



2021 Youth National Championship Rules

Article 1. Game Play:

- 1.1: All games will be officiated by the unified NCAA rules with all modifications listed below. If the specified rule modification is not listed below, the NCAA ruling will apply including Overtime.
- 1.2: Each game will consist of four full ten-minute quarters for all age groups 6U-14U.
- 1.3: Each team will receive 3 timeouts per game.
- 1.4: 6U and 7U will be allowed 1 offensive and 1 defensive coach on the field. All other coaches must stay on the sideline. (8U will be allowed 1 offensive coach and 1 defensive coach on the field only if both participating teams Head Coaches agree.)
- 1.5: Age groups 8U-14U are live punt and PAT under NCAA rules.
- 1.6: *6U and 7U Only Modification* (No live punt, each punt will be a 30-yard walk-off. Any punt that cannot be walked off the entire 30 yards will be considered a touchback for the receiving team.)
- 1.7: *6U and 7U Only Modification* (If the QB is lined up under center, receiving the snap, the defensive player may line up in front of the center or in the immediate gaps.)
- 1.8: *6U and 7U Only Modification* (If the QB is in the shotgun or pistol formation, receiving the snap, the defensive player is not allowed to line up in front of the center or in the immediate gaps.)
- 1.9: *6U and 7U Only Modification* (If the QB is in the shotgun or pistol formation, any blitz over the center or immediate (A) gaps must start from 3 yards away from the line of scrimmage at the snap of the ball.)
- 1.10: *6U and 7U only Modification* (Field goals and extra points will be protected kicks. Defense cannot rush the kicker.)
- 1.11: Kickoffs will take place from the 35-yard line for 8U-14U, and from the 50-yard line for 6U and 7U.
- 1.12: Each team must provide their own game ball. ALL GAME BALLS MUST BE A LEATHER FOOTBALL, NO COMPOSITE OR RUBBER BALLS WILL BE ALLOWED.
- 1.13: Minimal game ball sizes per age group. 6U-9U will use the K2 ball size. 10U and 11U will use the TDJ ball size. 12U-14U will use the TDY ball size. Despite whatever your league rules are these are the minimal game ball sizes allowed in the YNC. You may use a larger football at your own discretion.
- 1.14: Running clock will go into play after a team is up by 20 points. The running clock will stop and go back to regular time keeping if the lead is reduced below 20 points.





Article 2. Roster and Player Eligibility:

- 2.1: The Youth National Championship is a pure FALL ROSTER event. There will not be any spring, tournament, or all-star teams allowed.
- 2.2: No player will be allowed to be dual certified (play on multiple youth football teams) in any capacity, unless the second certification is with his or her official school football team. This also includes recreational teams or area/park intermural leagues/teams.
- 2.3: Players must play a minimal (4 regular season games for 13U/14U or 6 regular season games 6U-12U) with the team to be considered an “active member” of the team roster.
- 2.4: High School or 8th grade players/students who have played one down of high school football above the freshman level team (Junior Varsity and Varsity) are not eligible for youth play in the Youth National Championship series.
 - 2.4a: All eligible players (school rosters) must consist of 9th graders (or below) and will have to play opposing teams consisting of 9th graders (or below) on the roster. Any teammate or opponent over the 9th grade level will make all players ineligible.
- 2.5: Any athlete who has played one down of varsity football is ineligible to participate in the Youth National Championship series.
- 2.6: The age cutoff date is the child’s age on or before the date of July 1, 2021. Any team with players before the age cutoff date of July 1st will have to be considered for the next older age bracket.
- 2.7: Teams must adhere by their league cutoff dates and age guideline rules for all series play. Teams will not be allowed to remove players from their roster to fit into an age bracket.
- 2.8: Every player must be listed on the teams Player Verification Checklist for National Championship play eligibility.
- 2.9: Every player must pass a mandatory multiple level certification process.
 - 1st Mandatory online player certification before event. (Zorts Gold or Silver Player Cards at Nationals. The Bronze Player card will only be accepted at preseason events.)
 - 2nd Physical team and book check during Team Registration. (Hard Copies no pictures or photo copies)
 - 3rd Player on field faceoff with YNC Official before every game.
- 2.10: Documents needed for player certification in team book
 - Government issued picture hard copy identification
 - Copy or picture of the players school report card from Fall 2021. This item must have the players grade, name, and address listed on it.
 - Current picture of the player for recognition.





- 2.11: Accepted Government Picture Identification (Hard Copy no Paper Copy)
- State ID issued by a state's Department of Motor Vehicles
 - Military ID
 - Passport
 - Passport Card
 - Native Tribal ID Cards
- 2.12: Final player rosters must be submitted to the Youth National Championship via email by September 30, 2021 to be eligible for National Championship invite evaluation:
invite@youthnationalchampionship.com
- 2.13: Maximum of ten (10) sideline passes per team will be allowed. This includes all parents, spectators, coaches, team moms, team managers, water boys, organization, and league administration. If any team has more than the allowed ten people on their sideline the game will be stopped and will not be restarted until the sideline is correct. If the sideline is not corrected in a timely manner deemed by the YNC Field Manager, the offending team will be forced to forfeit the game.

Article 3. Team Sanction Actions:

- 3.1: Any team, coach, or player found guilty of cheating or breaking any of the YNC guidelines will be subject to an immediate Youth National Championship Board review. This board review can lead to sanctions up to and including immediate disqualification and or lifetime band from all YNC events. Known efforts to cheat during season may disqualify a team from the YNC (even if at a non-ync sponsored event).

Article 4. Team Declaration and Invitation:

- 4.1: The Youth National Championship is a pure invitational only series. If your team does not have an invitation to play in nationals, you will not be able to register.
- 4.2: Invitations are sent out on a conditional basis. An invitation is not officially accepted until it has been registered online. Invitations can expire and will be replaced with additional qualified teams.

