

OFSAA BOYS' FOOTBALL BOWL FESTIVALS

The sole basis for the very existence of high school sport is the contribution it makes to the general educational experience of those students who participate.

PLAYING REGULATIONS

1. Date:

The OFSAA Boys' Football Bowl Festivals shall be held during the later part of November and before the second weekend of December.

2. Location:

The location of the Festivals shall be decided not later than the OFSAA Annual Meeting held in April of the school year prior to the Festivals.

3. Classifications:

“OFSAA shall schedule the following Bowl Festival Games:

Golden Horseshoe Bowl	(GHAC, SOSSA, ROPSSAA)
Metro Bowl	(TDCAA, TDSSAA, LOSSA, YRAA, CISAA)
Western Bowl	(SWOSSAA, WOSSAA, CWOSSA)
National Capital Bowl	(NCSSAA, EOSSAA, COSSA, GBSSA)
Northern Bowl	(NWOSSAA, NOSSA, NEOAA)

4. Tournament Structure and Procedure:

The OFSAA Festivals structure shall be determined by each Bowl Committee in conjunction with the OFSAA Football Sport Advisory Committee.

Convenors, whenever possible, should ensure that all participating teams are rotated throughout all sites during the preliminary rounds of competition.

The OFSAA Football Bowl Championship Series be expanded from 5 games to 8 games unless the OFSAA Bowl Championship Series is played at the Rogers Centre over one day. In this situation, there would be five games.

If the bowl games are not played at the Rogers Centre, the OFSAA Football Bowl Championship Series will be rotated around the province subject to Association bids.

5. Seeding:

The teams shall be seeded by the individual Bowl tournament committee. Seeding shall be done in consultation with the OFSAA office and the Chairman of the Football Sport Advisory Committee.

If the bowl games are not played at the Rogers Centre, the competing teams for each bowl game

will be paired by the organizing committee, taking into consideration team records and past performances.

6. Entry:

- (a) Entries shall be accepted from Association convenors or designates only.
- (b) Any suspension or disciplinary actions in Association play shall be carried forward into OFSAA Bowl competition. The Association convenor shall be responsible for reporting such players and the nature of the disciplinary action on the OFSAA entry form. Any disciplinary action is subject to appeal to the Competition Committee.
- (c) For associations withdrawing a team(s) after the commitment deadline the minimum sanction imposed will be a fine equal to the entry fee. Further, if the withdrawal takes place at a time that impacts on the convener, financially or logistically, a further fine may be issued. This fine may encompass costs incurred by the convenor for entry fee, banquet meals, banners, etc. as reviewed and approved by OFSAA. The association and/or school may also be brought forward to the Board of Reference sanctions.

ENTRY DEADLINES

Championship Play Begins	Entry Deadline
Monday	The preceding Tuesday @ 11:59 pm
Tuesday	The preceding Wednesday @ 11:59 pm
Wednesday	The preceding Thursday @ 11:59 pm
Thursday	The preceding Saturday @ 11:59 pm
Friday	The preceding Monday @ 11:59 pm
Saturday	The preceding Tuesday @ 11:59 pm

7. Expenses:

An Entry Fee shall be charged which shall be sufficient to cover the operating costs of the Festival. Any Association that does not meet its entry commitment after it has declared an entry into the Festival will be required to submit the entry fee and a report will be made to the Board of Reference - Sanctions.

Those schools having entries are responsible for arranging and financing their own travel, meals and accommodation for the event.

8. Eligibility:

To represent a school in any activity coordinated by the Federation a student **must:**

- (i) be eligible for competition under the Constitution, By-Laws and Standing Rules (Playing Regulations) of the Association to which his school belongs;
- (ii) be certified as eligible by the Principal of the school;
- (iii) meet the following age requirement: the individual's birth certificate indicates that he has not

- reached his 19th birthday by January 1st prior to the start of the school year in which the competition is held;
- (iv) be in Grades 9-12;
 - (v) be eligible under the OFSAA Transfer Policy (By-Law 5, Section 4(f));
 - (vi) be eligible for no more than five (5) consecutive years from date of entry into Grade 9 (By-Law 5, Section 4(g));
 - (vii) have signed the Rules of Behaviour signature form for the competition;
 - (viii) have executed the Federation's "Release of Liability" form.
 - (ix) Any athlete participating in an OFSAA Championship or an OFSAA qualifying event must have participated as a member of a bona fide high school program during the current season under the supervision of a teacher-coach as certified by the school principal.

9. Rules and Officials:

Revisions to rulebooks governing play at the OFSAA Football Bowl Festivals shall be reviewed by the Sport Advisory Committee and approved by the Board of Directors prior to implementation at any Festival.

The Canadian Amateur Football Rulebook shall govern play at the OFSAA Regional and OFSAA Bowls Series.

- (a) In OFSAA Football Regional Semi Finals and the OFSAA Bowl Series, the assignment of officials shall be equally divided between the participating associations.
- (b) It is recommended that each team has a maximum roster of forty-six (46) players. Each team shall submit an eligibility list of players who shall be eligible to play in the Festival.
- (c) It is recommended that the officials assigned to the OFSAA Bowl games have a Level 3 certification.

10. Uniforms and Equipment:

Uniforms shall conform to the Canadian Amateur Rulebook in all sections. Players shall wear identical football-type jerseys and pants. It is recommended that all teams have numbers conforming to those accepted positions. All uniforms must be intact at the start of each game. There cannot be identical numbers on the set of team jerseys. The Convenor must make provision for a second set of uniform sweaters in the event of a colour conflict. The lower seeded team will change.

All competitors are expected to dress in uniforms that are neat, clean and which maintain the integrity of the school's/Association's name, colours and logos. No sport club insignia on uniforms shall be permitted. A sport club is defined as a community, provincially or nationally based organization whose primary purpose is participation in organized competition in single or multi sport programs. Sponsorship recognition is permitted to be visible but must conform with the placement guidelines outlined in By-Law 6, Section 2(h).

Student-athletes must remain fully clothed in the appropriate team uniform in the competition area, AND use the designated locker room or change area to change to and from competition attire. Incidents of non-compliance shall be forwarded to the Competition Committee for

resolution.

Any knee braces must be approved by the head official at the coaches meeting prior to the start of the Festival. **Effective immediately, all protective equipment must be covered by the pants or jersey. All eye shields (visors) must be clear. Coloured or tinted eye shields (visors) are illegal unless medical certification from a registered Ophthalmologist is presented.**

No metal cleats are allowed – rubber or moulded cleats only.

Fields shall be marked as directed by the Canadian Amateur Rule Book; posts shall be sufficiently padded.

In all OFSAA Football Semi Final Regional and OFSAA Bowls Series, the official football used in the game will be provided by the convenor of each series. Teams will not be permitted to use their own footballs.

11. Awards:

The Championship team from each Festival Bowl shall receive a trophy which will be retained by the school until the following year.

The school represented by the winning team in each Bowl shall receive a plaque to be retained by the school. The finalists will receive a plaque to be retained by the school.

12. Supervision: (Reference By-Law 6, Section 1)

A teacher is defined as a member of the Ontario College of Teachers or a holder of an Ontario Teacher's Certificate or equivalent.

- (a) For team sports ("A team consists of all athletes from the same school who qualify for Federation competition as a unit..." {reference By-Law 5, Section 3}), a teacher from the same school, or a retired teacher, as approved by the principal of the school, must accompany and be responsible for the team.
- (b) For individual sports (those sports in which athletes from a school qualify for federation competition as individuals), the principal of the school may designate an adult who is not a teacher to accompany the athletes. In addition, a teacher, or a retired teacher, must be present and on site and designated by the principal to be responsible for the athlete(s).
- (c) For all sports, where the teacher, as indicated in (a) and (b) above, is not of the same sex as the athletes(s), and where the athlete(s) are required or might be required to stay overnight, a supervisory adult, as approved by the principal of the school, of the same sex as the athlete(s), must be present and available at the accommodation site for the duration of their stay in the accommodation.

13. Registration:

Registration materials will only be given to the teacher accompanying the team, upon receipt of a completed Rules of Behaviour signature form, signed "Release of Liability" forms and photo forms.

14. Department: (Reference By-Law 6, Section 2)

- (a) A team is defined as, "All participants representing the same school at an OFSAA Championship event".
- (b) A participant is defined as, "Anyone who has been granted proper authorization to enter a restricted area." "Restricted area" includes "those areas occupied by athletes and to which access by the general public is restricted or prohibited."
- (c) All participants are expected to abide by the, "Rules of Behaviour for Participants to OFSAA Championships". (see Appendix to By-Laws)
- (d) Supervising adults are responsible for the behaviour of participants for the duration of the Championships.
- (e) Teams are open to censure for failure of its participants to abide by the "Rules of Behaviour".
- (f)
 - (i) All coaches are expected to adhere to the Code of Ethics for Coaches to OFSAA Championships. (See Appendix II)
 - (ii) School personnel and coaches are expected to adhere to the Statement of Principle on Recruiting. (See Appendix IV)
 - (iii) Spectators are expected to adhere to the Code of Behaviour for Spectators. (See Appendix III)
 - (iv) All coaches are expected to adhere to the "Return to Play Guidelines". (See Appendix VI)
 - (v) School personnel and coaches are expected to adhere to the Policy on dispensing drugs, medication and food supplements. (See Appendix IX)
- (g) All schools entering a Federation Championship shall, by signature of the school principal on the Championship Entry Form, acknowledge responsibility for making restitution for damage resulting from misconduct by their participants.
- (h) No artificial noisemakers are permitted at OFSAA Championship events.

15. Social:

If a special event is arranged all team members and coaches must attend. At this event each coach and captain shall be introduced.

Dress Code for Banquets:

- no person shall wear jeans, shorts or a hat;
- boys shall wear dress pants, a dress shirt and a tie;
- if a themed event is planned by the convenor, then the convenor must apply to the OFSAA office for permission to vacate these rules;
- should there be an instance of improper attire, the Competition Committee shall deal with the matter and forward a report to the OFSAA Board of Reference - Sanctions.

16. Medical:

Provision **MUST** be made by the Convenor to have a medical doctor in attendance or readily available and to follow appropriate hygienic precautions with regard to bodily fluids and communicable diseases (See Appendix IV to the By-Laws). Qualified sports therapist(s) and equipment must be readily available at the Festival site(s). Coaches shall provide all consumable

medical supplies (e.g. tape, Band-Aids) for their athletes. In the event of any serious injury, the sports therapist will determine the continuation of play for the injured player.

17. Jury of Appeal:

The Jury of Appeal shall consist of three (3) individuals: the chairperson of the OFSAA Football Sport Advisory Committee or designate, a tournament committee member and one (1) other

member appointed by the Festival Convenor. The Jury of Appeal shall handle disputes which fall within the realm of:

- (a) Tournament Structure and Procedure;
- (b) Rules and Officials;
- (c) Uniforms and Equipment;
- (d) Scoring.

Tournament structure and procedure concerns shall be addressed no later than the end of the coaches' meeting.

A dispute must be submitted in writing to the Convenor or Designate together with a \$50.00 fee (refundable if dispute is upheld) within thirty (30) minutes, except as provided within specific sport governing regulations, of the conclusion of the game in which the incident under dispute occurred. Decisions of the Jury of Appeal shall be final.

A report of the Jury of Appeal decisions shall be forwarded to the Board of Reference - Sanctions.

18. Competition Committee:

- (a) The Competition Committee shall consist of three (3) individuals: the Festival Convenor, or designate; an OFSAA staff or Executive Committee Member, or designate; and the Chairperson of the OFSAA Football Sport Advisory Committee, or designate. The Competition Committee shall handle disputes regarding:

- (i) Eligibility;
- (ii) Deportment;
- (iii) Supervision and registration;
- (iv) Social;
- (v) Medical personnel;
- (vi) Awards.

If a dispute cannot be resolved by the Competition Committee within a reasonable period of time, the event will continue and the dispute may be referred to a Board of Reference - General. (Please note that eligibility under the OFSAA Transfer Policy cannot be addressed at OFSAA events (By-Law 5, Section 4 (f)).

Disputes which fall within the jurisdiction of the Competition Committee must be received in writing to the Convenor or designate, together with a \$50.00 fee (refundable if dispute is upheld) within a reasonable time frame.

Appeals to the decisions of the Competition Committee shall be addressed to the Board of Reference - General.

A report of the decisions of the Competition Committee shall be forwarded to the Board of Reference - Sanctions.

- (b) The Competition Committee shall be the body empowered to delay/cancel an event(s) due to unforeseen circumstances at the site(s).

***All Federation Championships/Festivals are non-smoking events.
This includes the use of all tobacco related products.***

Participants must obey the Ministry of Education's Code of Conduct.

Sept. 2011