

Tri-County Midget Football League 2019 By-Laws

1. The official name of the league is the Tri-County Midget Football League (TCMFL).
2. There is no weight limit.
3. In the A-team Division (formerly Peewee Division) a player must be (12) twelve years of age or younger before August 1st. They can become (13) thirteen years of age on or after August 1st as long as they are not in 7th grade. Seventh graders are not eligible to play in the A-team Division.

In the B-team Division (formerly Mini Division) a player must be (9) nine years of age or younger before August 1st. They can become (10) ten years of age on or after August 1st as long as they are not in 5th grade. Fifth graders are not eligible to play in the B-team Division.

The C-team Division (formerly Mini CBs) will still be considered part of the B-team Division. No player on the C-team can be 9 years of age by August 1st unless both coaches agree. This player must play with the B-team.
4. Every player must be on the field in complete uniforms – Pants, Jerseys and Helmets. A mouthpiece and all types of pads are also required. Jerseys shall be Dark (Home) and Light (Away) unless the TCMFL makes an exception for an organization that doesn't have funding. Football shoes cannot have exposed metal from spikes, but sneakers are also allowed. The opposing coach may check shoes before or after a game, during halftime, or during a time-out providing he does not interfere with the game.
5. The size of the ball will be the Wilson TDJ for the A-team Division and the Wilson K2 for the B-team and C-team Divisions.
6. The League Assigner will assign Officials and there will be at least (4) four at all games. If only (3) three are present, the first game Head Coaches must mutually agree upon whether to play or reschedule the game. There will be (4) four Officials for all of these games. The Home Team organization will pay each Official \$45.00 per game. Two (2) games will be \$360.00. The League Assigner will schedule all Officials for playoff and championship games with approval of the TCMFL Officers. League Assigner's fee is \$375.00. The TCMFL will meet the first week in October to discuss Officials for playoffs. The TCMFL will have final approval of game Officials. The Championship game will have (5) five Officials.

7. To call off a game, the Home Team must call the opposing Head Coach (or any other name on the contact sheet), TCMFL Secretary, League Assigner, and the Crew Chief assigned to those games. The coach must tell the TCMFL Secretary the name of whom he contacted on the opposing team. The calls must be made (3) three hours before the first game time. The Home Team will make the choice of both the time and place of the makeup game with the approval of the opposing Head Coach. If the two teams cannot agree on the time to make up all the games, TCMFL Officers will then schedule the games within (2) two weeks of the postponement.

If a team arrives to play, and the opposing team does not show in one-half hour, the game is forfeited and the team will be fined accordingly.

The C-team's scrimmage will start at 12:00 pm, the B-team's game will start at 1:00 pm and the A-team's game will follow (5) five minutes after the B-team game. Night games will start at 3:00 pm for the C-team scrimmage, the B-team game will start at 4:00 pm and the A-team game will start (5) five minutes after the B-team game. (Note: It is up to the C-team Head Coaches if they want to play for the 1 hour or 30 minutes.) Teams changing the start times or order of games played must first have the mutual consent of the opposing Head Coach then must notify a TCMFL Officer, League Assigner, and the Crew Chief assigned to those games.

8. At the request of the opposing team, a copy of the roster must be provided. It must be the Official Tri-County Midget Football League Roster turned in at the Registration Meeting (including any approved changes) with Head Coach signature and becomes official (2) two weeks after the Registration Meeting.

A press box copy must be supplied to the announcer in numerical order before the game.

9. Coaches are not allowed passed the (25) twenty-five yard line during the A-team games. Two (2) coaches are permitted on the field during a time out.
10. A-team and B-team games will consist of (8) eight minute quarters. Every time out will consist of (2) two minutes. The clock will stop for change of possession for A-team.
11. All fields will be marked-off according to PIAA rules prior to the start of the game. Home Teams will be fined (\$10) ten dollars if the field is not lined off accordingly. League Officials will make a decision as to whether or not the field is okay.
12. **PRACTICE SESSIONS will start NO EARLIER THAN the last Monday in the month of July.**

13. At the announced TCMFL Registration Meeting, all teams will turn in (18) copies of their Official Tri-County Midget Football League Roster in alphabetic order by the player last name - note: the B-team players and C-team players must be listed on the same roster. All Rosters must be turned in at the Registration Meeting or a \$50 fine will be imposed.

All teams will also turn in at that same Registration Meeting an Official Tri-County Midget Football League Registration Form for every player on their roster. This form must be complete and signed by both the parent/guardian and Head Coach. Fines may occur if the submitted Registration Form is incomplete/missing signatures.

Stapled to each Registration Form must be a copy of the player's birth certificate (baptismal certificates or other acceptable age certificates will be accepted in place of birth certificates). Teams must report at the Registration Meeting if there are any Registration Forms without a birth certificate copy attached. A \$10 fine will be imposed per non-reported missing birth certificate.

There will be a 1 week grace period to submit any missing birth certificate copies. If the birth certificate copies are not received by the end of the 1 week grace period, a \$50 fine will be imposed and the player(s) may not play until the TCMFL Secretary receives the birth certificate copies.

All submitted documents will be accompanied by the \$125 League Entry Fee at the Registration Meeting.

Players who were listed on a roster ANY previous year cannot switch to a different team unless they are released from the previous team or move into that area.

Non-roster players may be added up to (14) days after the Registration Meeting by providing the necessary completed/signed Registration Forms, and birth certificate copies to the TCMFL Secretary. Players who appear on another team's roster cannot be added. The team must also provide an updated Roster to include the addition.

If there are any other changes to the Official Roster, the team must notify the TCMFL Secretary prior to the start of the 2nd regular season game. An updated Official Roster must also be submitted to the TCMFL Secretary.

Roster registration will be closed (14) days after the Registration Meeting. Any exceptions to the closed roster will be voted on by the TCMFL body prior to the end of the regular season.

14. Under an agreement (prior to the game), if both coaches agree on matters that arise and the game is played, NO protest will be allowed. If a protest is made, any TCMFL Officer MUST be notified by phone and the protest MUST be in writing explaining the situation that led to the protest. This must be submitted to the TCMFL Officer notified within 48 hours. A (\$10.00) ten dollar protest fee must accompany the letter. The money will be returned to the team if the protest is upheld. If denied, the (\$10.00) ten dollars will automatically revert to the TCMFL and the protest withdrawn. Any agreement prior to the game must be signed by BOTH coaches with each coach getting a copy and the TCMFL Officer receiving a copy.
15. FINAL SCORES must be reported by a person listed on the Contact List from ALL HOME TEAMS to the TCMFL Secretary by the following Monday at 9:00 a.m. via phone (570-622-6509) or e-mail (jcbudwash@gmail.com). Failure to report scores will constitute a (\$25.00) twenty-five dollar fine.
16. Scoring of extra points will be (1) one point for a kick and (2) two points for a run or pass.
17. Once a player is elevated to the A-team level he/she cannot return to the B-team level at anytime. The TCMFL must be notified of all such moves and the TCMFL must notify all teams that have not played the team who elevated the player(s).
18. Officials may call off a game due to inclement weather conditions which will result in danger to the children prior to the start of the game. The game will be rescheduled to start from the beginning, at a later date. If a game is postponed, the game resumes where left off. A game can be called complete if both coaches agree. Both team's coaches must call the TCMFL Secretary with the quarter, time, score, yard line, down and yard to go.

19. All games on the schedule will count for each team's overall record. The League will be divided into (3) three divisions, a West Division, a Central Division, and an East Division. The teams in those divisions are:

WEST	CENTRAL	EAST
Ashland	Blue Mountain	Hazleton
Mahanoy	Frackville	Lehighton
Mt. Carmel	Minersville	Jim Thorpe
Shamokin	Pottsville	Panther Valley
Shenandoah	St. Clair	Tamaqua

Each team will play (8) regular season games over a (9) week season. This will include playing all (4) four teams in their Division plus (4) four out-of-division teams. Each team will have (1) one bye during the season.

The (3) three Division Champs will be seeded 1-2-3 and determined by the following criteria:

1. Overall Record
2. Head to Head Competition - only used if one team has defeated all other teams in the tie.
3. Division Record
4. Record of defeated opponents
5. Toss of coin if tie still exists

The next (5) five teams with the best records will play as Wildcard teams and will be determined by the following criteria.

1. Overall Record
2. Head to Head Competition - only used if one team has defeated all other teams in the tie.
3. Record of defeated opponents
4. Division Record
5. Toss of coin if tie still exists

Criteria will reset to beginning after 3-way (or more) ties are broken.

During the playoffs the highest seeded team will always play the lowest seeded team up to the Championship game.

The playoff games and Championship games will begin at 12 pm and 4 pm when possible. The sites will be decided on availability of lights and teams involved. The TCMFL Officers will work the gate and collect all admissions. The TCMFL will supply the game balls and pay the Officials.

20. Election of TCMFL Officers will take place at the January meeting.

21. FAILURE TO ATTEND THE MEETINGS is a (\$25.00) twenty five dollar fine. The fine will increase (\$25) twenty-five dollars for each consecutive meeting not attended.

- 1st meeting missed - \$25
- 2nd meeting in a row missed - \$50 + previous \$25 = \$75 total
- 3rd meeting in a row missed - \$75 + previous \$75 = \$150 total
- 4th meeting in a row missed - \$100 + previous \$150 = \$250 total

Late fine is (\$10.00) ten dollars (10 minutes after the scheduled meeting time). All out of season fines must be paid by the Registration Meeting and all fines assessed during the regular season must be paid by the January meeting.

22. The Tri-County Midget Football League will run on a (12) twelve month calendar year from date of acceptance of by-laws.

23. All games that end in a tie, the PIAA Rules will go into effect. When the Defensive Team gains possession of the ball, the down and series immediately ends for the Offensive Team.

24. All rules not covered in the B-team level By-Laws will be covered under the A-team By-Laws.

25. At the Registration Meeting all new PIAA Rules will be voted for TCMFL compliance.

26. Exhibitions/Scrimmage games are allowed during the season.

27. Changes to By-Laws can be made during the season with a 2/3 vote by members.

28. A coach who is ejected from a game, both as a coach or fan, must leave the field and will be fined (\$50.00) fifty dollars by the TCMFL. Any coach that is ejected from a game must sit out the next game. A person listed on the Contact List from the ejected coach's team must call a TCMFL Officer and the League Assigner to report ejection. This By-Law supersedes the PIAA Rule that the Head Coach is ejected and not the coach causing the situation. Any player that is ejected from a game must sit out the next game. A person listed on the Contact List from the ejected player's team must call a TCMFL Officer and the League Assigner to report ejection.

The TCMFL Officers will notify the next opposing team of the coach/player ejection and suspension.

Failure to report game ejections to a TCMFL Officer and League Assigner will result in a \$50 fine. If the suspended player takes the field or the coach is on the sideline, the game will be forfeited.

29. These By-Laws supersede any and all PIAA Rules, except all new rule changes adopted by the Tri-County Midget Football League.
30. Any PIAA Official listed as a coach on any Tri-County Midget Football League Roster is not permitted to officiate TCMFL games.
31. Video and audio recording device use will not be permitted at any TCMFL meetings. Any person using such devices will be asked to delete any recordings and leave immediately.
32. The rules and regulations are set forth and approved by the TCMFL at an Official TCMFL Meeting.

Any infraction of these by-laws or errors relating to the registration process may have a fine imposed. For infractions with no fine specified, fines will be determined by the TCMFL Officers.
33. At the discretion of the TCMFL Officers, any infraction that may result in the suspension of coaches or players (other than rule #28 game ejections) will be reviewed by the Disciplinary Board. The Disciplinary Board will consist of the Executive Board plus (1) one coach chosen by the TCMFL President.

The TCMFL Officers reserve the right to immediately suspend coaches and/or players pending the Disciplinary Board's recommendation and the TCMFL body's vote.

Anyone accused of a suspendable infraction will be given a written and verbal notice to appear before the Disciplinary Board to answer and defend any allegations. Notices will be given within (10) ten days of the TCMFL Officers decision to convene a Disciplinary Board.

The Disciplinary Board will then make a recommendation within (10) ten days of meeting. The TCMFL body will vote at the next TCMFL meeting to either enforce the Disciplinary Board's recommendation or impose another penalty.
34. Coaches are role models for youth athletes. Coaches are the face of individual teams as well as TCMFL. Inappropriate behavior can result in fines by TCMFL Officers or further discipline under rule #33.

B-team Tri-County Midget Football League 2019 By-Laws

1. A copy of a birth certificate, Baptismal Certificate or acceptable Certificate of age and the Official Tri-County Midget Football League Registration Form will be turned in at the TCMFL Registration Meeting. A player cannot become (10) ten years of age before August 1st or be in fifth grade. No player on the C-team can be 9 years of age by August 1st unless both coaches agree. This player must play with the B-team team.
2. Games will consist of (4) four (8) eight minute quarters.
3. C-team scrimmages will consist of (4) four quarters with (7) seven minutes of offense, (7) seven minutes of defense, (7) seven minutes of offense and (7) seven minutes of defense with a running clock. If both teams agree they can actually play (2) two halves that consist of (30) thirty minutes of offense and (30) thirty minutes of defense.
4. Each team will have (3) three timeouts each half consisting of (2) two minutes each. Two (2) coaches are permitted on the field during a time out.
5. Players must remain in their standard defense for punts. During a punt the clock will stop until ball is punted. The punt return team can only have (2) two players deep for a return maximum. The punt return team must have inside linebackers at (5) five yards minimum and maximum and only (1) one outside linebacker outside ends. The punt team can have (1) one player split outside the end maximum.
6. Once a player moves up to the A-team level he/she cannot come back down to the B-team level.
7. A maximum of (4) four minimum of (3) three linemen inside the tackle box. No blitzing over the center. All linebackers inside the tackle box must be (5) five yards back. All linemen inside the tackle box (offensive and defensive) must be in a (3) three or (4) four point stance. Tackle box is defined as no farther than player's extended arm touching the next player's shoulder. Inside the 10-yard-line, none of these rules apply.
First offense is a warning. Second offense is an illegal formation 5 yard penalty.
8. Extra point after touchdown: run the ball or pass the ball will be worth (2) two points and kick will be worth (1) one point. **NO RUSH ON KICK!!**

9. Teams may not go beyond the (25) twenty-five yard line, except for (2) two coaches and (2) two players. If more than (2) two coaches and (2) two players, a penalty of unsportsmanlike conduct will be assessed for a 15-yard penalty.
10. All games that end in a tie, the PIAA playoff rules go into effect. Kicking the extra points during the overtime is allowed with no rushing of the kicker.
11. No score will be shown on scoreboard for the C-team scrimmage. A fine of \$50.00 will be the penalty to the offending team.
12. Field goal attempts can be full rushed in a game and OT.