

## 2009 BVFA Refs Overview of By Laws & Rules

**EQUIPMENT** (Article XVI) - All players are required to wear helmets with an appropriate face mask and four-point chin guard, shoulder pads, and football pants equipped with a complete set of pads. All players must wear a full mouthpiece that is attached to the helmet or face mask, unless the mouthpiece is doctor prescribed. A letter from the doctor must be with player's photo in Team Book. No replaceable or metal cleats shall be allowed. (Sect. 1)

Place kicking tees are optional. (Sect. 3)

The game jerseys must have numbers on both the front and the back. (Sect. 4)

**UNIFORM COLORS** (Article XVII) - If two (2) teams play that normally have like uniforms, it is mandatory that the visitors differentiate for the games against each other (Jerseys). (Sect. 2)

**COACHES** (Article XIX) - Only the Head Coach shall be allowed to discuss any game matters with an official. All Head Coaches are responsible for their parents, spectators, and anyone on their side of the field. (Sect. 2)

Anyone having direct communication with players and/or coaches from sidelines; (ie...via headphones, electronic devices, etc.) will be considered a coach. Anyone with headphones, electronic devices, etc. must remain on sidelines between the 25 yard lines (not on the field or in the stands), excluding half-time. (Sect. 5)

Any coach ejected from a game for any reason is suspended from the next game. (Sect. 7)

There shall be no use of alcohol, drugs, or tobacco, in any form, by the Coaches during any event, meetings, practices, or games) associated with the BVFA activities. (Sect. 9)

**BALL SIZES:** Bantams & Minors will shall a Wilson K-2 ball; Majors shall use a Wilson TDJ ball.

**RULE 1:** BVFA games shall be played under NCAA rules except where BVFA rules are different.

**RULE 2:** Officials shall be paid by the Member Organizations hosting the games. If only one official is present the game shall be played. . . Should a team not show up within 30 minutes of a scheduled start time, the "No Show" team shall forfeit the game.

2009 Official's fee shall be: (1) Three Officials **\$40.00** per official per game called. (2) Two Officials **\$60.00** per official per game called. (3) One Official **\$90.00** per game called.

**RULE 3 - Bantam, Minor and Major** games shall consist of 4 quarters lasting 8 minutes each with regulation clock. If a team should become 20 points behind in the second half of a game, the head coach of the trailing team may request the Referee to run the clock without stoppage where the clock would normally stop.

Time warnings shall be given to the Head Coaches of both teams via three, two, and one minute warnings in the second and fourth quarter of games.

**RULE 4: MINOR LEAGUE** - One Coach per team shall be allowed on the field for the first game only. The Coach must be **at least 10 yards** from the ball at the time it is snapped. No verbal comments can be made by the Coach after the play has started. After first game no Coach shall be allowed on the field except for injuries. If a team has a bye for the first scheduled game of the season, that team's Coach and the opposing Coach shall be allowed on the field for the second game day of the season.

**RULE 5: BANTAM LEAGUE** - (A) One Coach per team shall be allowed on the field on offense and defense. The Coach must be **at least 10 yards** from the ball at the time it is snapped. No verbal comments can be made by the Coaches after the play has started, i.e., the ball is snapped.

**RULE 6:** Profane language and/or **trash talk** shall not be tolerated. (A) 1st Offense is a warning to player and coach. (B) 2nd Offense player will be removed from the game for 4 plays, 15-yard penalty, dead ball foul. (C) 3rd Offense is ejection of player from the game, 15-yard penalty, dead ball foul.

**RULE 7:** No jewelry shall be worn. This is illegal equipment and there will be a 15-yard penalty.

**RULE 8: RESTRICTED PLAYER**

**Offense** - A restricted player may play guard, center, or tackle and can be the end man on either end of the line of scrimmage on offense at the time the ball is snapped, but **cannot advance the ball on offense**.

On offense a restricted player may attempt to punt; kick a field goal; or kick a point after touchdown. The player cannot in any case advance the ball past the scrimmage line or attempt to pass the ball. The player must attempt to do what the playing position indicates (ie...no attempt to confuse the defense). **Violation of this rule shall result in a 15-yard penalty and loss of down.**

**Defense** – A restricted player may play any position on defense and may advance the ball by pass interception, fumble recovery, or cover a lateral. **Violation of the rules shall result in a 15-yard penalty and loss of down.**

The top of a restricted player's helmet must be marked with contrasting tape in the shape of an "X" across the top (a minimum of 6" long and ¾" wide). A restricted player not properly marked, automatically sets out for four plays and must be properly marked before entering game.

**RULE 12:** Games shall be played during inclement weather. Games shall **only be canceled by the Referee** once started and he will immediately announce to both Head Coaches. All teams shall go to the scheduled game location where the decision to play shall be made. Games once started and then stopped due to weather or other circumstances will continue later and proceed where game was when stopped. If a game cannot be continued on the scheduled day, the Referee shall report the following to the TASO Official -- time remaining in the game, the score, the location of the ball on the field, the name of the team in possession of the ball, remaining timeouts, and the number(s) or name(s) of any players or coaches who were ejected from the game. Elected Officers and Referees will confer about cancellation during Championship play.

**RULE 13: SIDELINE PERSONNEL.** The official sideline personnel for each team shall consist of the following - five (5) coaches, one (1) water person, one (1) statistician, and one (1) camera person.

**RULE 14: WATER BREAKS.** There will be one (1) water break per quarter called by the officials at approximately the middle of the quarter.

**RULE 15: FORFEITURE OF GAME** - A game shall be ruled as a forfeit if one or both teams fail to take the field 30 minutes after the scheduled time of the game.

**RULE 16: HORSE-COLLAR TACKLE** - The horse-collar tackle is a maneuver in which a defender tackles another player by grabbing the back-inside of an opponent's shoulder pads from behind and yanking the player down. The penalty for making a horse-collar tackle is a 15-yard personal foul.

**RULE 17: DOWN MARKERS** - The **visiting team** must provide three (3) volunteers to run the distance and down markers, which will be utilized on the visiting team's sideline.