

# TDCAA FOOTBALL 2021

## PLAYING REGULATIONS

### PART A: SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

#### **Ontario Physical Activity Safety Standards in Education (OPASSE)**

All coaches must review and follow the most recent copy of the [OPASSE GUIDELINES](#) for the sport they are coaching (under Secondary, Interschool)

Please take special note of the following requirements associated with:

Risk Management

First Aid

Special Rules/Instructions

Supervision

Coaches Expectations & Qualifications (for further information on sport specific NCCP training, visit [www.coach.ca](http://www.coach.ca) )

Excursion/Permission Forms: [TCDSB](#) [OPHEA SAMPLE](#)

#### **Concussion Awareness and Safety**

In accordance with Policy/Program Memorandum No. 158, the TDCAA will follow and support the mandates of Rowan's Law. The following must occur annually, at the commencement of the athletic season:

a) coaches must complete the on-line [TDCAA Coaches Concussion Code of Conduct](#)

b) coaches will have student athletes review and follow a Concussion Code of Conduct:

[TCDSB Student Code of Conduct](#) (in section 8)

[OPHEA's Sample Code of Conduct](#)

c) coaches will provide Ontario Concussion Awareness Resources to student athletes and parents: [Concussion Guides for Athletes and Parents](#)

In the event of a suspected concussion convenors, coaches, and student athletes must follow an established Return to Play Protocol.

Note: TCDSB has established [Concussion Return to Play Protocols](#) for its students and coaches to follow. Non TCDSB participants should reference their Board's or [OPHEA's Concussion Protocols](#)

Coaches may find it useful to have a recognized [Sport Concussion Recognition Tool](#) with them for practices and competition.

## **Supervision – Visiting Teams**

Each school along with the coach should be aware of the local policy in each school regarding visitors.

In situations where teams are specifically bringing fans (fan bus) appropriate supervision from all participating schools that does not include the team coach(es) must be provided. Communication with school administration of participating schools is prudent in these situation

## **PART B: FROM TDCAA CONSTITUTION**

TDCAA Tackle Football is an official TDCAA activity. Football follows OPHEA/OPASSE OFSAA, and the Canadian Amateur Football playing regulations.

### **REGISTRATION**

Schools must register for Football at the designated time. A school may withdraw its team before distribution of the final schedule. The school will be charged only the \$ 25.00 registration fee. A school who withdraws its team after the schedule has been distributed will assume the following actions:

- automatic \$100 fine
- automatically ineligible for competition in field hockey the following year. (This can be appealed to the TDCAA executive.)

### **ELIGIBILITY/TRANSFERS**

Eligible Athletes must satisfy the By-Laws and Standing Rules as per the TDCAA Constitution.

- All eligibility shall be completed electronically through Athletic Eligibility List System (AELS) which is coordinated through the OFSAA office. Athletic Directors have the code for their schools to access AELS.
- Eligibility must be completed before the first league game. (It is recommended that registration be completed before first practice ). In a single day meet or tournament format , eligibility must be filed at least three days prior to the meet or tournament.
- All coaches and athletes must be included on the AELS site.
- Approved transfers are included on the eligibility form. Athletes who have not been approved must not be included until the athlete has been approved.

- All students who transfer into your school (excluding Grade 9-first year of high school) are ineligible for competition for a period of twelve months from the date of transfer. To become eligible, transfer students must complete the “TRANSFER APPEAL FORM” fully and forward to the TDCAA Transfer Chairperson ( Lorraine Kelly – Senator O’Connor or Tavia Ferreira – St. John Paul II ). An athlete awaiting Transfer Appeal decision is ineligible to play in any games (league or exhibition or tournament). This athlete may practice with the team until the transfer has been approved and the athletic director has been notified.
- An student who transfers into your school in second semester is ineligible to compete in winter sports ( Alpine Skiing; Snowboarding; Swimming; Jr & Sr. Girls’ Volleyball, Boys’ & Girls’ Hockey, and Jr. & Sr. Boys’ Basketball even if their transfer is approved. )
- An athlete whose transfer is denied has the right to appeal the decision to the TDCAA Transfer Appeal Board.

## **ELIGIBILITY/AGE**

- Open Grades 9-12
- Eligibility for the TDCAA and OFSAA is based on the athlete’s year of birth. An athlete is eligible to compete in high school sports for five years from the time they entered grade nine and were born in 2000 or later. Athletes must meet both requirements.

There is no appeal to this rule.

Please link to TDCAA website for dates for each new school year.

## **ELIGIBILITY / ACADEMICS**

An athlete must be a bona fide student at their school.

### Students With Less Than 22 Credits:

-non-semester schools – must be registered in a minimum of six (6) full day school credit courses.

-semester schools– must be registered in a minimum of three (3) full day credit courses in the semester that Field Hockey takes place (Fall).

### Students With More Than 22 Credits:

-non-semester schools – must be registered in a minimum of four (4) full day school credit courses

-semester schools – must be registered in a minimum of two (2) full day credit courses in the semester that field hockey takes place (Fall).

## **LEAGUE STRUCTURE**

- A) **START TIME** – All games shall begin no earlier than 3:30 unless agreed to by the Principals of the participating schools. All double headers must start no later than 2:30 or earlier if all participating schools are in agreement.
- B) **MAXIMUM NUMBER OF GAMES** - Junior – TBD; Senior TBD.
- C) **AWARDS** – In sports where there is less than six teams , only gold medals will be presented.
- D) **DEFAULTED GAME** – If a team defaults a regular season game , they will not be eligible for playoffs . A school may appeal the decision to the TDCAA Executive if there were extenuating circumstances.
- E) **CANCELLATION OF SCHOOL BUSES** – If the TCDSB cancels buses for weather conditions, all scheduled games are automatically cancelled

## **PART C: SPORT SPECIFIC INFORMATION**

### **FOOTBALL RULES: EXCEPTIONS TO OFSAA AND CANADAIN AMATEUR FOOTBALL RULES**

Competitions shall be governed by the official rules of the **Federation Rule Book/OFSAA** with the following **TDCAA/OFSAA** exceptions:

**Unlimited Players:** Teams must have all players on the team roster.

### **START OF THE SEASON**

Practices may take place during the summer months. The following criteria must be followed if practices begin before the official start of school

- 1) Principal must be informed and approve
- 2) Each player must complete and submit the required permission forms before they are eligible to practice

### **KEY RULES**

**EACH ATHLETE MUST HAVE ACTIVELY PARTICIPATED IN AT LEAST EIGHT DAYS OF PRACTICE BEFORE PLAYING THEIR FIRST GAME. PRACTICES MUST INCLUDE SAFE TACKLING, BLOCKING, AND RUNNING IN EACH PRACTICE**

**THERE MUST BE A MINIMUM OF FOUR FULL DAYS BETWEEN ATHLETE PARTICIPATION IN ANY REGULATION FOOTBALL GAMES ( eg between club competition and interschool completion or between interschool competition)**

**IN THE EVENT OF UNFORSEEN CIRCUMSTANCES ( WEATHER ETC) MAKE-UP OR RESCHEDULED GAMES MUST BE SCHEDULED WITH A MINIMUM OF TWO FULL DAYS IN BETWEEN CANCELLED GAME AND RESCHEDULED GAME.**

**THERE MUST BE TWO FULL DAYS IN BETWEEN EACH TEAM'S PLAYOFF GAMES**

**PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT YOU ARE AWARE OF ANY ATHLETE WHO IS COMPETING IN CLUB FOOTBALL IN THE FALL.**

**Length of Game:** All games consist of four quarters of 12 minutes each. If the game is tied at the end of regulation time, there will be overtime as outlined in the white book.

**THERAPIST :** TDCAA will provide a therapist for each game. A game may not be played without that therapist being in attendance even if there is a doctor or other certified personnel in attendance.

### **COMMUNITY COACHES:**

A community coach is a person who is not a teacher or member of the administration. Secretaries, custodians, and EA'S are considered community coaches.

All community coaches must be registered with the school and completed all requirements as outlined by TCDSB.

There must be a teacher coach on the bench at all times.

### **ELIGIBILITY**

All players must have dressed and appear on the game sheet at least one game to be eligible for playoffs

A Junior player can play one game at the senior level without losing his/her Junior eligibility. When they play their second game at Senior, they become senior and cannot play any more games at Junior.

A player who is registered on the senior team who is Junior age cannot play any games at the Junior level after your first league game even if he/she does not dress or play.

A player can play in only one playoff series

Once the TDCAA has declared a champion and a team advances to the OFSAA , junior players will be eligible to play.

### **SCHEDULING:**

- Schedule will be developed by the convenor.

- A rough copy of the schedule shall be sent to coaches to check for conflicts. Coach and athletic director will have one week to sign off on their schedule.
- A final schedule will be sent to both athletic director and coach.
- Once the schedule has been finalized , there cannot be any changes except for starting times which must be approved by both teams. The site of the game may also be changed.
- A game which is called before its conclusion because of weather / bussing/ officials etc must be reviewed by TDCAA Executive Committee to determine the outcome
- Failure to play a game will result in forfeiture.
- Rescheduling: under these two conditions
  - i Weather or field conditions do not permit the game to be played
  - ii Official / therapist does not show up for the game

**Defaulted Games:** As per the TDCAA constitution. The win automatically awarded to the non-defaulting team. The score will be 5-0 awarded to the non-defaulting team. Any appeals related to the defaulted games must be made to Paul Solarski, Co-executive Director. The team who causes the default shall be responsible for all costs associated with game (referee's fee, field costs,...)

**Making Changes to the League Schedule:** Please contact the other coach/convenor via e-mail/phone to confirm the new date and time. The convenor will confirm the new date, location and referee.

**OFFICIALS:** At least three certified officials must be present before a game can commence. In case of game cancellation, the officials shall be paid if they could not be notified in advance. The head official must sign the game sheet before it is sent to the convenor.

**REPORTING SCORES:** Both teams must complete the game sheet. Game sheets will be used to keep score. Both teams will notify the newspapers and the Convenor of the game results. The game sheet must be forwarded to the convenor. (fax/e-mail/interoffice).

Results of all games are to be reported by both teams to the following groups within 24 hours of the scheduled game:

- 1) **the Convenor-** [annpatricia.fearon@tcdsb.org](mailto:annpatricia.fearon@tcdsb.org) (416-347-1810)
- 2) **the TDCAA web site** – Joe Sileika – [scores@tdcaa.org](mailto:scores@tdcaa.org)
- 3) **Peter Morris-** [morriss@sympatico.ca](mailto:morrisis@sympatico.ca)

**When reporting score: to your convenor, to TDCAA web site and Peter Morris the following must be stated:**

1. Sport Played
2. Date and Location of the Game
3. Junior or Senior

4. Home Team and Score
5. Visiting Team and Score

\*You have until NOON the day following your game to report the scores to the three groups listed above. Peter will always acknowledge receipt of the e-mail  
PENALTY- \$20.00 fine will be assessed both teams if the score is not reported.

### **UNIFORMS:**

- 1) A player may not wear a tinted visor even with proper documentation
- 2) All equipment must be approved and certified
- 3) Home team should wear dark sweaters and visiting team light sweaters.

**EQUIPMENT:** The following is required for each play date:

- 1) Home team is responsible for providing goal post pads, corner markers, down box, & yard sticks
- 2) Home team is responsible for providing a timer and stick crew
- 3) TDCAA will be responsible for providing officials and therapists

### **PLAYOFF FORMAT**

The top four teams from each division will advance to the playoffs.

### **LEAGUE TIE BREAKING PROCEDURES:**

If two teams were tied for a playoff position , the game between the two teams will determine the the playoff position

If more than two teams are tied for a playoff position , a point differential among the tied teams will be used to determine all playoff positions.

If three or four teams are still tied for the same playoff position, a point differential of all teams in the league will be used.

### **SCORE SHEET / ROSTER**

- 1) Coach must submit a roster to the timekeeper prior to the game. Roster must include the names of all coaches on the sideline
- 2) At the conclusion of the game , each coach must sign the game sheet along with the head official
- 3) Game sheet along with rosters of both teams must be couriered or faxed to designated person within a week.
- 4) A fine will be assessed if game sheets are not received in this time frame

### **EJECTIONS**

### **A player or coach who is ejected from the game**

- 1) is ineligible to play in the next league game
- 2) Head coach must report the ejection immediately to Dave Dimauro ( Chair of Discipline)
- 3) Head coach must report the ejection to both their athletic director and convenor ( Peter Morris )

### **SUPERVISION:**

For all TDCAA activities, there must be sufficient supervision of players at all times.

- Teams should not arrive at the visiting school before the coach arrives. If the coach is unable to arrive with or ahead of players, the home team should be informed.
- The Coach must remain with players at all times after the conclusion of the game. If players are travelling on TTC/cabs/cars, a coach must remain with the players until all players have safely left the school or boarded the bus.
- If TTC bus stop is some distance from the school or site of the game, the coach must travel with the players and remain with the players until they have safely boarded the bus.
- A game cannot begin unless there is a teacher coach on the bench. A Community coach must be accompanied by a teacher from the school before a game can commence.