



## REEDSBURG YOUTH FOOTBALL, INC. Program Rules & Regulations

Reedsburg Youth Football (RYF) Program is designed to serve a wide variety of young athletes. Many factors have been considered in creating our rules and procedures. Many are league rules set forth by the Badger Central Football League (BCYFL) and the Middle School Alliance; the RYF Board of Directors established the rest. These rules and regulations are designed to ensure safety, fairness, and even competition in all grades.

### **A. Philosophy:**

To provide organized and supervised flag and tackle football program for all youth in grades 2<sup>nd</sup> -8<sup>th</sup>. To teach the fundamentals of the sport of football, and promote the ideals of good sportsmanship, honesty, courage and discipline.

The Flag Football program that will meet for a maximum of 5 Saturdays, for a maximum time of 2 hours. They may practice 1-2 times during the week for no more than 1 hour. Flag games will be played on Saturday's, unless mutually agreed by coaches and the board to alter game dates.

4<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grade will be a tackle football program that will start in early August and end in mid-October, As per The Middle School Alliance & Badger Central Youth Alliance, league rules will apply.

All coaches and player education will meet the guidelines set forth by Reedsburg Youth Football and The Alliance Leagues that we are a part of, Currently is 'Heads up Football' by USA Football.

### **B. Code of conduct:**

Each participating player, coach and parent/guardian is required to sign the code of conduct form to participate in the program(contained in the on-line registration process)

### **C. Registration:**

- Registration is open from April 1st – June 15<sup>th</sup> for on time registrations.
  - Cookie Dough Credits must be applied during "on time" registration
- Registrations after June 15<sup>th</sup>, May be subject to a late fee

- Any registration after practice begins, must have approval by the RYF President
- Absolutely no players will be added after first game has been played. **NO EXCEPTIONS.**

### **Fee's:**

- Registration Fee for tackle football is \$115.00 and \$40.00 for flag.
- Registrations submitted after June 16<sup>th</sup> will be subject to a \$25.00 non-refundable late fee
- Partial or full financial assistance is available to qualifying families, please contact a board member!
- A \$25.00 discount for the second and third child for families with multiple children in the program.
- We are a volunteer run organization. Each family will be required to volunteer during events on a rotating basis. This can include Coach/Clock / Chains / Concessions /Team Parent Rep

### **Fundraising:**

In order to maintain equipment, facilities and to keep registration fees reasonable, It is necessary for Reedsburg Youth Football to do some fundraising. In an effort to be fair to all participants and families that are a part of RYF:

- At registration, a \$100.00 deposit will be collected from each family
- The deposit will be refunded if the family meets the minimum required for sales.(currently 15 items)
  - RYF will refund the deposit, if qualified, by either \$100 cash, or credit \$100 to your credit card used for registration.
  - The refund will happen at cookie dough pick -up
  - Any cookie dough NOT pick-up on time or with prior arrangements, will forfeit their deposit
- Any family not meeting the minimum for sales will forfeit their deposit to RYF.

### **D. Equipment**

Unlike many programs, RYF provides all equipment except cleats. Because of this we have established rules to ensure the equipment is available for years to come.

- **ALL paperwork & Fee's MUST be complete and paid in full prior to equipment hand out, or NO equipment will be issued.**
- Equipment is provided for each player. Families need to provide, football shoes and a **Positive Attitude**
- At the Parent meeting in late July, parents will be provided with information regarding equipment pick-up and practice schedules.

- Players are required to try on all equipment; we will have coaches available to fit the equipment appropriately. Player must wear shorts/undergarment, or boxers, (cup) whichever will be worn under football pants.
- A \$25 fee will be charged for all equipment returned later than assigned dates unless prior arrangements are made.
- Invoices will be issued on October 31<sup>st</sup> for all lost or unreturned equipment for full replacement value, plus 20%.
- Until equipment is returned and late fees paid the player will not be allowed to play the following year.

### **E. Team Draft Policy:**

If we have enough players for more than 1 team at a grade level, coaches will 'draft' to fill out both teams. Every year there is a redraft of all players at each grade level with the goal of equal distribution, so players may not be on the same team each year.

#### **DRAFT RULES:**

- The purpose of this process is to field evenly balanced and competitive teams (No A & B). If our numbers are marginal, we may ask 2-3 players each week to play their game and dress and be used as a back-up for the second game. If this happens, it will be a different group for each week, so every player will have an opportunity to dress for a second game.

Coaches will evaluate players for the first 5-7 days of camp/practice, and will complete the draft with at least 1 board member attending to oversee and direct the process.

- After the draft, coaches and RYF board have the right to move kids between teams as needed for the following reasons:
  - The 2 teams are obviously not balanced
  - Injury's

### **F. Season:**

- Practices will not start before the high school program.
  - A 3 day fundamentals camp may be held prior to the season
  - At most 1 day a week through the spring & summer may be used for a skills & drills/flag game for fun & comradery.
- Practice dates & times will be determined by the coaches
- Practice day 1-2 will be helmet only.
- Practice day 3-5 will be helmet & shoulder pad only.
- A maximum of 5 practices can be held until the first game/or school starts(whichever comes first)
- After school starts, a maximum of 3 practices can be held per week.
- Practices will not go past two hours in length(most will be 1½ hour long)
- Practices are held in all types of weather, but will be cancelled by coaches for the following reasons:
  - Lightening
  - Field conditions are not acceptable for use

- Expect any communication regarding practices or games to come directly from the team rep or coach.

### **Home Games:**

- All players are expected to be at Webb field 45 minutes prior to their start time ( UNLESS, their coach gives them a different arrival time)
  - The first game of the day, that team is responsible for setting up the game field, This includes:
    - All sideline markers-located 2 yards off of the side line
    - All pylons ( 6 in each end zone)
    - Both goal post pads
    - Fill the water cart
    - Chains & Down marker(Home team sideline)
  - The last team to play a game that day, is responsible for clean-up
    - Chains, yard markers, pylons & goal post pads returned to press box
    - Garbage cleanup of:
      - Bench areas
      - Bleacher areas (seating and underside)
      - General grounds garbage pick-up

### **Away Games:**

- 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, & 6<sup>th</sup> Grade:
  - Arrive at your game location at least 30 minutes prior to your scheduled start time( unless your coach instructs differently)
- 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade:
  - All away games—teams will be bussed to the game site—leaving from Web Middle School
  - There must be a minimum of 3 coaches on each bus, both to and back from the game
  - ALL players **are required** to ride the team bus to the game
    - Failure to ride the team bus:
      - 1<sup>st</sup> Offense—Sit out the 1<sup>st</sup> half of that game + 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of next game
      - 2<sup>nd</sup> Offense and beyond—Player will sit out this game + next game
      - For the last game of the season:
        - If more than 3 kids miss the team bus—Coaches MUST FORFEIT THE GAME—NO game will be played!
  - If you would like your child to ride home with you from the game:
    - **YOU MUST**---have a written note to your coach 24 hours prior to bus departure: **(NO EXCEPTIONS)**

## **G. Attendance:**

- Each player who (1) attends all practices, (2) maintains a positive and contributing attitude, and (3) abides by all player code of conduct...shall be guaranteed playing time.
- Reedsburg Youth Football, Inc. is a "Youth Sport", and firmly believes that school, and family do come first, if for any reason, your child has to miss an event (practice or game) for these reasons, please communicate this with your coaching staff, and these reasons will have no effect on playing time.(unless for an extended period of time)
- At the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade levels, players will be encouraged to play on both offense and defense as well as at different positions. Every reasonable attempt will be made to substitute players within games as well as practices.
- At the 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade levels, we also encourage play on both offense and defense, but recognize that this is not always in the best interest of the player (safety, comfort level, etc). Due to the increased level of competition, playing time will be linked to the player's ability to demonstrate comprehension of the game as instructed by the coaching staff.
- **Excused Absence**
  - Most excused absence, with prior notification to the event to be missed (practice or game) will have no effect on playing time, unless for an extended period of time is missed.
- **Un-excused Absence**
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Offense –sit 1 quarter of next game
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Offense—sit 1<sup>st</sup> half of next game
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> Offense and beyond—sit first 3 quarters of next game

If a parent believes that their child is not receiving adequate playing time: set up a time to meet with your coaches, after a practice, **never** immediately following a game. If your meeting with your coaches is unsatisfactory, please contact a board member, and we will set up a meeting with all three parties to discuss and review. Good communication between parents and coaches either directly, or through the team representative, will help build understanding.

#### **H. Youth Night:**

- Youth Night is an evening in when the youth football players can attend the Varsity game for free if they wear their game jersey or Flag Football wears their Youth Football t-shirt.
- Youth night is usually planned for the Varsity's 1<sup>st</sup> home game of the season.
- Under the supervision of the coach's the youth players will line up by teams a couple minutes before halftime at the East End Zone fence.
- As the teams are announce they will run across Millennium Field and be recognized.
- **Parents/guardians are responsible for supervising their children.**

## **I. Refunds:**

- Participation in the Reedsburg Youth Football program requires commitments -- from the players, the parents and the coaches.
- A \$50 fee is automatically allocated for administration fees and is NON-refundable at any time. The rest of the fee is refundable up until the day equipment is handed out. After that date no refunds will be available.
- Special refunds will be considered for medical reasons only and is subject to approval by the board of directors.
- All approved refunds will be issued a check regardless of method of payment.

### **Refund Procedure:**

- Submit a written request to the President of Reedsburg Youth Football.
- All Equipment MUST be received before a refund check can be issued.
- The Treasurer will mail a refund check within 10 working days from the date the equipment is returned.

## **J. Emergencies:**

- Due to the nature of football, some injuries will occur. All injuries must be called to the coach's attention. Most will be minor and can be managed with basic first aid. However, if more intense management is required the rest of the team must:
  - Stop all practices, scrimmages, or drills. DO NOT move the injured player.
  - Call the coach to manage the situation.
  - Non-injured players should sit or kneel at a distance.
- RYF, in working with Reedsburg Area Medical Center and other industry professionals, will try to provide a medical trainer to as many games that RAMC can find staff for.