

West Richmond Gridiron Youth Football League

Rules and Regulations

The West Richmond Gridiron Youth Football League was formed and operates for the purpose of providing additional opportunities for area youth to play organized football. The league will be guided by the principle that “the kids come first” and all decisions will be made based on that foundation. Accordingly, any and every youth that meets the adopted age and size guidelines will be allowed to play and every player participating in the league will be given ample playing time without exception and regardless of ability.

1. The league will be open to youth from ages 9 to 13 with the following weight restrictions:
 - A) 9 year olds weighing 80 lbs. or more
(Written parental permission required)
 - B) All 10, 11 and 12 year olds
 - C) 13 year olds weighing 105 lbs. or less
2. Weigh-ins for participating youth will be held immediately prior to the first game of the season. Those who meet weight restrictions on the first game day will be allowed to participate without additional weigh-ins for the rest of the season. Those who fail to make the weight requirements cannot participate that week. However, any players failing to make weight the first week can be reweighed each week thereafter and once they have met the weight requirements one time, will be eligible to participate the remainder of the year without additional weigh-ins.
3. There will be a pre-game check in with Gridiron Directors checking and verifying rosters and jersey numbers. Each team will line up on their sideline in roster order immediately prior to the game beginning and coaches will verify the opposing team’s rosters.
4. When rosters are initially submitted to the league committee they will include a copy or Metro league verification of each player’s birth certificate and a photograph. Roster books for each team such as those required by Metro will also be required by Gridiron and must include copy of parental permission forms for any nine year olds.
5. No youth that plays on a Metro team or school team will be allowed to play in the Gridiron League. There will be no exceptions to this policy.

6. Gridiron teams will include 15-30 players each. Exceptions to this rule will be considered on a case-by-case basis and must be approved in advance by the league committee.
7. Participating Associations will be required to provide their own insurance. Verification of that insurance must be provided to the league's President and to each of the participating Associations.
8. Players not on the approved preseason roster may not participate. No exceptions.
9. The host Association should provide a medical care, first responder type individual for each game day.

Scheduling and Sites

1. The regular season for Gridiron teams will consist of a maximum of eight games.
2. All Gridiron games for each respective week will be played at one Association field on Saturdays. Additionally, each team will play one Monday night game under the lights (sites to be determined).
3. Gridiron game sites will be rotated among participating Associations based on the number of teams each Association has participating in the league. For example, if an Association has three teams in the league, they will host Gridiron games on three occasions during the season. This allows every team to be the home team at least once during the regular season.
4. All Gridiron League teams will participate in the play-offs and will be seeded for the season ending tournament based on their regular season records. Head to head competition will determine tiebreakers between teams with identical records. In the case of multiple teams with identical records that cannot be settled by head to head competition, a coin toss will be used to seed affected teams. Playoff games will be rotated among the participating Association sites when possible as will the championship game.
5. The host Association will retain all concession revenues collected.
6. Trophies will be provided for both teams participating in the championship game. Costs will be shared among the participating Associations.
7. Individual game times will be set and games **will not** begin prior to those times. If a preceding game is not completed prior to the scheduled start time of the following game, the following game will begin immediately after the end of the preceding game.

Officials

1. VHSL referees will be provided by the Gridiron League and will be scheduled and paid in advance of Saturday's games. Any official not showing up for a game will be required to reimburse the league.
2. Fees for officials will be collected from participating Associations prior to the season and will be pro-rated based on the numbers of teams participating from the respective Associations.
3. The League will follow Virginia High School League rules unless specifically stated otherwise.

Governance

The governing body of the league will consist of one director from each participating Association with one of the directors serving as the President of the Gridiron League. Each director will have one vote in all new matters that come before the committee. Initially, as the founding Association, the President will be Western's Director. Any votes resulting in a gridlock, will be decided by the President's vote.