**SIMCOE COUNTY SPORTS’ PLAYING REGULATIONS**

**FOOTBALL**

**1. Simcoe County Guideline**  League Play

**2. Season:** September to the end of November

**3. Location of Finals and Date:** the end of November

**4. School Classification and Levels:** Open to all schools to all schools A/AA and AAA

Junior and/or Senior, OR Varsity

**5. League Structure and Play:** (including tie-breaking procedure)

Number of dates in schedule per school:  **6** maximum

Number of dates involved for play-offs (for the winner): **3** maximum (over 2 weeks)

(this includes GBSSA)

1. All schools playing football in Simcoe County will play in **one single league**.
2. A team will have **only one 2-game-week** in the regular schedule.

There will be **at least** 2 days between games.

Doubleheaders are to be scheduled, when possible, to save on expenses for items such as referees, travel costs, and the lining of fields.

1. **Tie-Breaking Procedure:** in the event of a tie at the end of regulation time, the CIS overtime rules will apply.
2. **Regular Season Overtime Rules:** if at the end of regulation time, the score is tied, overtime will be played, as follows:

Each team will have one possession. There will be no sudden death. If after each team has had one offensive possession the score is still tied, the game will be recorded as a tie.

Prior to the overtime, a coin toss, called by a visiting team captain, will determine the following choices. The winner of the coin toss will choose either:

1. start on offence or defence

OR

1. which end to play in for the first set of offensive series in that period.

The loser of the toss will select the remaining option. The winner of the toss may not defer its choice. For the second set of offensive series, the team that lost the original coin toss will choose one of the above choices first.

The ball will be put in play at the 25-yard line for the beginning of each offensive series.

No timeouts during overtime.

The rules regarding fumble recoveries and interceptions are as per the CIS Men’s Football rules (D.8.e).

For the regular season standings, the winning team will be credited with a win. The losing team will be credited with a tie.

**Playoff Overtime Rules:**

If at the end of regulation time, the score is tied, overtime will be played until a winner is determined. The teams will have equal possessions until a winner is determined. There will be no sudden death.

In the initial extra period, each team will be guaranteed 2 offensive series.

If at the end of the first extra period of two offensive series each, the score is still tied, each extra period will consist of one offensive series each until a winner is determined.

A coin toss, called by a visiting team captain, will determine the following choices. The winner of the coin toss will choose either:

1. start on offence or defence

OR

1. which end to play in for the first set of offensive series in that period.

The loser of the toss will select the remaining option. The winner of the toss may not defer its choice.

From that point on, the winner of the original coin toss will have first choice of the above options on all odd-numbered series and the loser of the original coin toss will have first choice on all even-numbered series.

The ball will be put in play at the 25-yard line for the beginning of each offensive series.

No timeouts during overtime.

After two offensive series each (i.e. after the initial extra period of two offensive series), if the score is still tied, all converts must be two-point attempts.

The rules regarding fumble recoveries and interceptions are as per the CIS Men’s Football rules (D.8.e).

**6. Play-off Structure and Play:**

Prior to the beginning of the regular season, all junior and senior teams will declare whether they will compete in post-season playoffs at the A/AA or AAA level.

1. **Every team qualifies for the play-offs.** Play-offs will be county wide. All teams will be seeded based on league play, head-to-head competition, common opponents, tournament play, and exhibition play.
2. **The Seeding Committee and the seeding of teams** See General Guidelines; Part 1, item 7

(c) **Tie-Breaking Procedure (to be used by the Seeding Committee):**

(i) **Involving Two (2) Teams:** if two teams are tied for a given position, then the results of regular season games between the two tied teams are to be used to determine the higher ranking. If two games were played and there was a “split result”, then the points differential (for those games only) will determine the higher ranking.

(ii) **Involving Three (3) Teams:** if three teams are tied for a given position, then the results of regular season games between the tied teams are to be used and applied as follows:

Situation #1: Team A has defeated team B and C.

Team B has defeated Team C.

The ranking order is A, B, C.

Situation #2: Team A has defeated Team B and C.

Team B and C tie or do not play.

Team A receives the top position and there is a “coin flip” between B & C for the higher ranking.

Situation #3: Team A has defeated team B.

Team B has defeated team C.

Team A tied team C or defeated team C.

The ranking order is A, B, C.

Situation #4: Team A has defeated team B.

Team B has defeated team C.

Team C has defeated team A.

The ranking order is determined by the drawing of the names (of the three teams) from a hat.

(d) **To Determine Four (4) Teams:** Using the SCAA playoff format **(APPENDIX E),** SCAA champions will be declared in each classification (A/AA and AAA) and level (junior and senior). An SCAA Championship banner will be awarded to each winning team.

(e) **Simcoe County Champions/ GBSSA Champions:** The SCAA champions plays the CSASC representative to determine the Southern District of GBSSA winner. The GBSSA title game is the North District (MPS) versus the South District (SCAA vs CSASC) champion. If Muskoka-Parry Sound (MPS) DOES NOT field a team (and, therefore, provides NO ENTRY to GBSSA), then the South District GBSSA Champions will be declared the GBSSA Champions **(APPENDIX J).**

**7. Start Times:**

(a) **Double-Headers:** Labour Day to first Friday in October 2:30 pm

Second Monday to Daylight Savings Time 1:30 pm

After Daylight Savings Time 12:30 pm

(b) **Single-Headers:** Labour 2:30 pm

After Daylight Savings Time 2:00 pm

**8. Date For Declaring the Number of Teams and Classification:**

Intent to compete and classification level is to be declared prior to scheduling for that season, as determined by the calendar committee.

**9. Convenorship Rotation:**

Currently, there is no set rotation. Convenors volunteer for a two (2) year term at the Simcoe County Coaches’ Meeting (which occurs every two years).

**10. Eligibility:** as per the GBSSA Constitution (By-Law 2, Sections 1 to 13).

1. All schools must file completed, signed OFSAA Hub eligibility lists (containing the level of competition, names, ages, and birth dates of players, and the required signatures) with the SCAA chair and district convenor no later than 24 hours prior to the competition. Any player changes require 24-hour notice prior to that player's first competition in each sport. Note that any games played by players of schools that have not filed eligibility lists will be declared a forfeit (loss).
2. All players must comply with the GBSSA transfer policy and procedures.
3. All junior players must be under 15 years of age, as of January 1st prior to the start of the school year.
4. All senior players must be under 19 years of age, as of January 1st prior to the start of the school year.

**11. Expenses:**

Convenors may charge a levy to cover the league championship expenses .This may include the rental of the field, cost of officials, cost of athletic trainer, cost of awards, cost of luncheon for championship convenors and assistants, and any other costs deemed necessary to stage the championship game(s). This levy is to be shared by all schools competing in the league. This fee will be collected at the beginning of the season.

**12. Field Use:** See the “Wet Fields Policy” in the General Guidelines.

**13. Uniforms and Equipment:**

1. As per Canadian Amateur Football Association (CAFA) Rules.
2. Where uniforms are similar enough to cause difficulty for the players or for the officials, pinnies or jerseys will be provided and worn by the visiting school.

**14. Awards:**

Using the SCAA playoff format (Appendix E), SCAA Champions will be declared at each classification (A/AA, and AAA) and level (junior and senior). An SCAA championship banner will be awarded to each winning team.

**15. Rules and Officials:**

1. C.A.F.A. rules will apply, juniors and seniors will both play three (3) down football. The “Numbers Rule” will apply.
2. Simcoe County Football Officials Association.
3. The official game ball is the Wilson CFL composite ball. Furthermore, the home team will provide two game footballs of the same type to be used for the entire game and overtime at the discretion of the referee.
4. No yards penalty will be assessed as follows:

. i) If a ball is fielded in the air and a player on the kicking team is deemed to be inside the 5-yard restraining area, the penalty shall be 15 yards from the spot of the catch or the result of the play.

ii) If a ball touches the ground prior to being fielded and a player on the kicking team is in the restraining area but not involved in the tackle, the penalty shall be 5 yards or the result of the play; and a player on the kicking team is in the restraining area and actively attempts and succeeds in leaving the restraining area prior to making the tackle, the penalty shall be 5 yards or the result of the play; and a player on the kicking team is in the restraining area and is involved in the tackle, the penalty shall be 15 yards or the result of the play.

1. “Crack Back Blocking” in the expanded box – see referee rules
2. The **(FORM 4 & FORM 5)** approved roster and score sheet (complete with numbers), and disqualification sheets, must be available at the scorer’s table five (5) minutes prior to kick-off. If these are not present, then the offending team will be assessed with a time-out/delay of game penalty. SHEETS MUST BE PRESENT PRIOR TO KICK-OFF.
3. The roster and score sheets **(FORM 4 & FORM 5)** FOR EACH GAME must be sent to the convenor for game results to be official.
4. If a team voluntarily **FORFEITS** a game, then the other team is awarded the win and the forfeiting team is **NOT ELIGIBLE** for the play-offs. All other games during the schedule are awarded to other teams as wins.
5. **NEW RULE: “**Cool Down”: The officials are in charge. At the referee’s discretion, players may be sent from the field to “cool down” and allow the player’s coach to deal with the player’s behaviour. The cool down period will consist of three series. That is, if the incident occurred when the player’s team was on offence, the player will sit for the rest of that series, his team’s next defensive series and his team’s next offensive series. After that the coach must approach the referee and request that the player may re-enter the game.

When the player is initially sent off, the referee will notify both benches and write on the game report the player’s number and the fact that he has received a cool down “yellow” card. Following the game, the referee should take the time to describe the incident in more detail. A Game Disqualification Report or Board of Reference is not required. If the player receives a second yellow card, he is ejected from the game then requiring a Disqualification Report and is suspended until the player goes before a Board of Reference.

**Timing of all games**:

All levels as per CAFA rules – 12-minute quarters using “White Book Timing”.

The clock will stop at all times for injuries, penalties, scores, measurements, ball going out of bounds, change of possession and at the discretion of a referee until such time that the referee signals time to resume as per CAFA rules.

Home team will supply a trained timekeeper while the Visiting Team supplies an assistant.

If the game is called due to darkness by the referee, an official game will have occurred if 3 quarters have been played. The score at the time of the game being called will be the official final score

**16. Protest Procedure:**

1. Protests may be lodged on situations not under the jurisdiction of the officials or the GBSSA Board of Reference.

1. All protests must be made by 3:00 pm of the next school day after the incident, by email, to the league convenor and centralized athletic coordinator.

1. The SCAA Jury of Appeal will deal with all protests.

SCAA/GBSSA Football Roster Sheet

**FORM 4**

**School \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ LEVEL: Junior Senior**

**Coaching staff: (please print)**

**Head Staff Coach: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Assistant Staff Coach(es) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Community Coach(es):** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Trainer:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Player Roster: In order of sweater number**

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**SCAA/GBSSA Football Score Sheet**

**FORM 5**

**School: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Game date/time : \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Level : Junior Senior**

**Visitors: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ vs Home: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**VISITOR**

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**Final Score: \_\_\_\_\_\_ To \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in favour of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Score Keeper’s Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**REFEREE'S SIGNATURE : \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**COMMENTS : \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

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**YELLOW CARDS : \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

MUST BE UPLOADED ELECTRONICALLY TO THE SCAA WEBSITE WITHIN 24 HOURS