

Twin State Snowbelt Football League



Blue Storm, Bow, Claremont, Concord, Gilford, Hartford,
John Stark, Kearsarge, Lebanon, Newport, Springfield

Constitution, By-Laws & Rules

Official Snowbelt League Facebook Page:

www.facebook.com/snowbeltfb

Ball Size Junior: Wilson TDJ, Nike Junior, Under Armour Junior

Revised and Approved

March 2023



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(This section will be sent out on the social media page and via e-mail as it will change each year)

Constitution

Article 1 – Name

This organization shall be known as the Twin State Snowbelt Football League. This organization will be made up of members of the league for players in grade 3 - 6. 3rd graders can play; however, you must let your opponent's know if you are fielding 3rd graders. 3rd graders should only be used to field a team in the lower grades.

Important: No 3rd {if used} or 4th graders will be used in a 5-6th grade game.
No 6th Grader will be used in a 4-5th grade game.

Article 2 – Purpose

This League shall promote goodwill and sportsmanship among its members. The League will follow the rules set forth by the New Hampshire Intercollegiate Athletic Association {NHIAA} with the exception of those rules adopted by the Snowbelt League. The League will endeavor to interpret and apply the rules set forth by the New Hampshire Football Officials Association {NFOA} in a fair and impartial manner and shall uphold the highest standards and ideas of sportsmanship. www.nhiao.org www.nhfoa.net

Article 3 – Goals

- a. To promote the betterment of the game of football
- b. Enforce and maintain the highest standards of the league
- c. To cooperate with the NHIAA and NFOA in efforts to further the interest of football

Article 4 – Location

The membership will meet annually in March/April at a place designated by the League President & Board of Directors to review rules.

Article 5 – Officers

The Board of Directors of the League will consist of President, Vice President, and Secretary and 2 At Large members voted on by the members at the annual meeting in March/April. The Directors will serve for a two-year term, but can be re-appointed for a new two-year term.

The Board of Directors will meet and act on any situations that occur during the season. They will act as the protest committee and their ruling will be final. They also have the ability upon a 2/3 vote {3 Votes} to suspend any **TEAM or PLAYER** for acts they feel are not in the best interest of the league.

April 2021 - April 2023 (2-Years)

Election results April 2021

Officers of the Twin State Snowbelt Football League

| | | |
|------------------|--|------------------------------|
| President: | Justin Martin, Claremont cccprograms@claremontnh.com | 603-504-0283 603-667-1087 |
| Vice President: | Rickie MacIntyre, Newport Rickiemac76@gmail.com | 603-477-0549 |
| Secretary: | Aimee Trombly, Hartford avtrombly@yahoo.com | |
| At Large Member: | Tom Ouellette, Bow tomouellette99@gmail.com | |
| At Large Member: | Albon Chapman, Kearsarge achapman@belletetes.com | |

Article 6 – Duties of Officers

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| President: | to preside at all meetings of the League and Executive Board. |
| Vice President: | to act in the absence of the President and update the Constitution. |
| Secretary: | to record all meeting minutes and send to the League members. |
| At Large: | to attend and represent members from the league. |

{All serve as the protest committee and make final decisions for the league}

Article 7 – Members

Any Town/City/Organization that wishes to be a member of the league must submit in writing to the president their request. The President will present the request to the league members in which there must be a 2/3 vote of the members for the new organization to be accepted.

The following Towns/Cities are members of the League: {Names of coaches and League Directors are not listed here because of the constant changes.} Teams in the league are:

West

Kearsarge
Hartford
Lebanon
Claremont
Newport
Springfield

East

John Stark
Gilford
Bow
Concord
Blue Storm

BY-LAWS

Article 1 – Ejections

- a. Any player who is ejected will sit out one game.
- b. Any coach who is ejected will sit out two games and must meet with the Board of Directors before allowed to return to their coaching position. The Board may require specific training if they feel it is needed prior to the coach returning.

Article 2 – Officials

- a. League games will have a minimum of two officials for each game and one WILL be a certified patched Federation official or the game WILL NOT start.

Article 3 – EMT

- a. League games must have an EMT or Doctor present or the **game WILL NOT start.**

Article 4 – Lightning

- a. The league will follow the guidelines of the NHIAA in regard to lightning. All action will cease for 30 minutes from the time lightning is seen or thunder is heard.

Article 5 – Blood Spillage

- a. See NHIAA procedure.

Article 6 – Concussions

- a. Refer to organizations policy.

Article 7 – Protests

- a. All protest will be submitted to the League President who will meet with the Board of Directors and act on it. The decision of the Board of Directors is final.

Article 8 – Start of the season

- a. No team in the Snowbelt league can start practice until one week prior to the NHIAA approved dates.



SNOWBELT LEAGUE RULES

**APPROVED 2023*

There must be an EMT/Doctor present before the game starts.

There must be at least TWO officials at each game and one must be certified to start a game.

There must be a coach's meeting prior to the start of each game.

1. **One coach from each team is allowed on their respective side of the ball at all times. Once the offensive team breaks the huddle, on-field coaches SHALL NOT talk OR MOVE players. {5 yards}**
2. **Quarters (4) ten minutes in length; the clock is run by the national federation rule book. (Not running time) The offense will have 30 seconds to put the ball in play. A {5 yard} penalty will be assessed after a delay warning has been given.**
3. **At the beginning of each half and following a score, the ball is placed at the 30-yard line. Following a safety, it goes to the 50-yard line.**
4. **Each team will have (3) sixty second time outs per half.**
5. **Non-defensive lineman blitzing is not allowed, a maximum 6 man on defensive line, unless offense is inside the 20. (If blitzing occurs the offense has the option of nullify the play) All Non-defensive lineman shall start a minimum of three yards back from the line of scrimmage. PENALTY: A 15-yard penalty shall be administered if a non-lineman penetrates the line of scrimmage at the snap of the ball ON A RUN OR PASS.**

On run or a rollout pass {outside the tackles} a non-lineman may penetrate the LINE OF SCRIMMAGE Once he/she reads the play.

All Defensive lineman, offensive tackle to offensive tackle must be in a 3-or-4-point stance. A maximum of two defensive lineman can be in a two-point stance clear of the outside shoulder of the offensive tackles and must be on opposite sides of the ball.

6. Free Punt Rule: It is the job of the offensive team coach to inform the official that your team is punting. No rush, no return by receiving team. The ball is down where the receiving team gets it in their possession. The receiving team brings the ball out to the 20-yard line if a punt goes deeper than that.
7. **Extra pts – 1 point for run/pass or 2 points for free kick (no rush, but must have accurate snap from center)**
8. **NO 5TH GRADER THAT PLAYS IN THE 5-6 GRADE GAME WILL BE ALLOWED TO PLAY IN THE 4-5 GRADE GAME UNLESS THE 4-5 TEAM HAS 13 OR LESS PLAYERS AVAILABLE. 4th graders will be allowed to play in a 5/6th grade game at the coach's discretion if a 4/5th grade team is not available.**
9. Field Goals {3pt} can be kicked and the same rules apply as free kick for extra point.
10. For players in 4th and 5th grade a player weighing over 120 lbs can only play on the offensive line {tight end to tight end) when playing offense, and cannot play in a split-out formation. A player over 120 cannot catch or carry the ball on offense. A player weighing over 120 can play anywhere on defense and can carry the ball on an interception or fumble recovery. This weight is based on a player wearing no pads. A player close to the weight limit shall be weighed prior to each game by the player's own organization. No extra pounds are added to the limit during the season as it is a hard 120-pound rule throughout the season. On this rule, the league operates by the honor system, as we do not have an official weigh-in policy by other teams at games or by the league. If another team feels that a team is violating this rule it shall call the team's director after the game and request that the director look into the matter.
11. For Players in 6th grade a player weighing over 127 lbs can only play on the offensive line {tight end to tight end) when playing offense, and cannot play in a split-out formation. A player over 127 cannot catch or carry the ball on offense. A player weighing over 127 can play anywhere on defense and can carry the ball on an interception or fumble recovery. This weight is based on a player wearing no pads. A player close to the weight limit shall be weighed prior to each game by the player's own organization. No extra pounds are added to the limit during the season as it is a hard 127-pound rule throughout the season. On this rule, the league operates by the honor system, as we do not have an official weigh-in policy by other teams at games or by the league. If another team feels that a team is violating this rule it shall call the team's director after the game and request that the director look into the matter.
12. After 4 quarters of play if the score is tied, one overtime period will be played consisting of 4 plays from the 10-yard line for each team. If the score is still tied after the overtime period, the game will end in a tie. Defensive scoring is not allowed during the overtime period. (Note: for games that may be running long and both coaches agree, running time may be used.)

13. Scores will not be kept or added to the scoreboard after a team is leading by more than 30 points. After a team, has reached a 30 point lead the clock will run at all times. Coaches may agree to play stop time. Final decision is up to the team with fewer points.
14. Any change of possession inside the 20-yard line the offensive team will start on the 20.
15. A personal foul {15 yards} shall be administered if a non-lineman hit's the quarterback on a pass inside the tackles (Straight Drop Back Pass)
16. Only Defensive players can jump on Extra Point tries - No using other players.
17. RULE CLARIFICATION: On a punt, extra point or field goal attempt the defense may jump up to block the kick, but may not penetrate the LINE OF SCRIMMAGE.
18. **NEW: Forcible, straight-armed, stiff-arms to the head will be illegal and will result in a personal foul {15 yards}**

ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY

EXPECTATIONS OF SPECTATORS

The SNOWBELT 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.

All Snowbelt facilities are located in "Drug Free Zones". This prohibits the use of alcohol and tobacco products.

Cheering in a positive fashion, for both sides is highly encouraged. Ours is a recreational league with fun as the primary emphasis. 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, per 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.