placed in a probationary status for the succeeding twelve (12) months. During the period that organization will forfeit all rights of "members in good standing" until voted upon in the month following the twelve (12) month period.
2. A fine of one hundred dollars ($100). The fine will increase $100 dollars for each additional missed meeting.
3. Any teams affiliated with their organization forfeit participation in League Play-off or Championship Games for that season.
    i. The organization will be eligible the following season should they be returned to "Good Standing" member status.

ARTICLE VI – Bonds and Insurance

Equipment insurance (fire, theft, etc.) will be at the discretion of, and the responsibility of the individual member organization. A duly licensed insurance agent will offer liability insurance and hospitalization. This coverage will be mandatory and payment will be made to the carrier by the time conditioning begins. Complete rosters (players, coaches. and cheerleaders) by name will be submitted to the league by each member organization at a time designated by the insurance underwriter and no later than the official league weigh-in. All insurance claims must be submitted to the OVYFL Board and are subjected to review and approval of the OVYFL Board of Directors.

ARTICLE VII – Violation of the OVYFL Constitution and Bi –Laws

Any organization or person found to be in violation of any of the rules stated herein this Constitution and Bi-Laws or the NFSHSA rules will be subject to disciplinary action. The Board of Directors will follow the disciplinary determination recommendations found in the NFSHSA official rule book, the OHSAA or WVSSAC, rules for that given year and can result in but not limited to suspensions, fines, forfeits, reduction of Commissioner Cup points, or termination from the league and determined by the discretion of the Board of Directors.

(A) Disciplinary levels and actions
1. level I— monetary fine
2. level II— monetary fine, forfeitures, and suspension
3. level III—monetary fine, forfeitures (games and/or Commissioner cup points) suspensions, and terminations
4. Any violation of NFSHSA, OHSAA, or WVSSAC rules will follow the guideline of discipline for the infraction found in the rule book.

ARTICLE VIII – Termination from the League

(A) Any organization found to violate any rule set forth in the Bi Laws of the Ohio Valley Youth Football League, OHSSA, WVSSAC, or considered to have conduct or sportsmanship that is unbecoming by threatening, either verbally or physically, any child, coach, cheering advisor, official, or parent may be immediately terminated from future participation as a member in good standing by a majority vote of the current members of the Ohio Valley Youth Football League.

(B) Any person charged and/or convicted, or found to have previous convictions of any type of sexual offense, will be terminated immediately. Any other type of violent behavior, drug dealing, or possession or any other serious felony charges must be reviewed by the Athletic Director of the organization and presented for evaluation of offenses.

ARTICLE IX – Procedure for Dissolving the League due to lack of Participating Teams

At any time team participation drops to less than 5 teams a motion can be brought to vote to dissolve the league. Normal Bi Laws procedures will be followed. All monies belonging to the league will be evenly distributed to any team in good standing and the checking account will be closed and all subsequent business necessary to officially disband the league will take place within a reasonable timeframe.

RULES AND REGULATIONS

OHIO VALLEY YOUTH FOOTBALL LEAGUE (INC.)

RULE I - STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

(A) General Purpose - To inspire youth, regardless of race, creed, or color; to practice the ideals of sportsmanship, scholarship, and physical fitness; to bring area youths closer together through the means of common interest, sportsmanship, fellowship, and athletic competition; to encourage adults to behave in an exemplary manner when supervising youth; and to keep the welfare of the youth foremost and free from any adult compulsion for power and glory.

(B) Specific Purpose - To promote safety-first play by encouraging only programs with strict controls over ages and weights, equipment, and behavior of adult coaches and spectators; to acquaint players with such fundamentals as blocking, tackling, running, kicking, passing and of maintaining a sound physical, mental and moral condition.

(C) The Ohio Valley Youth Football League follows the governing rules of the NFSHSA, OHSSA, and WVSSAC, rules of high school football and this Bi-Laws and Constitution is an addendum to those rules.

RULE II - PLAYER REQUIREMENTS

Players between the ages of seven (7) and twelve (12) years of age will be eligible for competition with a cut-off date as follows:

BIG SCHOOL

* Start Head up on Tackles to Center

Classification	Age (years)	Weight	With Hand on the Ground	Cut-off Date
Bantams	7-8	125 lbs.	110-125 lbs.	Age as of Oct 31st
JV	9-10	145 lbs.	125-145 lbs.	Age as of Oct 31st
Varsity	11-12	180 lbs.	150-180 lbs.	Age as of Oct 31st

SMALL SCHOOL see Rule X

(A) An eight-year-old player can move up to the Junior Varsity team and a ten-year-old player can move up to the Varsity team if that Junior Varsity or Varsity team cannot field a minimum of fourteen (14) players. These 14 players must be all of legal age and weight and on the rosters by the date of the league preview game. Once a player moves up, he cannot move back. A player move-up form must be filled out and approved by the executive board at a Regular League meeting or Preview Games.

(B) Players who exceed the maximum weight limits are not eligible for game play, however, may be maintained on the team roster and work out, at the discretion of the teams coaching staff. Players in this category, who meet the weight limit requirements on game day, will then be eligible to play.

(C) A mandatory weigh-in will he held for teams on game day. The Bantam team weigh-in will take place no later than twenty minutes prior to the game. Weigh-in for the Junior Varsity team will take place during the Bantam game halftime break. Weigh-in for the Varsity team will be held during the half-time break of the Jr. Varsity game. There will be no exceptions to this rule during the championship game.

(D) Each home team must have available, certified by the OVYFL, a 50-pound weight, for any opposing team to allow the weigh-in scales to be calibrated prior to any team weigh-in. No bathroom scales allowed. (Home Team subject to a $100 fine for not having proper scales)

(E) A player cannot be denied to play if their maximum weight is less than one (1) pound over the limit per age of play. (The balance can be above the midpoint but cannot touch the top of the scale when set at the maximum weight allowed. A player will be allowed to participate if digital scales are used and the maximum weight does not exceed one (1) pound. Bantams—110.9999 lbs. maximum acceptable (+2 lbs. beginning week 5), JV's-- 125.9999 lbs. acceptable (+2 lbs. beginning week 5), Varsity—150.999 lbs. acceptable.

1. Special considerations will be made by both teams for any athlete within 10 pounds of weight limit to weigh in any time after arrival of the athlete.

(F)

RULE III - Player Sanctions, Certification, and Rosters

(A) Ohio Valley Youth Football League certifications will be held annually at the Pre View Games. All teams and players will be certified on this date. All league officers and coaches will supervise. Complete team rosters will be submitted to the League prior to the certification. The cutoff to add new players to the active roster is the second league game. Each team must have 14 athletes on the roster to qualify as a team in the OVYFL.

(B) If in the event any organization cannot field a team, special allowances could possibly be made by the league at a special league meeting.

(C) Each team will provide an official Ohio Valley Youth Football League identification folder for each player on his respective roster during certifications, and every game prior to participation. The standardized folder will contain at least the following information:

1. Players full name
2. Team designation (i.e. Bantam. Junior Varsity, Varsity)
3. Original Birth Certificate (A copy is acceptable after a players first year of participation as long as the copy has been officially stamped and signed by the League)
4. Current photograph of each player in game jersey.
5. An official Ohio Valley Youth Football League "Student Participation and Physical Exam Card" completely filled out and signed by the parents and the examining medical officer. No player may participate in any form of physical activity related to the Ohio Valley Youth Football League until this card is submitted to the League or parent organization. The Physical Exam Card must be completed any time after January 1st, and before the first day of practice.
6. An example of the folder inserts will available through the league website.
7. The standardized folder will be reviewed and signed by the Commissioner or his designee. No player will be eligible to participate until they have been properly sanctioned.

(D) The OVYFL will now allow players to participate on teams without residing in the school district in which he resides. Players can choose any organization to play for in their first year with the league. Once the player has committed (participated in practice) to an organization, in order to switch to a different organization a waiver needs to be submitted by the team receiving the player and approved by any member of the organization releasing the player. A player cannot play outside his or her school

district without having the waiver signed by the commissioner and or president of the league. The commissioner has the final say on all waiver approvals.

(E) It will be the responsibility of the organization to ask any new player signing up for the 1st time with that organization if he/she has ever played for any other organization in the OVYFL.

(F) If will be the responsibility of all organizations to review the rosters of each team in the OVYFL to dispute any player on said roster by the 1st game of the season.

(G) Any changes to rosters between weigh in and the start of the game week two must be submitted and approved by the Commissioner or President prior to week two game.

(H) If a player's residence changes from city to city or school district to school district from one year to the next due to physically moving the waiver process is not required but is recommended as a courtesy to the former team. Verification of address changes will be the responsibility of the organization accepting the new player and the evidence must be presented to the league prior to the start of the season.

(I) No player can play for more than one organization of the same sport regardless if said organization is a member of the OVYFL or not during the same season.

RULE IV - Collections and Game Responsibilities

(A) The host team for an O.V.Y.F.L. game will be responsible for all arrangements. No later than Wednesday of each week, the host Athletic Director will contact his counterpart on the visiting team to advise him of the game arrangements, including jersey colors.

(B) The home team will retain 100% of the gate receipts, concessions and handle all game expenses including referees, security and any charges for use of facilities. The type of gate collections and concession arrangements will be at the discretion of the home team.

1. This excludes the preview game, and championship game, in which gate receipts will be split 50/50 between the OVYFL and the hosting team.

(C) The home team will furnish an acceptable regulation approved League football for each of the games on that day.

(D) Each member home team will be directly responsible for the game officials for that day's game. Although it is preferred that four (4) card-carrying officials be present, a minimum of two (2) will be set as the mandatory requirement, and be billed at a pro-rated amount.

(E) The home team is responsible for having chain crew assigned and scheduled. Chain crew needs to be in place 10 minutes prior to game start. Failure to have in place will result in a delay of game penalty for the home team and subjected to league fines, for repeated offenders.

1. Chain Gang will be on the same sideline as the Home Team.

(F) The home team is responsible for obtaining the opposing team rosters from the league website.

RULE V – Season

The season length will vary from year to year and be dependent on the number of teams participating, and the number of post-season games. Every effort will be made to avoid the extremes of weather and provide time for desirable post-season games. Registration may be conducted by each organization at any time, within reason.

(A) Fitness programs will begin no sooner than the Start Date announced by the OVYFL for each season. One session per day allowed 2.5 hours maximum in length with at least two (2) ten-minute water breaks (more recommended). NO EQUIPMENT WILL BE WORN UNTIL THE ADVANCE PRACTICE STARTS.

(B) Full gear can be worn during conditioning starting 4 weeks prior to the first scheduled game. (One session per day allowed 2.5 hours maximum in length with at least two (2) ten-minute water breaks (more recommended).

1. Full contact can begin 3 days after full gear practice begins.

(C) No two-a days or camps allowed to be conducted by the teams.

1. Any violation of these practice rules will result in a suspension of the first three regular season games for the entire coaching staff.

RULE VI – Uniforms and Equipment

Each player participating in a sanctioned league game must have and wear a complete uniform, which shall consist of the following:

1. Helmet with face guard (Must be NOCSAE approved)*
2. Mouthpiece must be in place at all times and tethered to the facemask
3. Pads-shoulder, rib (optional), hip and tailpiece, thigh and knee.
4. Approved hand, wrist and arm pads are optional.
5. Tennis shoes, soccer shoes or varsity practice shoes with ½" max. Rubber cleats are approved. NO METAL OR INTERCHANGEABLE CLEATED SHOE WILL BE ALLOWED. A 15-yard penalty will be assessed for illegal equipment and the player removed until the shoes are changed.
6. Team uniform colors are to be recognized and listed with the Ohio Valley Youth Football League. Any change in color must be brought up for discussion at a regularly schedule league meeting and approved.
7. Every effort should be made to have the jersey numbers correspond to the same format as used by all organized football teams,
8. Helmet headsets are prohibited.
9. Visors of any shade are allowed.

(A) The manufacturer of the helmets recommends all helmets be recertified as acceptable yearly and the OVYFL requires recertification every two years. All football helmets must have the official warning sticker firmly attached to the rear of the helmet and visible to see. Failure to comply will disqualify the helmet and result in a 15-yard penalty for use of illegal equipment. A separate penalty will be assessed for each piece of illegal equipment detected by game officials.

(B) Footballs:

1. In the regular season league play, and continuing through any post-season game, only the accepted regulation balls may be used. Balls designated for use are as follows:

Bantam	**Junior Varsity**	**Varsity**
Wilson K-2	Wilson TDJ	Wilson TDY
NIKE (equivalent)	NIKE (equivalent)	NIKE (equivalent)
Riddell (equivalent)	Riddell (equivalent)	Riddell (equivalent)
Under Armour	Under Armour	Under Armour

NOTE: Balls can be leather, leather-composite, or composite

2. Home team to provide balls for games. The visiting team can use a different ball if they so choose as long as it's an approved ball by the OVYFL and they bring it themselves.

RULE VII – Coaches and Staff

It is expected that all First Time staff and subsidiary support personal affiliated with each organization that will be on the field be certified through a third party background check. All Staff will also be responsible for passing a concussion seminar which includes an approved accreditation badge and The Lindsey's Law training before he/she is allowed to be on the field during an OVYFL sanctioned game.

(A) All badges must be present on any member of the organization that is present on the field. League officials as well as game day referees will strictly enforce this policy, and will result in ejection from the playing field in the event he/she does not have their badge prominently displayed.

(B) During game play, staff personal will only be allowed within the thirty (30) yard line on each end of the field.
(C) This bench area will be limited to not more than seven approved badge wearing adults who are directly affiliated with the team playing at that time. They are encouraged to dress in similar attire. Shirts of the same style and color are recommended.
(D) The Head Coach and/or Athletic Director is directly responsible for their staff and spectators conduct on his respective side of the playing field.
(E) Unsportsmanlike conduct or controversial conduct of any kind by the staff or support staff personal is the direct responsibility or the organization involved and any staff member may be suspended or put on probation.
(F) For suspensions or probations, the OVYFL Board of Directors will make the appropriate investigation and determine the terms of the suspension or probations.
    1. For all suspensions or probations, the Executive Board will make the appropriate investigation.
    2. If an ejection from a game happens that coach or team official must leave the premises immediately and cannot help coach or assist in any way.
    3. While on suspension any coach or team official cannot help or assist during practice, scout, film, or attend the stadium of any game during the time of suspension including that of his or her own team.
    4. Any violation of the suspension rules will result in an indefinite suspension of that person and forfeiture of any or all games they were found to be participating.
(G) At any time a team refuses to play and walks off the field as a team. The organization of said team will be subjected to a fine of $1000 dollars and forfeited the rights to host a playoff game for the current season.

RULE VIII- Rules and Regulations

Rules governing play in this league will be set out by the National Federation of State High School Associations. This association provides the rules for the Ohio High School Athletic Association and the West Virginia Secondary Schools Activity Commission.

* Only the Bantam team will have a variation of the regular Ohio Valley Youth Football League rules do to the nature of it being classified as an instructional league. (See Section Article IX – For Bantam League Rules and Regulations)

(A) A spotter box should be available to both teams. They must be the approx. size and in the same approx. locations so no advantage is given to one team over another. If there is not one available to each team neither team may use one.
(B) The OVYFL has no position on the use of headphones, walkie-talkies, or other communication devices for coach to coach use. This is solely the discretion of individual organizations.
    1. Communication devices between coaches and players are strictly prohibited. (I.e., helmet devices, Bluetooth devices etc.)
(C) Games will be 8 minutes per quarter for all levels. Half time will be limited to 15 minutes per game.
(D) Each team will have 3 time outs per half.
(E) A delay of game penalty will be called after 40 seconds on the offense.
(F) The "mercy rule" goes into effect when the point differential reaches 30 points after the first half. At that time, the game is officially over. The score at the time of the "mercy rule" is the score that should be reported to the league. After that, the clock will only be stopped during an official's timeout, a charged timeout, the end of a period or after a score. After the 30-point difference has been met, if the margin drops below 30 points, the clock reverts to regular timing.
(G) A locker room should be available to each team. The home team will be denied use of the locker room if one is not provided for both teams. They should be of equal size and have the same facilities. If there is not one available to each team neither team may use one.
(H) No Overtime in regular season play.

(I) Playoff overtime—starting possession will be the 25 yard line with an allowable 1st and 10. This continues until there is a winner.
(J) Tie Breaker system:
    1. Best record
    2. Head to Head
    3. Common opponents
    4. Strength of schedule (a point is given for each win of all opponents you beat and they beat)
    5. Coin flip—
        i. 2 Way Tie- winner is in.
        ii. 3 Way tie -odd man out, remaining teams have playoff game, flip for home team.
(K) Members in good standing will have the privilege to host the preview game, playoff game, or championship as long as the facility has the requirements and amenities to host such an event. The sites will be voted on during regular meetings. Board will have final approval on sites selected. All Semi Final and Championships will be played on turf.
(L) The commissioner will not be affiliated with any organization in the OVYFL.
(M) Game Interruptions (weather or otherwise)
    1. If due to weather or any other reason beyond the control of the game and a game is delayed, the maximum time of the delay is one hour. (Injury Delay would be only exception)
    2. If the game delay occurs at any time and the game needs replayed, the game will be continued from the time of the interruption.
    3. The only option other than completing the game from the time of interruption is if one team or the other has such an advantage that both coaches agree to "call" the game and the team with the highest score would be declared the winner.
    4. It is the responsibility of the home team to reschedule the game at the earliest possible time. It will be necessary to complete the game in the afternoon or evening by Wednesday of the following week. If the visiting team is unable to attend the date set by the home team the visiting team will forfeit the game. Only under extreme hardship to “both” organizations will the game be allowed to be postponed for more than one week. This has to be presented and approved by the Board of Directors. This delay will never be allowed to go more than two weeks from the scheduled date of the original game or the team who cannot make the game up will forfeit.
    5. It is the responsibility of the referee of the game to pass on all information to the referee who will officiate the completion of the game. (i.e., Time on Clock, Down, Yards to Go, Location of the Ball, etc.)
(N) Punt Rule
    1. All Punts will be a walk off
        i. If a team decides to punt, the Refs will walk off 25 yards and 15 seconds will be run off the clock. The receiving team will take over on downs and the play clock will start as soon as soon as the ball is set
            1. Big School Bantams and Small School JV will only be a 15 yard walk off.

RULE IX- Bantam League Rules and Regulations

The purpose of the Bantam League is to instruct and allow seven (7) and eight (8) year old players the opportunity to learn the proper fundamentals of tackle football.

(A) Any type of electronic transmitting device is strictly prohibited from use by any person associated with any bantam team during play.
(B) Two (2) coaches per team will be allowed on the field offensively and defensively. The two (2) coaches must retreat at least 15 yards behind the line of scrimmage as the huddle breaks and must remain silent and stationary until the play is whistled dead.
    1. First Offense-15 yard penalty
    2. Second Offense- Coaches for that team will be removed from both sides of the ball.

*Will be strictly enforced by the referees

(C) One (1) coach may accompany the team captain or captains for the opening coin flip.
(D) There will be no blitzing permitted by the defensive team.

(E) The defensive line from tackle to tackle must match the offensive player head to head with a maximum of seven defensive players on the line. (Including the defensive ends) unless the guards are more than two yards from the ball/center. If they are outside of two yards, the defensive line no longer has to match the offensive player head-to-head and can line up in a normal defensive position in gaps. There are no minimum numbers of players that must be on the defensive line. Defensive ends may line up head-to-head or to the outside shoulder of the offensive tight end but cannot be more than one yard outside of the offensive tight end. All other players lining up in what is considered "the box" by the officials must be a minimum of five yards off the line of scrimmage. All other defensive players can line up wherever. This rule is in effect only between the 10-yard lines. Once an offense is within the 10-yard line normal football rules apply except there will be no blitzing allowed.

(F) The "mercy rule" goes into effect when the point differential reaches 30 points after the first half. At that time, the game is officially over. The score at the time of the "mercy rule" is the score that should be reported to the league. After that, the clock will only be stopped during an official's timeout, a charged timeout, the end of a period or after a score. After the 30-point difference has been met, if the margin drops below 30 points, the clock reverts to regular timing.

(G) If the defensive team intercepts or picks up a fumble while being up by 30 points or more, that play is a live play until the defensive player either is tackled or scores. If he is tackled the ball goes back to the original line of scrimmage and a ten yard penalty will be assessed unless the offensive team is in the red zone then the penalty would be half the distance to the goal. If a touchdown is scored the score will count but no extra points will be attempted. In either situation the offensive team will retain possession of the ball.

(H) There will be four 8-minute quarters per game with a 15-minute half time. Three time-outs per half will be allowed.

(I) The clock for bantam games should be run the same as any game and not to be stopped in between plays except for out of bounds, incomplete passes, penalties, change of possession etc. as in a normal game.

(J) A delay of game penalty will be called after 40 seconds on the offense.

RULE X- Small School changes

The OVYFL has split the League into 2 separate Categories. Big School and Small School. The Small School division is set up for the smaller communities that have trouble fielding 3 teams. The Small schools will only have 2 Divisions, JV and Varsity. The Following changes will be for Small school competition only.

RULE II - PLAYER REQUIREMENTS

Players between the ages of seven (7) and twelve (12) years of age will be eligible for competition with a cut-off date as follows:

			* Start Between Tackles	
Classification	Age (years)	Weight	With Hand on the Ground	Cut-off Date
JV	7-9	135 lbs.	115-135 lbs.	Age as of Oct 31st
Varsity	10-12	180 lbs.	145-180 lbs.	Age as of Oct 31st

RULE VII – Uniforms and Equipment

(A) Footballs:

1. In the regular season league play, and continuing through any post-season game, only the accepted regulation balls may be used. Balls designated for use are as follows:

Junior Varsity	Varsity
Wilson TDJ	Wilson TDY
NIKE (equivalent)	NIKE (equivalent)
Riddell (equivalent)	Riddell (equivalent)
Under Armour	Under Armour

Punt Rules for JV

(A) JV teams will have 2 options for punting

1) Live Punt with no rush
    i. Players will line up and snap the ball
    ii. Punter will kick the ball
        1. At this point it is live
2) Advance the ball 10 yards from the line of scrimmage and turn the ball over.

Defensive rules for JV

The defensive line from tackle to tackle must match the offensive player head to head with a maximum of seven defensive players on the line. (Including the defensive ends) unless the guards are more than two yards from the ball/center. If they are outside of two yards, the defensive line no longer has to match the offensive player head-to-head and can line up in a normal defensive position in gaps. There are no minimum numbers of players that must be on the defensive line. Defensive ends may line up head to head or to the outside shoulder of the offensive tight end but cannot be more than one yard outside of the offensive tight end. All other players lining up in what is considered "the box" by the officials must be a minimum of three yards off the line of scrimmage. All other defensive players can line up wherever. This rule is in effect only between the 20-yard lines. Once an offense is within the 20-yard line normal football rules apply except there will be no blitzing allowed

Coaching rules for JV

- There will be no coaches on the field for JV Games
- Headsets will be allowed for coaches to talk to the booth

Mercy Rule for JV

(A) The "mercy rule" goes into effect when the point differential reaches 30 points after the first half. At that time, the game is officially over. The score at the time of the "mercy rule" is the score that should be reported to the league. After that, the clock will only be stopped during an official's timeout, a charged timeout, the end of a period or after a score. After the 30-point difference has been met, if the margin drops below 30 points, the clock reverts to regular timing.

(B) If the defensive team intercepts or picks up a fumble while being up by 30 points or more, that play is a live play until the defensive player either is tackled or scores. If he is tackled the ball goes back to the original line of scrimmage and a ten-yard penalty will be assessed unless the offensive team is in the red zone then the penalty would be half the distance to the goal. If a touchdown is scored the score will count but no extra points will be attempted. In either situation the offensive team will retain possession of the ball.