

Between the Lakes Middle School Football League

Philosophy, Rules and Regulations

(Adopted, January 2016)

Article I – MEMBERSHIP

The Between the Lakes Middle School Football League is comprised of the following sixteen football programs.

<u>TEAM</u> <u>– 8th</u>	<u>Color – 6th</u>	<u>Color - 7th</u>	<u>Color</u>
Brillion White	Red or White	Red or White	Red or
Chilton White	Blue or White	Blue or White	Blue or
Kiel	Purple	Purple	Purple
Manitowoc Lutheran	Red	No Team	Red
Manitowoc Washington	No Team	White	Blue
Manitowoc Wilson	No Team	White	Black
Mishicot	No Team	Black	Black
New Holstein Maroon	Maroon	Maroon	
Reedsville or White	Orange or White	Orange or White	Orange
Seton Team	No Team	Blue or White	No
Sherwood	Orange	Orange	Orange
Two Rivers	Purple	Purple	Purple
Valders	No Team	Red	Red

*** If multiple colors are available for both teams, the home team will wear the darker jerseys.

Article II – PHILOSOPHY

The Between the Lakes Middle School Football League is intended to provide a safe and enjoyable opportunity for our youth to enjoy the great game of football. We do not encourage the “win at all costs” philosophy. Teams should make reasonable efforts to include all players in each game. Each player should be a starter in at least one game each year.

Article III - LEAGUE RULES

The league will be governed by the Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association (WIAA) rules which are derived from the National Federation of High School Rules. All adaptations that pertain to rules governing freshmen level play will be followed with the following modifications:

- I. The dates and times of all league games will be set at the Between The Lakes Annual Meeting. This meeting will be held, on the 3rd Wednesday of January, at Brillion High School. The meeting will begin at 7:00 p.m.
- II. No overtime will be played.

- III. Practice may begin no earlier than Monday Aug. 1, 2016
- IV. The awarding of trophies/medals is strongly discouraged.
- V. Suggested fee for officials is \$35 per game

- VI. The home team shall furnish the following:
 - a. Down markers with chain gangs
 - b. Game clock and time keeper.
 - c. Four officials is encouraged, but at least 3 WIAA registered officials are required.
 - d. A copy of the league rules to the officials before the games.
- VII. Official league standing will not be kept; however, each team may publish "controlled" articles in their local paper.
- VIII. A youth is ineligible if he reaches his 15th birthday before August 15th of any given season.
- IX. Unsportsmanlike conduct by players or coaches will not be tolerated. An ejection of either a player or coach will follow the WIAA guideline and will be suspended for the next contest as well.
- X. The following adaptations will apply:
 - a. Quarter length
 - b. 7 min. - 6th grade
 - c. 7 min. - 7th grade
 - d. 8 min. - 8th grade
 - e. Halftime is 5 minutes, 5 minutes between games
 - f. 6th and 7th grade use small ball, 8th grade uses regulation ball
 - g. 3 time-outs per half(6th grade only 30 sec)
 - h. 28 point lead in the second half- running clock
- XI. Proposed game times: 6th - 4:30 p.m., 7th - 5:30 p.m., 8th - 6:45 p.m. (New Holstein home games will begin at 9:00 am).
- XII. All teams must abide by the rules. Rules should be distributed to all coaches in your program at all levels. If a team is deemed to have abused these rules, they may be put on probation if a majority of the programs vote in favor of this action. This vote will take place at the annual meeting. If a team is found in violation for a second consecutive year, the coaches may vote that program out of the league.
- XIII. Mismatches. Coaches shall use discretion in positioning their players so they are not greatly mismatches in positions (i.e. do not play a lineman in another position) try to project the position the boy will play in high school and play him in that position. Players weighing more than 120 pounds in sixth grade and 140 pounds in seventh grade must be on the line of scrimmage. Players should be weighed without equipment.

- XIV. Coaches are encouraged to stay informed about teaching techniques to ensure players safety. Understanding of concussion protocol is an important part of coaching youth football.
- XIV Coaches (gentleman's) time out. Referees and coaches met at midfield to talk away from your team and fans.

Rule Adaptations

- a. Quarter length
- b. 7 min. - 6th grade
- c. 7 min. - 7th grade
- d. 8 min. - 8th grade
- e. Halftime is 5 minutes, 5 minutes between games
- f. 6th and 7th grade use small ball, 8th grade uses regulation ball
- g. 3 time-outs per half(6th grade only 30 sec)
- h. 28 point lead in the second half- running clock

6th Grade and 7th Grade Rules:

- a. Only 6 people on the line of scrimmage until inside the 10yd line. Non lineman may not make a tackle behind the LOS until the ball is outside the tackle box.(1st offense – warning, all others - 10 yd. penalty).
- b. No stunting, blitzing or fake blitzing - basic football - players in the box rush. Linebackers must line up 3 yds off the ball. No linebackers tackle behind the LOS between the tackles. 10 yd penalty for blitzing
- c. Kick-Off - put the ball on the 35 yard line.
- d. Punts - move the ball 35 yards (if ball is inside the 20, put it at the 20).
- e. Safety - place ball at the 50 yard line.
- f. Sixth Grade Only - one coach allowed on the field, **35 sec. play clock.**
- g. Sixth Grade Only – 3 - 30 second timeout per half
- h. Midsize football.
- i. Players weighing more than 120 pounds in sixth grade and 140 pounds in seventh grade must be on the line of scrimmage. Players should be weighed without equipment.

8th Grade Rules:

No special adaptations.