

FM League Football (8th Graders)

7th & 8th Grade Football

The regulations listed below will govern competition between schools in the F-M league in the 7th and 8th grade football contests.

Coaches need to visit with officials prior to the game to discuss rules.

- 1) The number of teams to be scheduled will be determined by the number of participants at each school
- 2) If a given school has more than (1) team per grade level in 7th grade, the teams shall be divided equally (numerically and ability-wise) by coaches. Eight grade will be divided into A and B Teams
- 3) An intermediate sized football will be used at all contests
- 4) Defense
 - a) **Grade 7:**
 - i) Six man front on defense, center will be uncovered
 - ii) Linebackers and corners will be a minimum of 3 yards off the ball
 - b) **Grade 8:**
 - i) Any fronts are acceptable
 - ii) Linebackers and corners will be a minimum of 3 yards off the ball
- 5) Offense
 - a) **Grade 7/8**
 - i) No trips formations
 - ii) 25 second play clock will be enforced
- 6) Punting
 - a) **Grade 7**
 - i) No rushing the punter. Offense must declare and line up in a punting formation or option to not punt - place ball at 25 yard line.
 - b) **Grade 8**
 - i) Normal kicking game
- 7) Kick-Offs
 - a) **Grade 7/8**
 - i) Normal kick-off
- 8) Coaches
 - a) **Grade 7**
 - i) Coaches can be on field for jamboree and first game of the season
 - b) **Grade 8**
 - i) Coaches can be on field for jamboree
- 9) Timeouts
 - a) **Grade 7/8**
 - i) Each team will be given 2 timeouts per half
- 10) There will be 12 minute quarters, straight running time, except in the last two minutes of each half. Outside the last two minutes of each half, the clock will only stop for charged time outs and player on field injuries. There will be a five minute half time

On all rule interpretations, use common sense and a sense of fair play and sportsmanship

No tackling leading with the head

No cut blocks outside of the tackle box

Mouth guards are required