

2009

Rules and Interpretations



HARFORD FOOTBALL
EXCELLENCE STARTS HERE

Clinic Program

Version 1.1

Harford County Clinic Football Rules and Interpretations

THIS DOCUMENT SUPERSEDES ALL PREVIOUS EDITIONS.

THE RULES AND INTERPRETATIONS PUBLISHED HEREIN ARE EFFECTIVE APRIL 1, 2009 AND REMAIN IN EFFECT EXCEPT AS SUPERSEDED BY ANY RULE CHANGES OR INTERPRETATIONS ENACTED BY THE HARFORD COUNTY CLINIC FOOTBALL PROGRAM BOARD OF DIRECTORS OR BY SUBSEQUENT EDITIONS OR SUPPLEMENTS TO THE RULE BOOK.

Revision History

Date	Desescription	Author	Version
04/01/2009	Initial Release	Sean Dowling	1.0
09/21/2009	Modified Rules 5.3.2.2 (Weights) 5.3.4 (Play Rules) 6.1.4 (Offensive Formations) 6.1.5 (Defensive Formations) 5.3.4.2.2.1 (6-7 Game Format) Removed 6.1.5.3 (Goal Line Formation)	Sean Dowling	1.1

Harford County Clinic Football Rules and Interpretations

Table of Contents

- 1. Program Foundation 4
- 2. Jurisdiction 4
- 3. Mission Statement 4
- 4. Player Requirements..... 4
 - 4.1. Medical Examinations 4
 - 4.3. Parental Consent 5
 - 4.4. Outstanding Equipment/Money 5
 - 4.5. Starting Date of Practice or Player's Meetings..... 5
 - 4.6. Proof of Age..... 5
 - 4.7. Practice Required for Play 5
 - 4.8. Practice 5
 - 4.9. Rosters..... 5
 - 4.10. Player Eligibility 5
- 5. Football Playing Rules 5
 - 5.1. Governing Rules for Play 5
 - 5.2. Sportsmanship..... 6
 - 5.3. Clinic Play Rules (5-6 & 6-7 Age Groups) 6
 - 5.3.1. Philosophy 6
 - 5.3.2. Player Eligibility 6
 - 5.3.2.1. Age..... **Error! Bookmark not defined.**
 - 5.3.2.2. Weights..... 6
 - 5.3.2.3. Identification..... 7
 - 5.3.3. Field Specifications..... 7
 - 5.3.4. Play Rules 7
 - 5.3.4.1. Jamboree Style (4 teams)..... 7
 - 5.3.4.2. Standard Scrimmage Format (2 teams)..... 8
- 6. Equipment..... 9
 - 6.1.5.4. Goal Line Formations and Play.... **Error! Bookmark not defined.**
- 7. Scheduled Time Change Procedure 13
- 8. Scrimmage/Game Cancellation..... 13
- 9. Area Colors..... 14
- 10. Problem Resolution..... 14

Harford County Clinic Football Rules and Interpretations

1. Program Foundation

1.1. The Harford County Clinic Football Program is comprised of the eight (8) current football programs located in Harford County, Maryland;

Program	Chairman/President	Contact	Website
Aberdeen			
Bel Air			
Edgewood			
Emmorton			
Fallston			
Havre de Grace			
Jarrettsville			
North Harford			

1.2. For the 2009 football season, the Harford County Clinic Football Program will only provide governance for the member programs clinic youth football teams. These teams are limited to the 5-6 and 6-7 age groups.

2. Jurisdiction

2.1. The Harford County Clinic Football Program is empowered to organize leagues, tournaments, competition, and championship events in various age and weight classes throughout Harford County, Maryland for the participating membership.

3. Mission Statement

The Harford County Clinic Football Program will make every effort to make sure that every child with the desire to participate gets the opportunity to play, without regard to prior experience, athletic ability or size.

We are committed to instilling Honesty, Loyalty, Integrity, Teamwork, Discipline, Sportsmanship, Respect, Leadership, Trust and Commitment in our young participants. We believe these values and virtues are important to their growth and to them becoming active members of our community and society.

We will instill in our youth the challenge of competition, the joy of victory, the reality of defeat, the importance of commitment and the spirit of community. We will stress the importance of academic achievement among athletes, and by doing so; will prepare them for the challenges of high school and collegiate environments.

These goals will be achieved through organizing our dedicated volunteers, caring parents, and business associates who wish to partner with our great youth sports league.

The purpose of the Harford County Clinic Football Program shall be:

- To develop and maintain a properly supervised football league for youth from 5 years to 14 years of age.
- To promote improved community relations by demonstrating an interest in the youth of our community.
- To encourage physical and mental growth through keen competition.
- To emphasize good citizenship and scholastic achievement.
- To nurture good sportsmanship and a sense of fair play.

4. Player Requirements

4.1. Medical Examinations

4.1.1. No child shall participate in the program without obtaining a written certificate of health from a duly qualified examining physician. The exam must have occurred within six (6) months of August 15th.

4.2. No Cut Clause

Harford County Clinic Football Rules and Interpretations

4.2.1. Programs MAY NOT cut players once the player's parent has signed his registration form and paid his registration fee.

4.3. Parental Consent

4.3.1. Each player must have the written consent form signed by his parents or guardian in order to participate in the program.

4.4. Outstanding Equipment/Money

4.4.1. No area may register a child in their football program if that child owes money or equipment to another Harford County Clinic Football Program. It will be up to each area to supply the Harford County Clinic Football Program Board of Directors a list from their area of children who owe outstanding money or equipment. If a violation is found, the child should be immediately suspended until the matter is resolved.

4.5. Starting Date of Practice or Player's Meetings

4.5.1. No organized practice will be permitted before August 1st of the current football season.

4.6. Proof of Age

4.6.1. Only official birth certificates or registration, Health Department Certificate, official passport, adoption certificate, official alien registration cards or official military service identifications are to be accepted as verification of age for issuance of a Harford County Clinic Football Program I.D. No other forms will be accepted.

4.7. Practice Required for Play

4.7.1. All players must attend a minimum of 50% of the scheduled practice the week immediately preceding any regular season game.

4.8. Practice

4.8.1. Prior to September 1st of the current football season, practices are limited to six (6) hours per week (Monday thru Sunday). Beginning September 1st, practices are limited to four (4) hours a week, including team meetings, but excluding scrimmages/games.

4.9. Rosters

4.9.1. Roster Entry Date

4.9.1.1. Official team rosters must be submitted by September 1st of the current season to the Board of Governors. All changes to the official team roster after September 1st of the current season must be approved by the Board of Governors. Official team rosters will be exchanged at weigh-in before games to be played. **ALL ROSTERS ARE TO BE TYPED.**

4.9.2. Format

4.9.2.1. Official team rosters shall be **TYPED on** the official Harford County Clinic Football Program Game Roster Form.

4.10. Player Eligibility

4.10.1. Any player in the Harford County Clinic Football Program may not participate in any other organized football league program of any kind during the current season.

4.10.1.1. Only one player may wear a given number. In the event of a jersey change, the official and the opposing head coach must be notified immediately.

4.10.1.2. Once a player has been placed on the official roster he can no longer move to another age group or team that season.

5. Football Playing Rules

5.1. Governing Rules for Play

5.1.1. The **High School Federation Rules** shall prevail for play determination except where the Harford County Clinic Football Program rules apply.

Harford County Clinic Football Rules and Interpretations

5.2. Sportsmanship

5.2.1. All coaches and players WILL shake hands after the scrimmage/game ends.

5.3. Clinic Play Rules (5-6 & 6-7 Age Groups)

5.3.1. Philosophy

5.3.1.1. The philosophy of this age group is to be instructional and fun for the children. Time should be taken by coaches on both sides to explain to children rules and certain techniques in playing the game (e.g., blocking and tackling). These age groups are NON-COMPETATIVE, therefore score and win/loss records are not to be kept. There will be no posting of scores or win/loss records in any form. Players are prohibited from participating in any competitive level games, tournaments or events while registered as a clinic player in the Harford County Football League.

5.3.2. Player Eligibility

5.3.2.1.1. All players are required to weigh-in prior to the start of any game.

5.3.2.1.2. 5-6 Age Group

5.3.2.1.2.1. Players must turn 5 years of age on or after August 1st of the current football season.

5.3.2.1.2.2. Players who have not reached their 7th birthday by August 1st of the current year will be eligible to play in the 5-6 age group

5.3.2.1.3. 6-7 Age Group

5.3.2.1.3.1. Players who have not reached their 8th birthday by August 1st of the current year will be eligible to play in the 6-7 Age Group.

5.3.2.2. Weights

5.3.2.2.1. All players are required to weigh-in prior to the start of any game.

5.3.2.2.2. 5-6 Age Group

5.3.2.2.2.1. 70 lbs or less by the first game, with equipment minus helmet and shoulder pads.

5.3.2.2.2.2. All 6/7 year olds must make weight in order to participate.

5.3.2.2.2.3. 5 year olds do not need to make weight, but are limited to Tackle to Tackle if over the max weight.

5.3.2.2.3. 6-7 Age Group

5.3.2.2.3.1. 78 lbs or less by the first game, with equipment minus helmet and shoulder pads. Younger-But-Heavier - 88 lbs minus helmet and shoulder pads.

5.3.2.2.3.2. All 7-8 year olds must make weight in order to participate.

5.3.2.2.3.3. 6 year olds are allotted 10 additional pounds (YBH – Younger But Heavier). These players are NOT limited to Tackle to Tackle

5.3.2.3. Exceptions

5.3.2.3.1. Overweight players may participate if opposing coach is in agreement prior to start of game. These players ARE limited to Tackle to Tackle.

5.3.2.4. Weekly Weight Increases

5.3.2.4.1. The maximum weight limited will increase by .5 lbs each week beginning week two (2) of the season.

Harford County Clinic Football Rules and Interpretations

5.3.2.5. Identification

- 5.3.2.5.1. Each program will be responsible for determining player eligibility and age prior to submitting their official team rosters.
- 5.3.2.5.2. If a player's age/eligibility is challenged after the official team rosters have been submitted, the challenging coach must submit a challenge to their programs President/Chairman, who in turn will inform the opposing programs President/Chairman of the challenge.
- 5.3.2.5.3. If a player's age/eligibility is challenged, he will be permitted to participate in all program functions until a official determination is made by the programs Presidents/Chairmen or the Board of Governors.
- 5.3.2.5.4. Challenged programs have 5 days to respond to the challenging programs President/Chairman and must provide documentation to support the player's age/eligibility in accordance with section 4.6.1.
- 5.3.2.5.5. All remaining/unsettled disputes around player eligibility will be reviewed by the Board of Governors and a final decision rendered.
- 5.3.2.5.6. The Head Coach of any team found to permit a player to participate in any Harford County Clinic Football Program scrimmage, game or event that does not meet the eligibility requirements will be suspended from participating Harford County Clinic Football Program scrimmage, game or event for a period of one (1) year starting from the first date of the infraction.

5.3.3. Field Specifications

- 5.3.3.1. The dimensions of the 5-6/6-7 Age Group field will be 40 yards of play area by 35 yards wide to a (i.e. near side line to far hash mark), as field conditions/availability dictate.
- 5.3.3.2. Players and coaches of both teams are to be on the same sidelines and opposite from the parents and spectators. This is to limit the interference of the parents and spectators during the scrimmage.
- 5.3.3.3. The visiting team will have from the 40 yard line to the 25 yard line and the home team will have from the 15 yard line to the goal line.
- 5.3.3.4. Only players, coaches, team managers and league/program officials with a league issued identification card are permitted on the team side of the field.
- 5.3.3.5. Any parent or spectator found in violation of this rule will be suspended for a minimum of one (1) week starting the week after the infraction. Any parent or spectator in violation of a second offense of this rule will be suspended for a minimum of one (1) year from the date of the second infraction.

5.3.4. Play Rules

5.3.4.1. Jamboree Style (4 teams)

5.3.4.1.1. 5-6 Age Group

- 5.3.4.1.1.1. Play will consist of two (2) twelve (12) play halves. One half team 'A' will run twelve (12) plays on offense while team 'B' plays defense. Teams 'C' and 'D' will do the same against each other.
- 5.3.4.1.1.2. At the end of the first half, teams 'B' and 'D' will switch fields and run twelve (12) plays on offense against teams 'A' and 'C'. The process will repeat two (2) more times. Each half will not exceed more than 25

Harford County Clinic Football Rules and Interpretations

minutes and there will be a ten (10) minute break between halves.

5.3.4.1.1.3. Total time for this format will not exceed two (2) hours in length. All play will stop regardless of play number and teams will be dismissed from the playing field

5.3.4.1.2. 6-7 Age Group

5.3.4.1.2.1. Play will consist of two (2) sixteen (16) play halves. One half team 'A' will run sixteen (16) plays on offense while team 'B' plays defense. Teams 'C' and 'D' will do the same against each other.

5.3.4.1.2.2. At the end of the first half, teams 'B' and 'D' will switch fields and run sixteen (16) plays on offense against teams 'A' and 'C'. The process will repeat two (2) more times. Each half will not exceed more than 30 minutes and there will be a ten (10) minute break between halves.

5.3.4.1.2.3. Total time for this format will not exceed two (2) hours in length. All play will stop regardless of play number and teams will be dismissed from the playing field

5.3.4.2. Standard Scrimmage Format (2 teams)

5.3.4.2.1. 5-6 Age Group

5.3.4.2.1.1. Scrimmages at the 5-6 Age Group will consist of forty eight (48) plays. There will be two halves with each half consisting of twenty four (24) plays. Each team during a half will participate in twelve (12) offensive plays and twelve (12) defensive plays.

5.3.4.2.1.2. Teams will be allowed 25 minutes to run their twelve (12) offensive plays. Injury time outs will not be included as a part of the playing time. For example, if the 25-minute time limit has been exceeded and there are still remaining plays for the offensive team. The offensive team will forfeit their remaining plays and the ball will be given to the opposing team so that they may begin their offensive series.

5.3.4.2.1.3. A ten (10) minute halftime is mandatory.

5.3.4.2.1.4. The scrimmage/game will not exceed two hours in length.

5.3.4.2.1.5. The first offensive possession starts 40-yards from the goal (i.e., starting line).

5.3.4.2.1.6. A team that begins its offensive possession on their starting line cannot lose yardage.

5.3.4.2.1.7. No scores will be kept during the game.

5.3.4.2.1.8. Upon crossing the goal line, the offensive team will return to the 40 yard line to continue play and use the remainder of their twelve (12) offensive plays.

5.3.4.2.2. 6-7 Age Group

5.3.4.2.2.1. The scrimmage format for the 6-7 Age group will be the same as the 5-6 Age Group with the exception that the play count will increase to 64 plays per scrimmage. There will be two (2) halves of 32 plays each. Each team during the half will participate in sixteen (16) offensive and sixteen (16) defensive plays. Teams have the option to rotate offense and defense every eight (8) plays.

Harford County Clinic Football Rules and Interpretations

5.3.4.2.2.2. Teams will be allowed 25 minutes to run their sixteen (16) offensive plays. Injury time outs will not be included as a part of the playing time. For example, if the 25-minute time limit has been exceeded and there are still remaining plays for the offensive team. The offensive team will forfeit their remaining plays and the ball will be given to the opposing team so that they may begin their offensive series.

6. Equipment

6.1.1.1. Field

6.1.1.1.1. Football sizes

6.1.1.1.1.1. The size of the football must be K-2, RR5T, or FX500 PW, Nike K. No other football types or sizes are permitted.

6.1.1.1.2. Play Count Flip Chart

6.1.1.1.2.1. Each team must provide a "Play Count Flip Chart" to keep track of the current play number. Chart can be a binder numbered 1-12 for 5-6 or 1-16 for 6-7.

6.1.1.1.3. Play Clock

6.1.1.1.3.1. The home team must provide a play clock, stop watch or official time keeping device to ensure that both offensive teams are executing their plays within the allocated time limits.

6.1.1.2. Players

6.1.1.2.1. All players participating in this league, which is a tackle football program, must be properly equipped and said equipment shall consist of, but not be limited to, the following:

6.1.1.2.2. Football pants, including kneepads, thigh pads, hip pads, tailbone pad and athletic cup (a football girdle may be used instead of hip pads).

6.1.1.2.3. Football shoulder pads.

6.1.1.2.4. Helmet with face guard (N.O.C.S.A.E. approved, inspected when necessary).

6.1.1.2.5. Jersey (no two jerseys with the same numerals shall be worn on the same team).

6.1.1.2.6. Mouthpiece must be attached to the helmets face guard (colored only). Except special mouthpiece issued by the Doctors office.

6.1.1.2.7. Shoes (tennis shoes or non-metal or non metal tipped cleats only).

6.1.1.2.8. Any padding which may be deemed necessary, such as rib pads, arm pads, elbow pads, or hand pads (need not be worn weighing-in) **but should be brought to the scale**. Sweatshirts or sweatpants may be worn to the scale and removed for weigh-in.

6.1.2. Participation

6.1.2.1. Prior to September 1st of the current football season, practices are limited to six (6) hours per week (Monday thru Sunday). This does not include program/league organized scrimmages. After September 1st, practices are limited to six (4) hours a week, including team meetings. This does not include program/league organized scrimmages.

6.1.3. Fair Play

6.1.3.1. Each player must play a minimum of eight (8) plays in each half and a total of sixteen

Harford County Clinic Football Rules and Interpretations

(16) plays for the game.

6.1.3.2. Any player crossing the end line twice (2) in a single scrimmage will not be permitted to advance the ball for the remainder of that scrimmage. This excludes interceptions or ball strips from a defensive position. Any player advancing the ball after crossing the end line twice (2), will be suspended for the remainder of the scrimmage/game and the Head Coach suspended for one (1) week. If a violation occurs, the offensive team will forfeit the remainder of their offensive plays for that scrimmage.

6.1.3.3. No advance scouting of teams is permitted. Violation of this rule will result in an immediate suspension for one (1) year from the date of the infraction.

6.1.3.4. No silent count. Offensive players must use a verbal snap count. The first offense of this rule will result in the play being blown dead and the ball returned to the line of scrimmage. The play will count towards the total plays for the series. A second offense will result in forfeiture of the remaining offensive plays for the team committing the infraction and a 1 week suspension for the Head Coach.

6.1.4. Offensive Formations

6.1.4.1. All offensive formations must consist of a minimum of 6 down linemen (3 point stance) (2 tackles, 2 guards, 1 end and 1 center) with no more than an 18 inch separation between the feet of the players. A 7th player must line up somewhere on the line of scrimmage and is not bound by the by the 18 inch separation between players.

6.1.4.2. Quarterback/Center Exchange

6.1.4.2.1. 5-6 Age Group

6.1.4.2.1.1. Quarterback MUST be under center and receive the snap of the ball directly from the center. Direct snap and "shot gun" formations are not permitted.

6.1.4.2.2. 6-7 Age Group

6.1.4.2.2.1. Direct snap and "shot gun" formations ARE permitted.

6.1.4.3. Remaining three (3) players can line up anywhere on their side of the line of scrimmage as long as they are not directly on the line of scrimmage.

6.1.4.4. Seven (7) players must be on the line of scrimmage prior to the snap of the ball.

6.1.4.5. All Guards, Tackles and Tight Ends must be in a 3-point or 4-point stance when the ball is snapped. Their hands must be in contact with the ground.

6.1.4.6. Unbalance formations are permitted.

6.1.5. Defensive Formations

6.1.5.1. Defensive Linemen

6.1.5.1.1. There must be at least four (4) and no more than six (6) defensive linemen. The defense should have a minimum of two (2) down linemen (guards, tackles or both), and two ends on the line of scrimmage.

**Teams are not required to have an equal defensive front for the down lineman, i.e. if they have a defensive guard and tackle on the right side of the formation they are not required to have both on the left.*

6.1.5.1.2. Defensive guards and tackles must line head-up in a down position on the offensive guards or tackles. No linemen can line up directly across from the center or in the guard-center gaps. This is for the protection of the center.

6.1.5.1.3. Defensive ends must be head up with the offensive end. If no offensive ends exist, the defensive end cannot be more than one (1) yard off the offensive

Harford County Clinic Football Rules and Interpretations

tackle on the same side of the center.

6.1.5.1.4. Defensive linemen (i.e. guards and tackles) must be in a down position (i.e., three or four point stance).

6.1.5.1.5. Defensive players lined up over the offensive guards, must engage the offensive guards prior to advancing towards the 'A' gap. Their first step must be towards the offensive player. The first violation of this rule will result in the player(s) being removed for two (2) plays. A second violation of this rule will result in the player(s) being suspended for the remainder of the scrimmage and the Head Coach suspended for one (1) week.

6.1.5.2. Line Backers

6.1.5.2.1. Must be at least 3 yards off the line of scrimmage and cannot move until the ball has been snapped. This rule also applies to corners and safeties.

6.1.5.2.2. No player can cross the line of scrimmage until the ball has been snapped.

6.1.6. Fumbles

6.1.6.1. If a fumble occurs on the play (the ball touches the ground), the football will be blown dead at the spot of the fumble and the offensive team will regain possession. If the fumble occurs behind the line of scrimmage, the ball is placed at the spot of the fumble. If the fumble occurs behind the 40 yard line, the ball is to be placed on the 40 yard line and made ready for play.

6.1.6.2. Teams are permitted 2 consecutive fumbles without being charged a play. If a fumble occurs on the 3rd consecutive play, that play will count towards the official play count.

6.1.7. Interceptions

6.1.7.1. Interceptions should be played as live, however the offensive team will regain possession of the ball after the play is complete. The 40 yard line becomes the goal line for the intercepting team.

6.1.8. Officials and Penalties

6.1.8.1. Each program (at their expense) is *strongly encouraged* to provide officials (recommended minimum of one) to oversee the play of the game. If an official is not present, the head coaches of each team will be responsible for enforcement of penalties.

6.1.8.2. Officials will place the ball after each play.

6.1.8.3. Penalties are not considered as plays. Unless otherwise specified in specific rules.

6.1.8.4. It is recommended that only play side infractions be considered penalties unless the infractions are flagrant. Players and coaches are to be warned of these backside infractions and instructed to address these issues with the player. 3 or more non-play side infractions will be considered flagrant and appropriate action will be taken in accordance with these rules.

6.1.8.5. Officials/head coaches will warn players who commit flagrant penalties.

6.1.8.6. Flagrant penalties will result in a player being removed from the game for two plays. Players who are warned for the second time of flagrant penalties may be removed for the entire series at the discretion of the referee, but will receive the two-play penalty at a minimum. A third warning will require the child's removal from the game.

6.1.8.7. Coaches, assistant coaches, parents or other participants that are warned for the second time about unsportsmanlike behavior by an official must be asked to leave the

Harford County Clinic Football Rules and Interpretations

field.

6.1.8.8. Refusal of a player, coach, assistant coach, parent or other participant to leave the field will result in the termination of the game.

6.1.8.8.1. Penalties

6.1.8.8.1.1. Offside's

6.1.8.8.1.2. Holding

6.1.8.8.1.3. Block in the Back

6.1.8.8.1.4. Illegal Formation

6.1.8.8.1.5. Pass Interference

6.1.8.8.1.6. Unsportsmanlike

6.1.8.8.1.7. Coaching Violation

6.1.8.8.1.8. Parent Violation

6.1.9. Coaching

6.1.9.1. Only two coaches from each team will be allowed on the field for both offensive and defensive plays. No other coaches or parents are allowed on the field.

6.1.9.2. The coaches must remain 10 yards behind their player that is furthest away from the line of scrimmage during each play.

6.1.9.3. Coaches must make every attempt to avoid the play in progress. Any coach found to be interfering with a play will be removed from the playing field immediately. Play will not continue until the coach has left the playing field.

6.1.10. Scrimmage/Game Start Times

6.1.10.1. Weigh Ins

6.1.10.1.1. Home team is responsible for providing a fully functional scale. Scale can be either balance style (medical) or digital.

6.1.10.1.1.1. Balance Style Scale

6.1.10.1.1.1.1. Scale must be calibrated to balance evenly when set to zero.

6.1.10.1.1.1.2. Scale must be check for levelness at zero between weighing each team.

6.1.10.1.1.1.3. Programs are required to have each scale calibrated and certified prior to each season. Official certification stickers must be visible on each scale in order for the scale to be utilized for weigh-ins.

6.1.10.1.1.1.4. A player is not deemed "Over Weight" until the balance arm is extended to the max upward position and comes to a full rest in the upward position.

6.1.10.1.1.2. Digital Scale

6.1.10.1.1.2.1. The use of digital scales is permitted with the following understanding.

6.1.10.1.1.2.1.1. A player is not deemed "Over Weight" unless the digital readout displays a full pound over the maximum weight allowed for that age group. (ex. Max weight for 5-6 is 70 lbs. Scale reads the players weight as 70.9 lbs. The player is still eligible to play. If the scale reads 71.0 lbs, the player is deemed over weight.

6.1.10.1.1.2.1.2. If the scales fails to settle on a specific weight and bounces between two weights (i.e. 70.9 and 71.0), the player

Harford County Clinic Football Rules and Interpretations

will need to step off the scale and step back on. If the scale still fails to register an exact weight, the lowest weight displayed will be considered the actual weight.

6.1.10.1.2. Weigh-ins must start at least 30 minutes prior the scheduled start time of the scrimmage/game and no more than 1 hour prior to the start of the scheduled scrimmage/game.

6.1.10.1.3. A representative from each team participating in the scrimmage/game must be present during all weigh-ins.

6.1.10.1.4. Teams must proceed to the designated weigh in area immediately when notified by the home program. Team not reporting to the designated weigh area, within 10 minutes of being called will forfeit the scrimmage/game.

6.1.10.1.5. Players not weighed in during the scheduled weigh in period must wait until half time to be weighed in.

6.1.10.1.6. Players not weighed in are not eligible to participate until a proper weigh in has been conducted for that player. Any player participating in a scrimmage/game without being properly weighed in will be suspended for one (1) week and the head coach will be suspended for two (2) weeks.

6.1.10.1.7. For clinic jamboree style play, only one weigh in per day is required and a player may weigh in before the start of each individual scrimmage or at half time of any scrimmage if he missed the official weigh-in.

6.1.11. **Home Team Responsibility**

6.1.11.1. Establish a 5-yard area along each sideline. This area is to be marked with a rope, paint, chalk line or fence.

6.1.11.1.1. Only Authorized personnel are allowed inside the 5-yard area.

6.1.11.2. Provide an acceptable game ball approved by the head official in accordance with the type designated by Rule VII, D.

7. **Scheduled Time Change Procedure**

7.1. Only the Program Chairs/Presidents can request a scheduled scrimmage/game time change.

7.2. The requesting Program Chair/President must contact all Program Chairs/Presidents that are affected by the request no later than 48 hours prior to the scheduled start time of the scrimmage/game.

7.3. The affected Program Chairs/Presidents will make the determination of the change request.

8. **Scrimmage/Game Cancellation**

8.1. Program Chairs/Presidents or a designated alternate may call off a game at his site if a field is considered unsafe in his best judgment.

8.2. Weather related changes do not require a 48 hour notification. A minimum of three (3) hours prior to any scheduled scrimmage/game must be provided to the affect Program Chairs/Presidents.

8.3. Rescheduling of weather related changes is at the discretion of the affected Program Chairs/Presidents.

8.4. If a "STATE OF EMERGENCY" is declared on the weekend of scheduled League games, all games will be postponed and attempted to be rescheduled by the League Officials.

Harford County Clinic Football Rules and Interpretations

9. Area Colors

Aberdeen

Orange, White and Black

Bel Air

Red, White, Black, and Gold

Edgewood/Joppatowne

Black, Gold and White

Emmorton

Scarlet, Pewter and Black

Fallston

Navy Blue, Orange and White

Havre De Grace

Maroon and Gold

Jarrettsville

Green and Gold

North Harford

Green, White and Black

10. Problem Resolution

- 10.1. Problems with coaches, assistant coaches, players & parents at scrimmages/games should be referred to home Program Chair/President or program representative and the visiting Program Chair/President or representative immediately. The home Program Chair/President, in concert with the visiting Program Chair/President or program representative will attempt to reach a solution to the problem within two (2) calendar days. If the group is unable to reach a solution, the issue will be elevated to the Harford County Clinic Football Program Board of Governors for a recommendation. The coach, assistant coach, player, or parent can then accept the committee recommendation or appeal the ruling to their Harford County Recreation Committee