

Anson County Parks and Recreation Department
NFL Men's Flag Football League

Operations



Purpose

- To initiate and develop a successful NFL Men's Flag Football program in Anson County.
- To encourage fair play, good sportsmanship, and teamwork in participants, including, but not limited to, players, coaches and parents.
- To establish a soccer environment that welcomes community involvement, which is essential to ensuring the long-term success of the NFL Men's Flag Football program.

I. General League Rules

- A coin toss determines first possession.
- The offensive team takes possession of the ball at its 5-yard line and has three (3) plays to cross midfield. Once a team crosses midfield, it has three (3) plays to score a touchdown. If the offense fails to score, the ball changes possession and the new offensive team takes over on its 5-yard line.
- If the offensive team fails to cross midfield, possession of the ball changes and the opposition starts its drive from its 5-yard line.
- All possession changes, except interceptions, start on the offense's 5-yard line.
- Teams change sides after the first 20 minutes, but possession does not change and the clock does not stop.

Players/Game Schedules

- Teams must field a minimum of five (5) players at all times.
- Teams consist of 10 players (5 on the field with 5 substitutes).

Timing/Overtime

- Games are played to 40 minutes running time.
- If the score is tied at the end of 40 minutes, teams move directly into overtime. The first team to score wins.
- Each time the ball is spotted, a team has 30 seconds to snap the ball. Teams will receive one warning before a delay-of-game penalty is enforced.
- Each team has one 60-second and one 30-second time out per half.
- Officials can stop the clock at their discretion.

Scoring

Touchdown: 6 points

Extra point: 1 point (played from 5-yard line) or
2 points (played from 12-yard line)

Safety: 2 points

Running

- The quarterback cannot run with the ball.
- Only direct handoffs behind the line of scrimmage are permitted. Offense may use multiple handoffs.
- Absolutely NO laterals or pitches of any kind.
- "No-running zones," located 5 yards from each end zone and 5 yards on either side of midfield, are designed to avoid short-yardage,

power-running situations.

- The player who takes the handoff can throw the ball from behind the line of scrimmage.
- Once the ball has been handed off, all defensive players are eligible to rush.
- Spinning is allowed, but players cannot leave their feet to avoid a defensive player (no diving).
- The ball is spotted where the ball carrier's feet are when the flag is pulled, not where the ball is.

Receiving

- All players are eligible to receive passes (including the quarterback if the ball has been handed off behind the line of scrimmage).
- As in the NFL, only one player is allowed in motion at a time.
- A player must have at least one foot inbounds when making a reception.

Passing

- All passes must be forward and received beyond the line of scrimmage.
- Shovel passes are allowed but must be received beyond the line of scrimmage.
- The quarterback has a seven-second "pass clock." If a pass is not thrown within the seven seconds, play is dead, loss of down. Once the ball is handed off, the seven-second rule no longer is in effect.
- Interceptions change the possession of the ball at the point of interception. Interceptions are the only changes of possession that do not start on the 5-yard line.

Dead Balls

- The ball must be snapped between the legs, not off to one side, to start play.
- Substitutions may be made on any dead ball.
- Play is ruled "dead" when:
 - Ball carrier's flag is pulled.
 - Ball carrier steps out of bounds.
 - Touchdown or safety is scored.
 - At the point of an interception (interception returns are not allowed).
 - Ball carrier's knee hits the ground.
 - Ball carrier's flag falls out.

Note: There are no fumbles. The ball is spotted where the ball hits the ground.

Penalties

Offsides	5 yards and automatic first down
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Interference	10 yards and automatic first down
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Illegal contact (<i>holding, blocking, etc.</i>)	10 yards and automatic first down
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Illegal flag pull (<i>before receiver has ball</i>)	10 yards and automatic first down
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Illegal rushing (<i>starting rush from inside 7-yard marker</i>)	10 yards and automatic first down
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Illegal motion (<i>more than one person moving, false start, etc.</i>)	5 yards and loss of down
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Illegal forward pass (<i>pass received behind line of scrimmage</i>)	5 yards and loss of down
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Offensive pass interference (<i>illegal pick play, pushing off/away defender</i>)	10 yards and loss of down
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Flag guarding	10 yards (from line of scrimmage) and loss of down
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Delay of game	Clock stops, 10 yards and loss of down
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- Referees determine incidental contact that may result from normal run of play. All penalties will be assessed from the line of scrimmage.
- Only the team captain may ask the referee questions about rule clarification and interpretations. Players cannot question judgment calls.
- Games cannot end on a defensive penalty, unless the offense declines it.

Attire

Cleats are allowed, except for metal spike. Inspections must be made. All players must wear a protective mouthpiece; there are no exceptions.

Jerseys must be worn during play.

Note: There are no kickoffs, and no blocking is allowed.

Rushing the Quarterback

All players who rush the passer must be a minimum of seven yards from the line of scrimmage when the ball is snapped. Any number of players can rush the

quarterback. Players not rushing the quarterback may defend on the line of scrimmage.

Once the ball is handed off, seven-yard rule no longer in effect and all defenders may go behind the line of scrimmage. A special marker, or the referee, will designate seven yards from the line of scrimmage. Remember, no blocking or tackling is allowed.

Sportsmanship/ Roughing

If the field monitor or referee witnesses any acts of tackling, elbowing, cheap shots, blocking, or any unsportsmanlike act, the game will be stopped and the player will be ejected from the game. FOUL PLAY WILL NOT BE TOLERATED.

Trash talking is illegal. Officials have the right to determine offensive language. (Trash talk is talk that may be offensive to officials, opposing players, teams, or spectators. If trash talking occurs, the referee will give one warning. If it continues, the player or players will be ejected from the game.

VII. Players and Coach's Code of Conduct

1. Players and Coaches shall conduct themselves in an exemplary manner at all times, shall act in a sportsmanlike manner in which is consistent with the purpose of our program.

2. No player or coach shall be guilty of objectionable displays of dissent at an official's decision.
3. No player or coach shall use verbal abuse upon any official, director or participant.
4. No player or coach shall be guilty of using unnecessarily rough tactics in the play of the game or tampering with the other teams' players.
5. No one shall discuss with an official the decision reached by such official except for the head coach.
6. No profanity will be allowed or use of tobacco products by coaches or players.
7. No player or coach shall refuse to abide by an official's decision.

Violations of 1-7 will result in removal and suspension from Little Park and/or other facilities operated by Anson County Parks and Recreation for that game and the next game. Second violation of 1-7 will result in suspension from Little Park and/or other facilities operated by Anson County Parks and Recreation for the remainder of the season.

The Anson County Recreation Commission Board Members and Anson County Parks and Recreation Department have approved the player and coach's code of conduct.

I have read and understood the rules and the code of conduct. I understand that not following the rules and the code of conduct shall be detrimental to recreational youth programs. I shall adhere to these program rules and the code of conduct rules. At anytime that I do not follow Anson County Parks and Recreation's program rules or code of conduct rules, I understand that my status as coach shall be relinquished at will.

Signature _____ **Date** _____

Witness _____ **Date** _____

Parents and Spectators Code of Conduct

1. Parents and Spectators shall conduct themselves in an exemplary manner at all times, shall act in a sportsmanlike manner in which is consistent with the purpose of our program.

- 2. No Parent or Spectator shall be guilty of objectionable displays of dissent at an official's decision.**
- 3. No Parent or Spectator shall use verbal abuse upon any coach, official, director, participant, spectators or other parents.**
- 4. No one shall discuss with an official the decision reached by such official except for the head coach.**
- 5. No smoking or use of tobacco products will be allowed inside any building during recreation programs.**
- 6. No profanity will be allowed.**
- 7. No Parent or Spectator shall refuse to abide by an officials or director's decision.**

Violations of 1-7 will result in removal and suspension from Little Park and/or other facilities operated by Anson County Parks and Recreation for that game and the next game. Second violation of 1-7 will result in suspension from Little Park and/or other facilities operated by Anson County Parks and Recreation for the remainder of the season.

The Anson County Recreation Commission Board Members and Anson County Parks and Recreation Department have approved the Parents and Spectators code of conduct.

I have read and understood the Parents and Spectators code of conduct. I understand that not following the code of conduct shall be detrimental to recreational youth programs. I shall adhere to the Parents and Spectators code of conduct. At anytime that I do not follow Anson County Parks and Recreation's program rules or code of conduct rules, I understand that I will be suspended from programs operated by Anson County Parks and Recreation.

Signature _____ Date _____

Witness _____ Date _____