

2023 Bylaws

Sound Mind Sound Body Youth Association
(SMSBYA)

Southeast Michigan Youth Athletic League

REVISED FOR 2023
in conjunction with AYF National Rules



Sound Mind Sound Body Youth Association (SMSBYA) Bylaws and Rules Addendum

All SMSBYA updates are to work jointly with AYF/AYC National Bylaws and Rules

- Annual seating and membership voting process, to include automatic membership, unless association is not in good standing with SMSBYA
- New association request applications will be accepted in January of each year.

Compliance Review:

- a) The Commissioner sends a report to the compliance committee within 24 hours of sending the complaint.
- b) Compliance Committee investigates and forwards the finding and recommendation to the league President.
- c) President will make the final ruling, decisions or additional recommendations to the compliance committee.
- d) A response will be provided to the association within 24 hours of receiving the incident report.

Appeal Process

- a) A report must be sent within 24 hours to the compliance committee.
- b) Compliance committee investigates and forwards the finding and recommendations to the league President
- c) The league President makes the final decision
- d) A response will be provided to the association within 72 hours of receiving the instant report.
- e) An appeals fee may apply and if the appeal is upheld complaints are unfounded then the appeals fees will be returned.

Transfer/Release Rules: Coaches and Players

a. Transfer Deadlines:

- i. The football coach transfer/release deadline date is April 1 of the calendar year.
- ii. The football player transfer/release deadline date is August 14, 2023 (or the official start of certification.) A player will not be allowed to transfer teams within SMSB after that date.
- iii. The cheerleader transfer/release deadline date is September 5, 2023 (or the official start of certification.) No cheerleader will be allowed to transfer teams within SMSB youth league after that date.
- iv. A participant is available to participate with any association of choice after the AYF/AYC National Championships.

ADMINISTRATORS, COACHES AND VOLUNTEERS STANDARD OF CONDUCT

Section 17; Page 36 of the 2023 AYF National Rule Book.

NO Administrators, Coaches or Volunteers can participate in the SMSB Youth Association if they have been convicted of statutory rape or are on the sex offenders' registry.

Any CPL holders that are Administrators, Coaches or Volunteers must be given written permission form the Organizations President to have a weapon on their person during practices. The written permission slip **MUST be filed** with SMSB Youth Association. Though Michigan allows concealed handgun license holders (and concealed weapons license holders from other states) to carry non-concealed firearms in weapon-free schools zones, it prohibits such individuals from carrying concealed weapons on the premises of schools and/or school property, except that a parent or guardian of a student at the school is not precluded from carrying a concealed weapon while in a vehicle on school property. If he/she is dropping the student off at the school or picking a student up from school.

Abusive Language

- a) Abusive language is **NOT** permitted at any time including but not limited to music that is being played at a game or upon entering a game field.

Fighting by Coaches/Parents

- a) Fighting by coaches or parents of any kids will not be tolerated. Guidance is that violators will be subject to suspension for the remainder of the season, removal from SMSBYA in it entirety and reported to legal authorities.
- b) Any coach that participates in fighting during a game, the entire staff is suspended for no less than 1 week or until a review is conducted by the compliance committee.
- c) Parents will be permanently removed from SMSB Youth Association League
- d) Organizational Offenses Page 39 of the AYF 2023 Rulebook

Non-Violence Compliance Policy

- a) Violence is any act or threat of physical violence, harassment, intimidation, or other threatening disruptive behavior, verbal or written, that occurs during Sound Mind Sound Body league activities including and not limited to football games, cheerleading events, practices, out of town travel events, fundraising events, etc. It ranges from threats and verbal abuse to physical assaults and even homicide. It can affect and involve league volunteers, parents, guardians, vendors, referees, and spectators.
- b) There is zero tolerance for engaging in any of the aforementioned behaviors and will result in removal from the league. Removal entails no further coaching, volunteering, or engaging in any form of participation in any capacity. You will no longer be affiliated with any organizations that are part of the Sound Mind Sound Body league.

Social Media Policy

At Southeastern Michigan Youth Football League/Sound Mind Sound Body Youth Football and Cheer League, we understand that online social platforms, including blogs, wikis, message boards, video, photo sharing websites, and social networking platforms, such as Twitter, Instagram, Facebook, Snap Chat, TikTok etc., are constantly transforming the way we interact today. Additionally, we recognize the importance of the internet in shaping the public view of our league. Our league is committed to supporting your right to interact responsibly on the internet and we want our members to share and learn from others to build a valuable online presence.

The purpose of these guidelines is two-fold. First, the league has an aim to protect our interests and associations. Second, these guidelines will help you make respectful and appropriate decisions about your interactions with people on the internet.

Your personal online activity is your business. However, any online activity that is derogatory, or unethical, such as bullying, name calling, threatening, considered offensive, or creates a negative, hostile environment, are a proper focus for this Social Media Policy. You must assume that your social media activity is visible to the League, which includes the football and cheer organizations, and the American Youth Football League, which governs our league regionally and nationally.

SEMYFL/SMSB reserves the right to direct its members to avoid certain subjects and remove inappropriate comments and posts. Failure to abide by these guidelines may result in one or more of the following. Failure to comply with the SMSB Social Media Policy (as included in the SMSBYA Bylaws) May result in the following:

- a) A one game suspension (no team participation)
- b) Probation
- c) Termination from the respective organization and SMSBYA

Gambling

- a) Gambling will not be permitted or tolerated within the SMSB youth football league as stated in your parent and coaches code of conduct. The code of conduct form is included as part of the registration packet and must be signed by the participant and a parent/guardian. All registration packets must be complete with signatures and submitted to the respective organization. Failure to do so will result in exclusion from participation.
- b) Additionally, violating the terms listed in the code of conduct may result in termination from the respective organization and SMSBYA following an appearance before the League commissioner and /or compliance committee.

AYF Code of Conduct Form

(insert) ASSOCIATION NAME will not tolerate verbal abuse of its volunteer coaches from any Fan, Parent or Spectator.

This is American Youth Football, not the pros. Fans, as well as the players and coaches, are expected to abide by a code of conduct at all American Youth Football Events. While 99% of the adults in the program will abide by this code without being told, this code is being published to protect the children and volunteers (which includes all coaches and board members) from the 1%.

FANS' CODE OF CONDUCT

Fans will abide by a Code of Conduct which includes the provisions which follow. If any of these rules are broken, (insert) ASSOCIATION NAME shall have the authority to impose a penalty.

Fans shall:

1. Not criticize the players/cheerleaders or coaches in front of the other spectators in the stands, but reserve constructive criticism for later, in private.
2. Accept decisions of the game officials (including referees and coaches) on the field as being fair and called to the best ability of said officials.
3. Not criticize an opposing team, its players, coaches, or fans by word of mouth or by gesture.
4. Refrain from using physical or verbal abuse or profane language at any time at the game, practice field, or other AYF functions.
5. Abstain from being under the influence of or in possession of and/or drinking alcoholic beverages and the possession or use of any illegal substance on both the game and practice fields.
6. Not be allowed on the sidelines during a game.
7. Not interfere/interrupt the coaching staff before, during or after games or at practice.
8. Not express complaints about coaches in stands or to coaches in front of or around the children (i.e. right after a game or practice).

VIOLATION

Any parent or fan who violates the code of conduct risks the further participation of the child in the program. The procedure is as follows:

1. Any fan who violates the code of conduct or becomes a nuisance will be asked to leave by the head coach and can be suspended from all team activities.
2. If the fan fails to leave upon request, the child may be suspended from further participation in team activities by the head coach.
3. The head coach along with the executive board will decide if the duration of the suspension is to be longer than one to four weeks or if the child will be dropped from the program. That decision will depend on the attitude of the parents.
4. Any parent or fan who violates the code of conduct risks the future participation of his/her children in the program. Depending on the severity of the incident the board of directors may decide to ban future participation in the program for up to three years.

CONDUCT OF ALL PLAYERS - PARENTS

All players are guaranteed 6 plays in each Jamboree, Regular Season or Playoff game. Everything beyond that must be earned in the opinion of the coaching staff whose decisions are final.

Athlete's Code

I will: emphasis the ideals of sportsmanship, ethical conduct, and fair play. Show courtesy to my opponents and officials. Recognize athletic contests are serious educational endeavors. Give complete allegiance to my coaches who are the instructional authority for my team. Discourage fans, fellow players, and parents from undercutting my coach's authority.

I will not: Use profanity or talk "trash" before, during or after any game. Use drugs, alcohol, or tobacco. Criticize my teammates. Act in any way that may incite spectators.

Parent's Code

I will: Support my child's team/squad and teach the value of commitment to the team/squad - emphasis the ideals of sportsmanship, ethical conduct, and fair play. Help my child and American Youth Football make athletic contests a positive educational experience. Show courtesy to opponents and officials. Direct constructive criticism of my child's athletic program to the athletic director or association officials and work toward a positive result for all concerned.

I will not: Criticize officials, direct abuse, or profane language toward them, or otherwise subvert their authority. Undermine, in work or deed, the authority of the coach or administration. Intrude onto the field, stand on the sideline, or yell from the bleachers at or to the coaches, referees, or administration.

Please cut along this line, sign and return to the head coach

I have read the *FAN'S CODE OF CONDUCT* and understand what is expected.

Child's Name (PRINT)

Team Name

Date

Parents Name (PRINT)

Parents Signature

This part of the form must be returned to the head coach before the second game to the season.