



**Greater Eastside Junior Football Association**

**GEJFA Coaches Meeting**



Greater Eastside Junior Football Association



# **The Makeup of Organization GEJFA**

Under the umbrella of Bellevue Boys and Girls Club and other Eastside Boys and Girls Clubs

Junior Football Council (JFC)  
5 elected officials (non-voting)  
3 Club Athletic Directors  
17 Club Reps

Executive Directors Council  
Directors of the Bellevue, Mercer Island, and Kirkland Boys & Girls Club shall make up an Executive Directors Council having veto power.

Grievance Committee  
Appointed by the President and approved by the Junior Football Council



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## **Elected/Designated Officials**

Elected President – Shawn Hartline

Elected First Vice President – Greg Pardee

Elected Second Vice President – Kim Blackburn

Elected Secretary – Dan Crowe

Treasurer – John Veentjer

Scheduler – Billie Hartline

Officials Coordinator – Shawn O'Brien

Website – Billie Hartline

GEJFA USA Football PSC – John Hillock



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# **COMMUNICATIONS**

Parents to Coach

Coach to Club

Club to GEJFA

Coaches us game reports to communicate their game results



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# SPORTSMANSHIP

✓ Sportsmanship is defined as:

- **playing fair**
- **following the rules of the game**
- **respecting the judgment of referees and officials**
- **treating opponents with respect**

✓ Some people define good sportsmanship as the "**golden rule**" of sports — in other words, treating the people you play with and against as you'd like to be treated yourself. You demonstrate good sportsmanship when you show respect for yourself, your teammates, and your opponents, for the coaches on both sides, and for the referees, judges, and other officials.

✓ **But sportsmanship isn't just reserved for the people on the field.**

Cheerleaders, fans, and parents also need to be aware of how they behave during competition. Sportsmanship is a style and an attitude, and it can have a positive influence on everyone around you.



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## **SCORE MANAGEMENT RULE**

- ✓ No team will **LEAD** another by more than 32 points
- ✓ **Start managing score early**
- ✓ Teach every position to every participant \*\*
- ✓ **Team down by 21 (even after scoring) can elect to receive and has choice in second half**
- ✓ At 25 point differential, no kickoff; leading team starts at or inside own 20; trailing team from 50
- ✓ **Running clock 4th quarter or earlier by agreement – both teams get clock stopping TOs**



## **SCORE MANAGEMENT RULE (cont'd)**

### ✓Penalty for violations

- More than 32 points on offensive score – automatic suspension
- More than 32 points on defensive score – appear before Grievance Committee before next game
- More than 38, by any situation, auto suspension
- Second violation is season suspension



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# **PLAYER PARTICIPATION**

The 7 Guiding Principles of NFL Youth Programs

1. Make It Fun

2. Limit Standing Around

**3. Everyone Plays**

**4. Teach Every Position To Every Participant**

5. Emphasize The Fundamentals

6. Incorporate A Progression Of Skill Development For Every Participant

7. Yell Encouragement, Whisper Constructive Criticism





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# SUBSTITUTION RULE

- Everyone plays
- On change of possession, fullest possible change out
- Free substitution after four plays; however, on change of possession, fullest possible change out
- **Free substitution after score, for PAT & kickoff; substitution rule starts again (new) at next scrimmage**
- Free sub for injured player
- **Minimum 12 plays;** strive for equity
- Violations to Grievance Committee



# **NON-PARTICIPATING PLAYERS**

- ✓ Extended injuries
- ✓ Disqualification (ejection) previous game
- ✓ **Discipline**
  - **Club approved approach**
  - **Consistently and uniformly applied**
- ✓ Identified on roster and at roster exchange
- ✓ On sideline without shoulder pads and helmet
- ✓ **Report this into your Game Report**



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## Conduct

- ✓ Guests at the High School fields
  - Respect School officials and Field Managers
  
- ✓ All coaches complete Code of Conduct
  - Head Coach responsible for addressing conduct issues of assistant coaches, players and fans
  - Assistant coach/player/fan conduct can get Head Coach ejected or maybe just an appearance before the Grievance Committee
  
- ✓ If your Club hasn't already had parents sign a parent code of contact, then as a team you should do so.



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## HEALTH AND SAFETY

- ✓ First Aid trained member of coaching staff
- ✓ Know medical history of each player
  - Diabetics, asthma, bee string allergies
- ✓ Head, neck or back injuries
  - **Concussion Training**
- ✓ Hydration
- ✓ Good hygiene



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## **OTHER RULE**

- ✓ Player who doesn't make weight two consecutive games must move up
- ✓ Ejected coaches will appear before the Grievance Committee by their Head Coach and Club Director
- ✓ Ejected players do not appear before Grievance Committee and there is no appeal



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## OTHER RULE

- ✓No hard surface **casts/braces/other**
- ✓No removable cleats
- ✓Only clear helmet shields
- ✓Only colored mouth guards
- ✓Kicking tees of the proper size



## OTHER RULE

- ✓ Scouting Only games = **OK!**
- ✓ Scouting Practices = **NO!**
- ✓ Scouting by video Games or Practices = **NO!**
- ✓ Electronic Communications = **NO!**
- ✓ Team Video Passes (Each team need them to film their games)
  - Parent meeting – let them know



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# **GAME REPORTS**

- ✓Team Game Report after each game is required by Sunday at 1:00PM
- ✓GEJFA web site
- ✓Comments on poor ratings, otherwise meaningless
- ✓Each Team submits (Club coordinators review)
- ✓GEJFA management also review
- ✓Failure to submit a team game report is a violation for which the team's head coach will be automatically suspended for the team's next scheduled game. The coach may appear before the Grievance Committee





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# Game Reports

- ✓ Important tool in our program
- ✓ Populate the website scoreboard automatically
- ✓ Home team game report controls
- ✓ Conflicting reports cause issues
- ✓ If you have problems call or email Billie Hartline



# PROTESTS

- ✓ See Rule 7; in general, **protests are discouraged**
- ✓ Do it right or don't do it
- ✓ In writing via Club Director within 72 hours; advance notice to GEJFA President on Sunday
- ✓ Substitution Rule protests on the field
  - Communication between head coaches
  - For continued violations give notice of intent to protest; game continues; document specifics
  - Violations addressed by Grievance Committee
- ✓ Other complaints made to Council via Club Rep



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## **Use the Available Tools**

- ✓GEJFA Website
  - Rules
  - Frequently asked Questions
  - Substitution Rule scenarios
  
- ✓USA Football
  - Membership is \$5.00



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## **Coaches Check List**

- Due Now – [Coaching Background Checks Online](#) (Coaches Required)
- Due Now – [USA Football Certified Coaching Education Courses](#) (Coaches Required)
- Tonight – All Coaches Meeting (Coaches Required)
- Deadline for Background Checks 8/8/2013 (1st Day of Practice)



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## **GEJFA Officials**

Coordinator: Shawn O'Brien



Presenting  
**Greg Olmstead**



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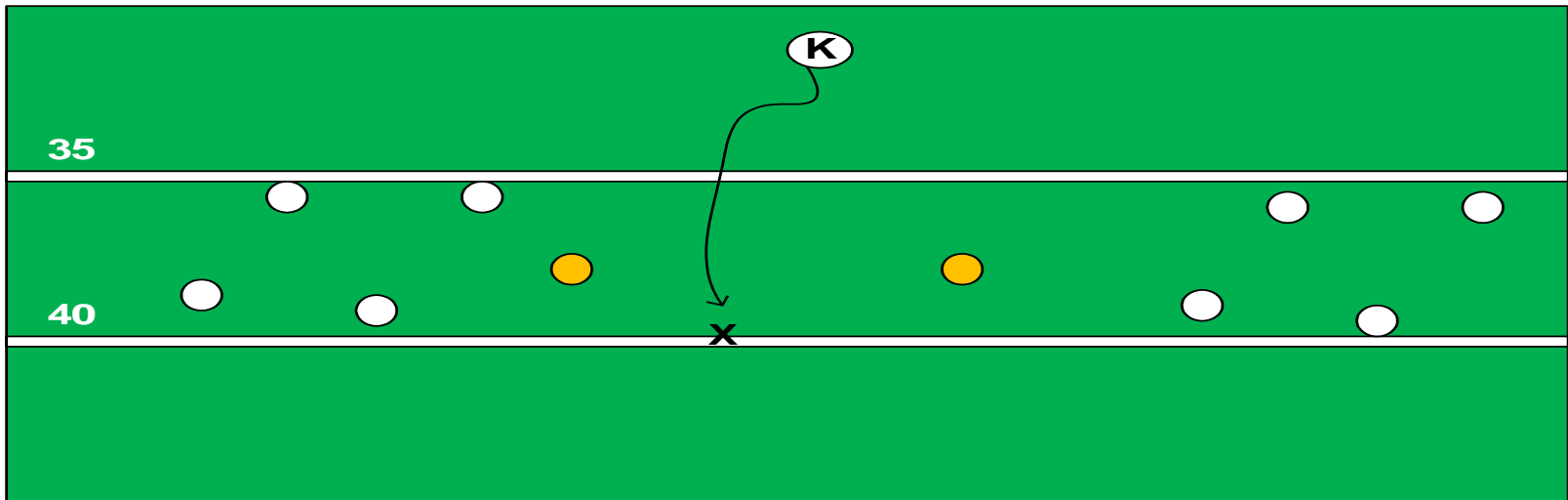


## GEJFA Officials Program

- Work as crews with at least 2 senior level officials
  - 18-20 four man crews plus 20 reserve officials
  - Crew works 3 or more games every Saturday
- Each club is responsible for providing 2 new officials. Ask your Rep. how many your Club provided this year.
- See “Official’s Corner” on GEJFA website for more details.



# New NFHS Free Kick Rule for 2014



- All players other than kicker must be inside of the two 5 yard markers
- At least 4 players must be on each side of the kicker



# HS Point of Emphasis 2014

## •**Targeting Defined**

–An act of taking aim and initiating contact to an opponent above the shoulders with the helmet, forearm, hand, fist, elbow or shoulders.

–Foul states – no player or non-player shall target an opponent





# HS Point of Emphasis 2014

- **Defenseless Player** defined

- Any player who, because of his/her physical position and focus of concentration, is especially vulnerable to injury

- Game officials must diligently observe all contact against players who are deemed defenseless and penalize illegal personal contact.



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# Reminder of Free Blocking Zone

## Rule

- 4 yards each side of ball by 3 yards on each side of line of scrimmage
- If any part of a player is in the zone at the snap considered to be in the zone
- Free blocking zone remains until ball leaves the zone
- Block below the waste allowed by “O” AND “D”  
Linemen against players on the line at the snap
- Block in the back and clip allowed by O-Linemen in the free blocking zone against defenders on the line at the snap



## Modifications for Youth Play

- Center protection for punts and place kicks for snaps less than 7 yards (A gap rushes allowed)
- Full protection when QB declares taking a knee no matter game situation
- Sideline warnings and penalties for coaches' trying to influence calls
- Only make calls that influence the play, safety or sportsmanship
- Lopsided game rules
- Substitution rules



## Tips to Avoid Penalties

- Teach player safety with proper blocking and tackling techniques
- Teach to stop blocking once a long play has broken – just screen defenders by running between them and carrier
- Make sure your offensive formations, motion and shifts are legal
  - Consider putting o-linemen immediately in 3 pt stance
  - Get help from refs at jamborees, in practices, etc.



# Communication with Officials

- Pre-game

- Be prepared as soon as the officials arrive
- Captains #'s, special plays, questions, equipment inspections, etc

- During game

- do not come onto field without permission – ask sideline official for a conference
- Have assistant coaches go thru head coach with issues
- Do not talk directly to opposing players
- Team captains or other players can respectfully



## Pre-Season

- Clubs can contact Shawn to request a senior official meet with coaches and answer questions
- Jamborees
  - Used to train new officials
  - Not all games will be covered
  - Feel free to bring your own whistles to protect players – officials will be working on proper timing and technique



## Closing Remarks

- Bring a good attitude
  - Work “with” officials for a fair and safe game
  - Put previous bad experiences behind you
  - Teach your players to respect officials and work around calls you don’t agree with
- Enjoy the time you get to spend coaching – it goes quickly
- Consider continuing coaching after your son leaves GEJFA or becoming an official when your coaching days are over



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Thank you,

Have a terrific 2014 season!