

Dear PMFA families,

The Board of Directors would like to take this opportunity to announce some changes for the upcoming 2018 football and cheer season. For the 2018 season we have decided to withdraw from the SNEYFC and join the Northern Connecticut Football League. The reason for our decision to change conferences is to provide a more competitive environment for our football program. Over the past several years changes have been made at the SNEYFC that has benefited a majority of the Towns that participate in the conference, but has not necessarily benefited PMFA. The changes include an increasing weight limit for football players at all levels and requiring all towns to field travel teams with age brackets that do not necessarily fit the age players playing for PMFA.

By joining NCFL we hope to have more competitive program, with similar sized Towns, that have an age and weight limit more in line with our players. Below we will list the highpoints of the league and the structure.

There will 5 levels of play for football. The five levels are as follows:

**Flag-**

Ages 4-5

This is meant to be instructional level of football with coaches on the field at all times and coaches acting as referees. Scores will not be kept. There will be a running clock for both halves of the game.

**Pad levels:**

**D Squad-**

Ages 6-7. Weight limit 105.

This is meant to be instructional football with coaches on the field at all times and coaches acting as referees. Scores will not be kept. There will be a running clock for both halves of the game.

**C Squad-**

Ages 10-11. Weight limit 120.

This is competitive football. 12 minute quarters with four referees for each game and one paid time keeper.

**B Squad-**

Ages 10-11. Weight limit 145.

This is competitive football. 12 minute quarters with four referees for each game and one paid time keeper.

**A Squad-**

Ages 12-13. Weight limit 175.

This is competitive football. 12 minute quarters with four referees for each game and one paid time keeper.

There are provisions for players that exceed the weight limit at each level. Players exceeding the weight limit will be designated as a "HALO" player and will only be able to play inside the tackle box or the player may advance to the next higher level squad. To put this in perspective, last year there were 22 HALO players in the entire NCFL.

14 year old players will not be permitted to play. League age is based on July 1<sup>st</sup>. Player's age prior to July 1<sup>st</sup> is the age of the player for the upcoming season.

Any team that beats an opponent by greater than 40 points will have a monetary penalty assessed to the team from the league.

**Cheer-**

Cheer will consist of three competitive teams for A, B and C squad. D squad cheerleaders will have a team, but will not compete. D squad cheerleaders will be asked to do an exhibition at the cheer competition.

There will be one cheer competition at the end of the season for squads A, B and C.

**Season Duration-**

Practices start on August 1<sup>st</sup>.

First game is the first Sunday after Labor Day.

Regular season consists of 8 games. 4 home games and 4 away games.

Top 8 teams at each level make playoffs.

There will be 2 playoff games and one championship game to conclude the season.

**Towns and Distances from Plainfield**

Colchester- 45 min

Coventry- 40 min

Ellington- 60 min

RHAM (Hebron Andover Marlborough) - 40 min

Stafford- 55 min

Suffield- 75 min

Tolland- 45 min

Putnam- 20 min

**Towns able to play for Plainfield-**

-Sterling

-Canterbury

-Voluntown

-Griswold

For further information on the NCFL please visit their website at [www.ncfl-ct.org](http://www.ncfl-ct.org), which gives directions to field locations, league by-laws and other useful information on the league.

Choosing to leave the SNEYFC was not an easy decision for our Board. We have made this move because we feel as though it is in the best interest of the children that participate in our football and cheer programs. Please feel free to contact Chris Kelley (860-933-1533) or Jereme Caron (860-209-7236) with any questions or concerns you may have.

Sincerely,

PMFA Board of Directors