

## **FOOTBALL BY-LAWS**

1. Five officials are to be used in varsity, four in junior varsity and freshman football games.
2. The home team is to wear dark jerseys, and the visiting team is to wear light jerseys.
3. The National Anthem will begin three minutes prior to game time. Both football teams will be on the field during the National Anthem. The Home team will provide visitors with a pre-game itinerary the week of the contest.
4. Half time will be 15 minutes plus a three (3) minute warm-up mandatory in eyes of official.
5. Freshman and junior varsity games are to be played the day prior to the varsity game at the opposite site.
6. Varsity games shall be 12-minute quarters. Junior varsity games shall be 12-minute quarters. Freshman games shall be 12-minute quarters except when one of the teams represents a junior high school.
7. Mercy Rule will adhere to current MHSAA rules for running clock and allowable stoppages.
8. Officials and admission fees - see Appendix.
9. All football games are to be played on date as scheduled unless mutually agreed upon by both schools.
10. Field phones for football are the responsibility for each team. This is for freshman, junior varsity, and varsity games. If one team fails to bring phones, the other team will not be obligated to furnish phones nor cease to use theirs.
11. Pre-game bands will be entitled to the exclusive use of the football field and to have unimpeded access to enter and leave the field from 15 minutes prior to five minutes prior to the 'start of game' time. Both teams will vacate the playing field during this period of time as necessary to permit the above.
12. The Flint Metro League football schedule will have all teams on a rotating basis.

13. Football All-League Selection:

ARTICLE I: Procedure for Nomination of Players for All-Conference

Section 1: The nomination meeting will be held on the Sunday following the last game of the season. Each head coach will be provided a nomination ballot.

Section 2: The nomination ballot shall show and provide an indicated space for each specified position for which the players are to be selected. Space shall further be provided to accommodate the nominee's jersey number and position information.

Section 3: Each head coach shall place in nomination, by means of said ballot only players from his own squad. It shall be the responsibility of the individual coach to provide statistics and information on his players to other coaches if he chooses to do so. Each coach shall place in nomination only those members who deserve such an honor. The coaches involved will determine the credibility of these nominations. At the end of the meeting, each head coach will be provided a consensus copy of all nominees and final voting ballot.

ARTICLE II: The Procedure for Final Voting

Section 1: A meeting shall be held following the last scheduled game of the season and location of meeting shall be specified by the athletic director in charge.

Section 2: The voting ballots are to be completed according to the following specifications and turned in before the meeting begins:

A. The voting ballots shall show and provide an indicated space for each specified position and name of the school the players represents. See Article II, Section D for specified positions.

Section 3: Each voting coach must vote for a player at every position shown on the ballot unless there are not enough opponents nominated to fill the spaces. He must then indicate this.

A. Any ballot must be completed by each coach.

B. A coach is entitled to vote for any opposing players.

Section 4: The voting procedure for All-conference selections has been revised to a point system, with the greatest number of points for any position being the number of players chosen for that position on first and second team. Those players nominated, who do not receive 1st or 2nd team recognition, must receive one vote to be recognized as Honorable Mention. The coach has the option of one wild card selection.

Example:

Five linemen are chosen on first team offense and five for second team offense for a total of ten. The voting would be done on a 10,9,8,7,6,5,4,3,2, and 1 point basis depending on whom you thought was the top offensive lineman (10 points) down to the tenth best lineman (1 point). The five linemen with the highest point totals would be first team and the next five would be second team, all ties would be voted off if needed. Any player receiving all six's or above would be considered unanimous.

A. The positions are:

FIRST TEAM		SECOND TEAM	
Offense	Defense	Offense	Defense
Ends – 5	Ends – 3	Ends – 5	Ends – 3
Line – 5	Line – 3	Line – 5	Line – 3
	Linebacker – 5		Linebacker - 5
Backs – 5	Backs – 4	Backs – 5	Backs – 4
Place Kicker – 1	Punter – 1		

B. The voting system:

Offense

ends - 10, 9, 8,7,6,5,4,3,2,1  
 line - - 10, 9, 8,7,6,5,4,3,2,1  
 backs - 10,9,8,7,6,5,4,3,2, 1  
 p.kicker - 1

Defense

ends - 6,5,4,3,2,1  
 line - 6,5,4,3,2,1  
 l.backer -10, 9, 8,7,6,5,4,3,2,1  
 backs - 8,7,6,5,4,3,2,1  
 punter - 1

Section 5: The voting ballots are to be completed according to specifications, and delivered to the athletic director in charge at the beginning of the final dinner meeting or by a procedure to be stipulated at the nominations meetings.

14. There will not be any additional personnel on visitor's side, except their personnel and chain crew.
15. Week 10 and beyond no league films exchanged with non-league opponents.
16. The athletic director in charge shall be charged with the authority to act on any situation that might arise that is not covered herein.
17. During the regular nine game season, film exchange will occur No Later Than 9 am following the contest. If a game is played on a Saturday, the film exchange will occur No Later Than 9 am Sunday following the contest.

The Flint Metro League does not recognize any player -of-the-year awards.

#### **PERTINENT GENERAL BYLAWS FOR ALL F.M.L. SPORTS**

1. Each school may regulate its own pre-game ticket sales to its own students for home games.
2. Team rosters and uniform numbers are to be sent to League member schools in football, basketball, hockey, volleyball, and soccer.
3. In case of a school being closed due to inclement weather, all non-varsity events may be postponed or canceled. The playing of all varsity or combined varsity and JV matches will be determined by the athletic director and administration of the schools involved.
4. Noise making devices, including the human voice, will not be allowed to be used in an unsportsmanlike manner. The home team management will have the right to remove any such object, or person, from the sporting activity.
5. The Flint Metro League takes the position that the practice of good sportsmanship is essential and that all members should adopt a common policy. Member schools are expected to implement a plan to promote responsible behavior by fans and all persons associated with athletics. It is suggested that schools use contest programs, the media, bulletins, and meetings as a means for promoting good sportsmanship. Member schools should also have plans for the monitoring of home and away contests and for dealing

with those persons who violate the principles of responsible behavior.

6. During league competitions and tournaments, the host school administration, the sport administrator, and/or designee of either, is charged with the authority to act on any situation that might arise that is not covered herein.
7. Home school will contact league-approved media to report contest results.
8. Grievance and Protest Procedure:
  - A. All protests must use the following procedure:
    1. The principal/designee of the protesting school will notify the League president and its opponent(s) by phone the following school day of the intent to protest.
    2. All violations and protests will be directed to the League president in writing. This protest must be done in writing by a school administrator within 72 hours of the event.
    3. The League president will appoint a three member committee of non-involved schools to determine whether the protest is valid and make a recommendation for a course of action to be voted on by the conference membership not involved in the protest.
  - B. Courses of action possible when a violation is determined and a protest is upheld include:
    1. Letter of censure (duplicate will be sent to each member school and any game official who may have been involved)
    2. Forfeiture of League contest(s)
    3. Probation for one year in the sport involved
    4. Ineligibility for championships (such ineligibility to be in the sport involved only, for one year only, and the year involved to be determined by the membership); no all-sports points awarded that year
    5. Other courses of action as deemed appropriate to the violation
  - C. All contests in which an ineligible player or players are used shall be forfeited and the score be that of a forfeited contest. This includes League championship tournaments.

- D. If use of an ineligible player or players by a League champion is determined, and forfeitures under section C above prevent a team from maintaining its championship, the championship for that sport for that year will be awarded to the second-place team and All Sports Award points adjusted accordingly. In the event of co-championships, the remaining championship team would maintain its championship.
9. The only League awards to be made in any sport are the ones sanctioned by the League.
  10. The FML will NOT recognize an MVP athlete for each sport.
  11. Each varsity sport will be allowed a Coach of the Year selection. That coach will be presented a certificate.
  12. If a coach or designated representative is not present at an All-League voting meeting, athletes from that school are not eligible for All-League recognition beyond honorable mention.
  13. To receive FML honors, an athlete has to finish the season in good standing. The definition of “good standing” is to finish the season on the team and meet minimum requirements for that sport’s awards.