**SIMCOE COUNTY SPORTS’ PLAYING REGULATIONS**

###### FLAG FOOTBALL

**1. Simcoe County Guideline Category:** League Play

**2. Season:** September to October

**3. Location of Finals and Date:** the last week of October

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

Junior and Senior

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

Number of dates in schedule per school: 6 games maximum

Number of dates for play-offs: 3 maximum (over two weeks)

1. There will be at least two (2) days between games, where possible.
2. Three (3) home games and three (3) away games are to be scheduled.
3. As much as possible, double-headers should be scheduled in order to save on expenses for referees, travel, and the lining of the fields.
4. The Canadian Rule Book for Flag Football are the official rules of the game. In Simcoe County play the following variances will be in effect listed as **(appendix F)**.
5. Results
6. All Teams are to use the official SCAA Girls Flag Football Game sheet for recording results. Both teams’ rosters and all game information (date/opponents/player numbers/score/officials name) must be completed.
7. This sheet must be uploaded to the SCAA website, www.scaasports.ca, within 24 hours of the game.
8. A copy of the game sheet is found in the Forms section of the guidelines as **Form 3.**
9. Tie-Breaking Procedures: (to break a tie in league standings)
10. Review and use the results of the match between the tied teams during the season.
11. Tie breaking will follow seeding committee parameters using league results, head to head games, common opponents and a coin toss should teams remain tied.

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

1. **All teams will qualify for the play-offs.** Play-offs will be county wide. A Simcoe County Championship will be awarded at A/AA and AAA in junior and senior divisions.
2. **The Seeding Committee and the seeding of teams:** See General Guidelines; Part 1, item 7
3. **Entry to GBSSA: APPENDIX J**
4. Play-offs will be held using a one (1) day format, with quarter finals and semi-finals held on the same day. The finals will be held on a separate day.

1. The location and date of the play-offs will be at the discretion of the convenor. This information will be in the Simcoe County Athletic Association schedule.

(f) The playoffs at the junior and senior division will be divided into A/AA (with both A and AA schools playing in this division) and AAA classifications.

1. All finals will be played at a turf field. The referee assignor will book the officials for the quarter final, semi-final and final games

**7. Start Times:**

See the General Guidelines;

Secondary School Athletic Activities Operating Parameters, as per the SCDSB

The host school is responsible for determining the game order and notifying the visiting school(s) well in advance of the playing date.

1. **Date for Declaring the Number of Teams and Classification:**

Classification is to be declared at the same time as intent to participate information is submitted to the centralized athletic coordinator.

1. **Convenorship Rotation:**

Convenors will be assigned for a one-year term. The rotation is a call for a volunteer followed by appointment by the centralized co-ordinator based on school commitments

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

1. 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 regional/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. Field Use:** See the “Wet Fields Policy” in the General Guidelines.

**12. Rules and Officials:**

1. See the Canadian Rule Book for Flag Football and Simcoe County Girls’ Flag Football Rule Variances **APPENDIX F.**
2. When there is a rule interpretation question, a coach may ask for an official time-out for clarification of the rule from the official(s). If the inquiry is legitimate, then no time-out will be charged to the team requesting the rule clarification. If it is deemed that the inquiry is not legitimate, then a time-out will be charged to that team. If the inquiring team has used its two allotted time-outs, then a delay of game will be charged.
3. At the beginning of each game both teams will line up on their 40-yard line for a player check. This will include proper flags, shirts tucked in, mouth guard. Jewellery is to be removed prior to the start of the game. If it is not possible to remove the jewellery it must be covered up completely, padded and secured.

1. It is the responsibility of the host school to upload the SCAA Flag Football Roster/score sheet **(FORM 3)** for all home games with the players on both teams clearly listed and game results within 24 hours of the game to the SCAA website.
2. Teams and coaches will be on opposite sides of the field. The home team must be on the spectator side of the field.

**13. Uniforms and Equipment:**

1. All players must wear matching jerseys.

(b) Mouth guards are mandatory for all players.

(c) The home team is responsible for providing two composite game balls (and a kicking tee); Wilson TDY or equivalent. The referee will be responsible for ball substitution.

(d) Flags must be of contrasting colour to the shorts or pants.

1. Head bands and tuques are permitted. Tuques must not have pompoms or strings that hang down.

**14. Awards:**

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

**15. Protest Procedure:**

1. Protests must be recorded on the game sheet immediately following the match and must be confirmed by the coach’s signature at the end of the match.
2. 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 within 24 hours of the incident, by email to the centralized athletic coordinator and followed by a written report within 3 school days.

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

**2020 SIMCOE COUNTY GIRLS’ FLAG FOOTBALL RULE VARIANCES**

**APPENDIX F**

The Flag Canada Rule Book are the official rules of the game with the following rule variances

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Rule Flag Canada  Rule 1.3 and 1.4  7 v 7 Rules: Rule 3.1.2  7 v 7 Rules: Rule 4.1.1 | Rule Varied to read  Games will be initiated with a coin toss. The winners of the toss have the following options 1. Kick or receive OR 2. Choose ends. The second half will start with the opposite team kicking and a change of ends  QB does not have to be 5 yards from LOS- can take snap directly from centre  Games are to be played in halves of 27 minutes + 5 play |
| Rule 4.2.1 | When the score is tied at the end of the game, overtime procedures are as follows:  • A 3-minute rest period is allowed at the end of the 4th quarter;  • Team captains will assemble for a coin toss (like pre-game); the winner of the coin toss chooses to start on offense or on defence.  • Each team has 3 attempts to score a 1- or 2-point convert, at their convenience.  Overtime for SCAA & GBSSA Playoffs only. |
| Rule 4: 4.1 | In the event of a tied game unless otherwise noted on league or tournament regulations, overtime will be played. The period between the end of the game and the start of the overtime period will be 3 minutes. A coin toss determines first possession of overtime. There will be no time outs granted during the overtime. Overtime for SCAA & GBSSA Playoffs only |
| 7v7 Rules: Rule 6:3.6 | No forward passing on Kick-off returns |
| 7v7 Rules: Rule 6: 12.2 | A SAFETY not a TD is awarded to the receiving team when a punt is blocked or tipped by the receiving team inside the end zone of the kicking team, and the ball does not cross the goal line or goes out of bounds inside the end zone. |
|  | A forward handoff behind the line of scrimmage is a legal play |
|  | A designated rusher shall line up 7 yards from the line of scrimmage at both junior and senior levels. |
|  | Spinning is not allowed. |
| General Rules: Rule 10: 1.8  And Rule 12: 1.1 | Play does not become live on a play-action fake or fake hand-off |
| General Rules: Rule 15:1.1 | No seven second rule for QB passing as QB is allowed to run |
| Rule 18.1.5 | After the centre sets the ball for the snap, a defender cannot move directly in front of the centre and prevent the centre from moving forward after the snap. (Remove all references to 3 yards from centre)  **New 2019**  *The rusher must allow the centre to proceed directly straight from where the ball is snapped. There will be no rusher interference if the centre proceeds straight and runs into the rusher. If the centre changes her course (does not go straight) and interferes with the rusher, then rusher interference will be called.*  *Rusher interference results in a 5 yard penalty, no loss of down.* |