



Monticello Youth Football Association Parent & Player Handbook

The information contained in this Monticello Youth Football Association Player Handbook will provide our Football Players, Coaches, and Parents/Guardians with a general outline of the rules under which the program is structured. It is the Parents/Guardians responsibility to become familiar with this information. We are happy to welcome all Players, Coaches, and Parents/Guardians to the 2025 Monticello Youth Football program.

This handbook is also designed to be used along with the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws in order to guide the Board of Directors during their decision making process. This handbook incorporates the recommended guidelines that can change at any time at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

2025 Board of Directors

<https://www.monticelloyouthfootball.com/page/show/8908811-myfa-board-of-directors>

MYFA Mission Statement

The main focus of the Monticello Youth Football League is to provide an opportunity for our youth to develop football skills to the best of their ability. Using respect, sportsmanship, teamwork, and most of all fun, our youth shall learn valuable lessons that can be used on and off the field.

MYFA Vision Statement

With growth and numbers, the Monticello Youth Football Association is committed to providing youth athletes to the Monticello High School Football program.

MYFA Tackle Division Specifics

The MYFA 2-8 Tackle Division is a competitive youth football program that participates in the North Star Youth Football League (2-6th grade) and the Gopher State Football League MYAS (7-8th grade). Our players will compete against teams from other youth associations surrounding Monticello and in the Twin Cities north west suburbs. There will typically be one to two Monticello teams for grades 2nd/3rd - 6th, and one team per 7th and 8th grade, depending on registration enrollment numbers. Each team in this division will play 8-10 regular season games with additional post season games. Games will be on weeknights and select Saturdays and Sundays depending on the grade level and field requirements. Most teams' first games will begin the first week of September but 7th and 8th grade may begin the last week of August. Pending scheduling requirements, any postseason games should end by the first week of November.

Team Formation

Grades that have more than one team will have teams formed by a player draft. The draft will be held after the first week of practice and player evaluations. The designated Head & Assistant Coaches for each grade will meet with a representative of the Board of Directors to select their grade's teams. Teams will be created to be equal in strength, and all players who register will be on a team. Players are required to register and play for the grade they are attending in the fall of each season's school year. Rare exceptions may be made on a case by case basis and only with the approval of the Board of Directors.

Registration

Player Registration & Payment for the MYFA Program should be done online at

<https://www.monticelloyouthfootball.com/>

Registration for the Monticello Youth Football Association is open to all members of the Monticello community and school district. Any players attempting to register from outside of our community will need to fill out the "Out of Town" web form submission questionnaire located under the registration tab of our website. Registrations from outside of our community will either be approved or denied at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

<https://www.monticelloyouthfootball.com/page/show/9052666-out-of-town-registration->

Players are required to register for the grade level they will attend in the fall of 2025.

If you do not already have a Sports Engine app/website account, you will need to create one to register. Sports Engine requires you to only register one player at a time.

Refund Policy

Registration fees are eligible for a refund only if registration is canceled prior to the registration closing date. Please contact the MYFA Registration Coordinator(s) in writing if you choose to withdraw from the program. Any requests for registration cancellations and subsequent refunds after registration has closed are strictly at the discretion of the Board of Directors. Any refunds that are issued will be net of any administrative costs incurred by the MYFA including jersey fees.

Scholarships

The MYFA Board has a limited number of scholarships available that parents may apply for based on need. Scholarship applications are on our website under the registration tab or can be emailed upon request. Applicants are required to submit a scholarship application by the date listed on our website. Since MYFA is 100% volunteer dependent, we require that in exchange for registration, all scholarship recipients provide volunteer time to the organization. Each family will be asked to fulfill up to 5 hours of volunteer time at association events and fundraisers. Failure to do so will result in cancellation of the scholarship.

Code of Conduct

All players registering to play in the MYFA Association are required to read, understand, and acknowledge a Player Code of Conduct. All parents/guardians of registered players are required to read, understand and acknowledge a Parent/Spectator Code of Conduct, in addition they are also responsible for advising all invited visitors/spectators of this Code of Conduct and ensuring that they adhere to it as well. All Code of Conducts and acknowledgements will be provided during registration through Sports Engine.

<https://www.monticelloyouthfootball.com/page/show/8527713-codes-of-conduct>

Practices

Practices for tackle will be held on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday nights at Little Mountain Elementary and Monticello High School starting the week of August 4th. The fundamental skills taught at practice each week may vary. New skills are learned, problem areas are corrected, and new plays are taught. Your child will be at a disadvantage by not regularly attending practice or not arriving on time. Players missing practices may affect playing time. Please communicate any absences ahead of time with your coaching staff.

Additionally, please make sure that the players are picked up on time at the end of practice so that the coaches can go home to their families. Times of practices may change due to sunlight and weather during the season at the head coach's discretion.

Coaching

All coaches in the Monticello Youth Football Association are strictly volunteers. Parents/guardians interested in coaching for the MYFA are required to submit a coaching application and will be required to submit a background screening every year. Coaching assignments are strictly at the discretion of the MYFA Board of Directors and decisions are based on information provided on their application and background check. All Coaches that are appointed by the MYFA Board must attend and gain certification from USA Football's coaches training program, as well as sign and agree to abide by the Coaches Code of Conduct. Any coaches found to have violated either the league rules, the MYFA coaching code of conduct, the bylaws of MYFA, or the MYFA handbook are subject to removal of the Coach from a game(s), league/tournament/association suspension, or possible expulsion from the Monticello Youth Football Association at the discretion of the MYFA Board of Directors. An investigation of a coaching violation will follow similar guidelines as the removal of Directors as outlined in the Monticello Youth Football Association bylaws.

Game Rules

All Monticello Youth Football Association registered players will adhere to the 2025 North Star Youth Football League, and the Gopher State Football League, or the specific rules of any other tournament our teams participate in.

Playing time

Coaches in 2nd - 6th grade are asked to play, to the best extent possible, all players in at least fifty percent of each game.

Discipline, effort, attitude and attendance will affect playing time.

Coaches of 7th and 8th grade teams are advised that the Gopher State Football League has no minimum playing time requirements. These grade levels are our most competitive and playing time is not guaranteed.

Examples that may lead to reduced playing time include but are not limited to: poor behavior or sportsmanship, missing practices or games, lack of effort, safety concerns, and knowledge of the playbook.

Player playtime for tournaments will be at the discretion of the teams' head coach based on game & player position needs.

Player Positions

To be successful, a player must study the playbook and understand all of the positions and responsibilities of the football team. During the first few weeks of practice, the coaches will assess the most appropriate positions for each player. A player's attitude, effort, and ability play a large role in the position that they are assigned. Modifications will be an ongoing process with the goal of making the team more effective. Player positions are subject to league and tournament rules.

Tournaments

Team tournaments participation will be decided by the team Head Coaches in conjunction with the Board of Directors. MYFA sponsorship of any team tournament registration fees will be at the discretion of the MYFA Board of Directors & will be based on funds available. Funds, if available, will be awarded equally amongst all tackling teams participating in tournaments.

Equipment

All MYFA players are required to wear an athletic supporter with a protective cup, a form fitted mouth guard that is attached to their helmet, rubber cleated shoes (no metal cleats will be allowed), white helmet with a hard chin strap, shoulder pads, and black pants with pads that go past the player's knee. MYFA does not provide equipment for players. Each player is responsible for their own equipment. The only visors that are allowed by the Minnesota State High School League are 100% clear visors. Any player wearing a visor with any presence of tint will not be allowed to practice or play in games. Tinted visors are a safety concern and not allowed under concussion protocol.

Uniforms

All MYFA players will receive a game jersey that is included in their registration fees. Practice jerseys can be added to each registration for an additional cost. Players are asked not to wear their game jerseys during practice. Jerseys from prior years may be worn during practice as well as any appropriate shirt that fits over their shoulder pads during practices. Black football pants with built in pads are required for games and practices unless notified by the coaches. All players will be assigned a unique jersey number by grade from available numbers based on the player's choice. MYFA will, to the best extent possible, assign players the same numbers as prior years.

Uniform and Equipment Fitting Night

All athletes are strongly encouraged to attend our uniform and equipment fitting night. Players need to bring their helmets and shoulder pads to fitting night so coaches and members of the Board of Directors can make sure they fit and are in proper working condition. Our jersey provider will have various sizes of jerseys to try on over shoulder pads to confirm which size each player will need for the season. The date, time, and location of uniform fitting will be included on the MYFA website. If a player is unable to attend the event, please indicate so on your registration.

Fundraising

Association fundraising opportunities will be presented by our fundraiser coordinator via an email blast or to each team's parent rep liaison throughout the season. Player participation in these initiatives is strictly voluntary. Any fundraising that is done in the name of the Monticello Youth Football Association must be approved ahead of time by the MYFA Board of Directors, and all

funds along with the corresponding documentation collected during this fundraiser must be turned into the Fundraiser Coordinator and the MYFA Treasurer for distribution to the teams and/or individuals. The 6th grade team and coaches are tasked with the Pizza Ranch fundraiser. Player volunteers will bus and clean tables during the event with coaches and parent volunteers supervising.

Monticello Youth Football Association will again raise funds by selling Von Hanson's packages. However, the registrations for 2025 will include a \$50 fundraising/volunteer fee. If you are registering more than one family member, you will only be charged one \$50 fee for each family. If your athlete, or family, raises \$200 or more, your registration will be reimbursed the \$50 fee at the end of the year.

Concerns and Communication

The Monticello Youth Football Association operates under a 24-hour cooling-off period for all concerns or complaints. If, after 24 hours, you have a concern, please contact your team's coaching staff. Head coaches will provide information on how they would like communication structured. Concerns about playing time should be brought directly to the head coach.

If you are not satisfied with the resolution of the issue, please discuss the concern with the MYFA League coaching coordinator. The league coaching coordinator will work with you to resolve it when possible; otherwise, he or she will bring the concern to the attention of the MYFA President and/or Board of Directors.

If you would like to bring a topic before the entire board, you may request to do so via the MYFA webform located on our website. Please notify the Board of Directors of the association in writing, via the webform, of the issue you would like to discuss at least 48-hours prior to the scheduled board meeting so that it may be considered to add to the board meeting agenda. The webform is located in the Board of Directors tab of the MYFA website.

Additions to the monthly MYFA board meetings are subject to the bylaws of the Monticello Youth Football Association. MYFA monthly board meetings take place at the discretion of the board and generally on the third Wednesday of each month with seven days public notice via

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