

West Bowie County Youth Football and Cheer 2022 Rules and Regulations

Article I: Definitions of Divisions

Division II

Leagues playing in Division II play under their own Rules and Regulations, but must practice some controls. The WBCYF Board of Directors must approve these Rules and Regulations.

Article II: Playing Season

Section 1 The WBCYF playing season shall be from August 1st until December 31st of the current year.

Section 2 No league shall commence practice before July 15th of the current year.

Section 3 WBCYF prohibits spring football practice.

Section 4 Admission for games 4.00 Adults 2.00 Children

Article III: Explanation of Playing Rules

Section 1 The WBCYF allows leagues to make their rules stricter than those listed in the rulebook. Regardless of the national division of play you are in, once the rules are established for the year, those are the rules that will be applied to your program.

Article IV: Participant Registration

Section 1 Consent to Play: Parents or legal guardians are required to sign a league registration form declaring their child has permission to participate in WBCYF activities. Six (6) year olds must have a consent form signed by parent/legal guardian.

Section 2 Age Certification: WBCYF requires that all participants present an original record of their birth or a notarized Photostat of that original birth record. These documents can be a Certificate from the State, County, or City Bureau of Vital Statistics, Department of Health Hospital Certificate and School Certificates or Record of Notification of Birth Registration by the Bureau of Census of the U.S. Department of Commerce. Passports are also acceptable. *Note: Falsifying birth documents to make a player or cheerleader eligible is grounds for forfeiture of all games in which they have participated and suspension of the adult(s) responsible for the act. Refer to the League Operations Manual.*

Article V: Player Cuts

Note: Cutting of players is not encouraged in WBCYF. However there are certain guidelines that should be met if it becomes necessary. Additionally, if cut, all sign-up fees are to be returned to the tryout candidate.

When to cut:

Section 1 When a player or cheerleader cannot furnish the required documents to be certified to a club or team roster, (e.g., Proof of Birth).

Section 2 Shows no interest in football, is disruptive to other players and the instructions of the coaching staff, and becomes a discipline problem.

Section 3 Does not show up for practices. Participants must have a valid excuse from the parents or physician.

Section 4 Trying out or playing for a school football team or cheerleading squad

while participating with WBCYF team or club. If participants have been cut from school program and not participated in a school game, they may be added to the WBCYF program if there is roster space available and no other player is cut to make space for the new candidate. Playing flag or touch football as part of the physical education requirement in the school curriculum is not counted as school team participation. *Note: Participation on a school team includes sitting on the bench regardless of whether or not the player plays a single down.*

Article VI: Player Eligibility Rosters

Section 1 WBCYF will furnish all leagues Player Eligibility Rosters, Division II teams will be exempt from this requirement, but must submit their local rosters for registration in WBCYF.

Section 2 Juniors must be 7 before August 1st and cannot be 10 before August 1st. Anyone under 7 must sign a waiver and discretion to the commissioners. Seniors cannot be 13 before August 1st.

Section 3 No 7th graders. *Note: These sections prevent the picking up of "Ringers" for post-season or championship games.*

Article VII: Dropping and Adding Players

Section 1 A league may drop and add players up to the date of the Jamboree. After that, the roster will be final for the remainder of the season unless a new player moves into the area.

Section 2 Once a roster is full; no player may be dropped to make room for a more Experience or better player.

Article VIII: Boundaries

Section 1 Leagues shall present a map clearly defining their boundaries before a charter is granted by WBCYF.

Section 2 Leagues will determine their own boundaries for its entire membership.

Section 3 Boundaries will not infringe on the boundaries of other WBCYF leagues. Should this happen, WBCYF shall determine the boundaries to resolve the dispute. This decision will be final.

Section 4 Restricted from players coming from Texas Middle School, Liberty Eylau and Arkansas. Players that are already playing the 2007 year will be grandfathered in for 2008 and forward.(AMENDED 2019) As of playing season 2018 Liberty Eylau and Atlanta were voted in. L-E players must attend L-E or their parents teach at the L-E school to be eligible to play. Atlanta players must attend Atlanta- can have players from McLeod or Linden.

Section 5 In order for a player to switch teams they must have permission for commissioners.

Section 6 Players can play in the school district he/she attends or the town in which they live.

Section 7 Players from Redlick and Leary can choose to play in Redwater or Hooks.

Section 8 Boundaries Set June 24, 2020

Atlanta- Linden Kildare- McLeod

Redwater- Redlick-Leary

Maud- James Bowie, Hughes Springs, Douglassville

New Boston-Malta

Queen City- Bloomburg-McLeod

Dekalb-Malta-Hubbard

Hooks- Leary- Redlick

Paul Pewitt- must attend Pewitt/Hughes Springs

Article IX: Practices

Section 1 Practices shall not begin before July 15

Section 2 Pre-season practice can be on a daily basis until Labor Day, but must not exceed 19 hours a week.

Section 3 After Labor Day, all practices will be a maximum of four times per week with two hours maximum duration. Leagues may set lesser times, but must not exceed the four-day limit.

Section 4 All players must have at least one week of conditioning before they are allowed to practice with full equipment or have live contact with another player. If a player joins the team after the start of the regular season schedule, this requirement is at the coach's discretion.

Section 5 At least one coach must be present during every practice.

Section 6 There shall be no "out of class" practice between teams.

Section 7 Any player trying out for the school team that wants to play for WBCYFC has to be voted on by commissioners.

Article X: Weigh-In

Section 1 No one over 100lbs. can advance the ball, this applies to juniors only. 105lbs with pads on.

Section 2 Weigh-In will be at the Jamboree, conducted by the Host Team.

Article XI: Rosters

Section 1 A league roster minimum shall be 16 players and maximum 40 players. Rosters will be finalized at the Jamboree. If a team in the league presents a roster with less than 16 players, the team shall have until September 30th to achieve the league minimum roster number. If such team is unable to achieve the league minimum roster by September 30th, such team roster will be the final team roster as of September 30th. Jamboree roster must have player name, jersey # and date of birth.

Section 2 If any team shall lose a player off it's final roster after September 30th, that roster spot shall remain vacant for the remainder of the season.

Note: Prudence should be practiced when setting a minimum number of players on a team.

Decimated teams caused by injuries or drop outs could break the cohesiveness of the team if there are not enough players to allow the team to function properly.

Article XII: Final Roster Certification

Section 1 In order to make a roster certification, players must meet all age and weight requirements.

Section 2 Jersey number, First and Last name of Player, Grade, School Attends and Physical Address should be in excel format to be turned in before the Jamboree(date varies)

Article XIII: All Play Rule

Section 1 All WBCYF players will play in each game.

Section 2 All WBCYF players are guaranteed a minimum of 6 plays per game. Organizations may establish graduated minimum number plays according to the size of their rosters.

Section 3 Teams shall establish their own method of enforcing the All Play Rule.

There is no exception to this rule.

Article XIV: Players Required Equipment

Standard Rule: The following is the required equipment for all WBCYF players. The most important consideration is given to the helmet and shoulder pads.

1. Helmets are to be approved with the warning label on the outside of the helmet.
2. Chin strap
3. Shoulder pads
4. Pants shall be one piece shell
5. Hip pads
6. Tail pads covering the base of the spine
7. Thigh pads

8. Knee pads
9. Keeper strap mouth guards
10. Eyeglasses shall be the athletic constructed type with non-shattering glass. This also applies to contact lenses.
11. Jerseys
12. Additional equipment shall be approved by the league.
13. No tinted visors. *Note: Football equipment should be purchased with safety in mind. Buy the best you can afford. Getting a top of the line colorful jersey and pants is not as important as getting a quality helmet and shoulder pads.*

Article XV: The WBCYF Regulation Football

Section 1 Junior Players – Leather or composite stitched ball comparable to Wilson K-2

Section 2 Senior Players – Comparable to the Wilson TDJ

Article XVI: Length of Quarters

Section 1 Junior games will be 8 minute quarters just the same as the High School clock. Senior games will be 8 minute quarters just the same as the High School clock.

Section 2 Intermission will be 10 minutes.

Article XVII: Time Clock

Section 1 The official clock is kept by the official on the field.

Section 2 If a scoreboard clock is used, the timekeeper must be approved by the game Officials before the game starts.

Section 3 40 second play clock for Junior and 25 second play clock for Seniors.

Article XVIII: Time Outs

Section 1 There will be three timeouts per half for all WBCYF games.

Section 2 Timeouts are not charged against a team for injuries or game officials timeouts.

Article XIX: Injured Players

Section 1 Once an injured player has been removed from the game, they may not re-enter unless first approved by commissioner, in the absence of commissioner the head coach must make the call for the player to re-enter. Head injuries are to be closely evaluated before the player can re-enter.

Article XX: Ineligible Players

Section 1 When ineligible players are found, all games of which the ineligible players have participated are forfeited and will count in the league standings as such.

Section 2 Teams are ineligible for postseason bowl games and championships, regardless of the number of losses it has suffered for playing ineligible players.

Section 3 Section 2 may be appealed to the league depending on the nature of the ineligibility regarding post-season play. However, regardless of the finding, the forfeitures still stand.

Section 4 A child who is currently in AEP is ineligible for play during any and all games, until such time as he is released from the AEP program.

Article XXI: Scoring

Touchdown.....	6 points
Points after touchdown (running or passing)....	5yd line - 2pt 3yd line- 1 pt
Point after touchdown(kicking).....	1 point
Field goal.....	3 points
Forfeit.....	18 points

Article XXII: Lopsided or Run-Up Scores

Note: There is nothing more demoralizing to a losing team than a lopsided score. Intentionally run-up scores are even more demeaning. A run-up score is when a team continues to pour it on even after the game is in their favor and far out of reach for their opponents. Coaches who practice this are to be disciplined by the league. The WBCYF considers this type of coaching contrary to its purpose.

To ensure that teams do not experience lopsided or run-up scores, a mercy rule shall apply to all games.

Should a team have a score of thirty points above the opposing team, the winning team will pull all impact players and allow less experienced players to play on the field with a continuous clock until the team with the least point's scores and then clock goes to regular clock. *(This rule only applies when the score is in excess of thirty points, once the score difference is below thirty points, teams will assume regular play).* .

Article XXIII: Schedules

Leagues make the schedules for their teams.

Because football is played during the school year, all games will be scheduled for weekends. It also affords working parents time to enjoy the games and does not interfere with school homework and other extracurricular activities. We will have open week at the end of the schedule for make-up games if needed.

Schedules should be drawn with current season play-off, post-season bowl games and inclement weather taken into consideration. League play-off games take precedence over post-season bowl games.

Pre-season games do not count in the regular season schedule.

Article XXIV: Breaking Tied Ball Games

Section 1 If a game ends in a tie, the following will take place:

1. There will be a coin toss. The team winning the toss will choose to take the ball or defend. The team losing the toss will choose the goal they wish to defend.
2. The referee places the ball on the defending team's 10 yard line.
3. The offensive team is given 4 downs to score.
4. The defensive team takes over on offense and has the same opportunity.
5. If the game is tied after each has scored, then the same procedure takes place until a winner is declared.

Article XXV: Bowl Games

Note: Bowl games shall be considered as a reward for a good season. A good season is better than a .500 win-loss season. Reciprocal games (you play me at home this year and I will play you at your field next year) will be given consideration despite the team's .500 record.

Article XXVI: Coaches Standard of Conduct

To players, coaches are living heroes. To parents and fans, coaches represent the best in football and a leader and role model for their children. A coach's conduct is always under scrutiny. His actions affect his players, parents and fans. To this end, WBCYF requires this standard of conduct from all its coaches.

1. A coach will always keep the health and welfare of players foremost and remove from a game any injured player whose injury is in doubt concerning his return to the game.
2. A coach will always strive to set the example for his players on and off the field.
3. A coach will not smoke on the practice field or on the sideline during games.
4. A coach will not berate a player in front of teammates, parents or fans.
5. A coach will not berate or criticize game officials and will accept their decisions as fair.
6. A coach will not run up the score on a weaker opponent.
7. A coach will not incite fans or encourage scholastics on and off the field and observe the "no-pass-no-play rule".
8. A coach will refrain from the use of alcohol on the practice and game field at all times.
9. A coach will refrain from inciting spectators into actions unbecoming to the game of football.
10. A coach will follow the parameters of the ANTI-SUBSTANCE ABUSE RULE and see that it is carried out faithfully and that all players understand its importance.
11. A coach will not use ineligible players and will take the responsibility of having proper legal documents on each and every player proving his eligibility at all times.
12. A coach will make sure that all players play the required number of plays under WBCYF Rules and Regulations.
13. A coach will follow the rules and regulations of local leagues and WBCYF.

Article XXVII: Anti-Substance Abuse Rule

Section 1 Each team will present a Substance Abuse lecture to players and cheerleaders at all levels of play. The lecture will be presented during the first week of practice and will be repeated as many times as necessary to ensure all WBCYF participants are aware of the harmful effects of drugs, alcohol and tobacco.

Section 2 The lecture must be given by a member of the coaching staff or an adult volunteer designated for that purpose.

Article XXVIII: Protests

Section 1 Leagues shall have complete jurisdiction over protests concerning all games within their programs.

Section 2 Protests on matters of judgment rendered by any game official will not be heard.

Section 3 Protests of eligibility of players will be heard.

Section 4 All protests must be in writing and submitted to league officers no later than 24 hours after termination of the game in question. Leagues have the responsibility of calling a hearing within 48 hours after receipt of the protest.

Article XXIX: Officials

Section 1 Certified officials and/or High School Coaches.

Section 2 Pay for Flag officials will be \$30.00, Junior and senior game officials pay will be \$60.00 per game.

Section 3 4th down punt on Junior will be marked at the 30 yard line.

Article XXX: Penalties

Part I: Coaches

The following penalties are prescribed for coaches who are guilty of the following:

Section 1 Failing to observe the “All Play Rule.”

First offense: probation, affected players are given double playing time in the next game.

Second offense: suspension for one game.

Third offense: suspension for the remainder of the season. If it is the last game: suspension for the first half of next season.

Section 2 Cheating: Permanent suspension.

Section 3 Playing ineligible players: Suspension for the rest of season. League will Review status for next season.

Section 4 Badgering of game officials with threats and inciting fans to display poor sportsmanship:

First offense: suspension for two games.

Second offense: permanent suspension.

Section 5 Fighting of any kind: suspension from league indefinite.

Section 6 Teaching players dirty tactics:

First offense: suspension for one game.

Second offense: permanent suspension.

Section 7 Failure to keep the health, safety and welfare of players through conscientious coaching:

First offense: suspension for one game.

Second offense: permanent suspension.

Part 2: Players

Players are to be removed from the game for the following:

Section 1 Fighting

Section 2 Disrespect for coaches, game and team officials.

Section 3 Badgering opponents by word of mouth with the purpose of intimidation.

Part 3: Team or League Offenses

Section 1 Failure to control coaches from actions arbitrary to the health, safety and welfare of players. First offense: probation for the entire club program for the season. Second offense: suspension of the entire club program from the league.

Article XXXI: Rules Interpretations

Any questions relating to the interpretations of these rules and regulations should be submitted in writing and sent to WBCYF. Coaches seeking to interpretations should first go through their league officials for permission. If interpretations are necessary and urgent, phone calls will be accepted from WBCYF League Officials only.

Misc- (not sure where these go in the rules)

- 1. Only one coach on the field during Jr. Games**
 - a. No talking/coaching from the coach on field once set and must be behind the safety**
- 2. Flag- 2 coaches on field**