



## **2010 COACH UPDATE NEWSLETTER - # 2**

(Please Note: These coaches update Newsletters are also on the FSYFL Web Site at the Coaches page)

### **1. Registration Payments**

If your team is definitely in the tournament and you have begun registering your players, you need to start sending any payments that you have received from your players to the FSYFL offices. Send whatever payments you have in hand please, this includes partial payments. These payments help to offset some of the large early costs for the tournament. Make sure to fill in players names on the "Coaches Disbursement Form", attach the checks and send them to the address on the form. If you have multiple teams and you register for all of them together, please attach checks for each TEAM to a separate Coaches Disbursement Form. If you received cash please keep the cash and write a check from yourself for the amount. Checks should be made out to FSYFL.

**2. Payments On line Report** – Once your team has begun to make payments, the FSYFL will shortly thereafter provide the team coaches/administrators with a password protected on line report of their teams current payment status.

### **3. Entering your Roster onto Team Zone Sports – **Very Important!****

**ALL TEAM HEAD COACHES MUST DO THIS STEP ASAP** Go to the FSYFL web site registration page and click on this button. Once you submit your details you will receive a link back to your emails that will allow you to set up your user name and password and your own team web site. This program has many features that you can use, however the only FSYFL requirement is to add your players to the roster AND enter their birthdates. The directions for these steps are in the newly released "Coaches What to Do Document" on the FSYFL web site Coaches page..



**4. Player Ages in Team Zone** – All players entered into the Team Zone Sports roster MUST have an age entered. Please review your Team Zone Sports instructions for how to do this.

**5. Referees Meeting** – The FSYFL will be arranging three Referees Meetings (Tampa, New Smyrna Beach and Ft Myers) to be held on Monday February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2010 in the early evening. The FSYFL Regional Head referee and his lead crew will be available and chair each meeting to discuss all rule changes, as well as the more complex rules specific to 8 on 8 play. All coaches are invited to attend these meetings. The exact time and location for each of these meetings will be announced in the next coaches email update. Please calendar this date if you are wanting to attend.

**6. Punt Rule** – The referee meeting will obviously address this issue, but for purposes of clarification here is the Punt rule that is applicable for **ALL** divisions. RULE 22 *"There are NO punts. For all 4th down plays, team coaches may choose to either; run the 4th down play or "declare" an intention to punt to the referee and the other team head coach. In the case of a declared punt the ball will then be placed 25 yards further down the field from the 4th down line of scrimmage"* Bottom line – there is no kicking at all on the FSYFL 8 on 8 tournament.

**7. Fields** - The FSYFL is close to finalizing all field locations for the 2010 season. Please note when the schedule is released the field location is detailed. Coaches should take careful note of the field they are playing at. Some of your teams local games may be played at different fields. It is the head coaches responsibility to make sure of field locations and times of their games. A "no show"

is a forfeit. All field locations and maps will be available on the FSYFL web site. This page will be updated shortly when final field locations are released. The following fields are being finalized:

- **New Smyrna Beach** – Used for East Central region games
- **Matanzas High School** – Used for North East region games
- **Zephyrhills Field** – Used for most of the West Central region games
- **Brandon Broncos Facility** – Used for some West Central region games
- **Lutz Field** – Used for a few West Central region games
- **Azalea Field (St Pete)** – Used for some West Central and South West region games
- **North Fort Myers Field** – Used for South West region games

8. **Certification Meeting** – The dates for the FSYFL pre-certification meetings will be announced and released very soon. However in order to give you all a heads up the plan is to have them somewhere between Feb 24-27. These meetings will be held in Tampa, Ft Myers, New Smyrna, Deland, Orlando and Flagler. **Please plan on having your team file folders as up to date as possible by this date.** You will obviously all have late changes to your folders but this process is intended to minimize the 1<sup>st</sup> game issues. The items checked at this meeting will be the following:
- a. Validation of your CURRENT on line roster (Team Zone Sports) with your team file folder hard cards. We will have an online computer to correct any discrepancies and/or add any players (Please Note: Players can be added up until the start of the 2<sup>nd</sup> regular season game – these additional players' paperwork will be certified at the game sites)
  - b. Verify player paperwork (Hard Card, Liability & Medical Release and Birth Certificate)
  - c. Stamp and certify the players photographs to the Hard Card.
  - d. Receive and check outstanding player payments.

**NO PLAYER WILL BE ALLOWED TO TAKE THE FIELD TO PLAY ANY GAMES WITHOUT FULL PAYMENT AND PAPERWORK COMPLETED.**

9. **FSYFL Insurance Program** – There is some confusion over the Liability and Medical Releases. The Liability Release is a requirement from our insurance company to ensure that all parents are informed of the dangers of football, and thereby inherently protects us from frivolous law suits alleging lack of knowledge of the dangers. The Medical Release is a document that releases FSYFL and their agents to obtain medical assistance in the unlikely event of an injured player. The FSYFL carries a typical youth football accident insurance program. Please go to the FSYFL web site Frequently Asked Questions for a more detailed explanation of the medical accident coverage criteria.

10. **Additional Insured** – Some field facilities require teams to provide an insurance rider to the FSYFL insurance policy to cover the fields ownership for liability. This is called an “additional insured” rider. If your field facility requires this please email me with the exact name required to be added and this can be turned over pretty quick.

11. **FSYFL Game Schedule** – The game schedule will be released to all coaches by Feb 25<sup>th</sup>, 2010. For information purposes the general rule of thumb for team's 7 game regular season is as follows:

- 3 games in your region versus a local team in your area
- 2 games versus outside region teams travelling into your local area to play your team
- 2 games played on the same day when your team travels to an outside region
- 1 Bye week

Please note a couple of important points regarding schedules:

- From time to time during the season there are some changes that need to be made, however these are kept to a bare minimum and your team will be asked prior to the change being made. Please be understanding in this event!

- For the week when you will travel to an outside region, **ALL** the teams from all your organizations divisions will travel together to the same location. We are aware that you, your players and your parents may have siblings on other teams.

**12. FSYFL Travel Week** – Every team in the FSYFL tournament is required to travel for ONE of their regular season weeks. This is one of the unique features of the FSYFL. Teams do not play anyone twice, and they get a chance to play a number of teams outside their summer programs. The kids love it and they get to feel like college or NFL players for a week! Most coaches use it as a fun time to travel with their kids and parents and make it an experience. Try see if your team parents can join together and make it a travel trip that the kids will all remember. When you travel you should always plan on playing a double header. Typically the two games will have an approximate 2 hour break between them.

**13. FSYFL Web Site** – I receive many calls from coaches asking questions that are on the FSYFL web site. This is fine and I am here for your customer support. However the web site has the following helpful pages.

- **Coaches Page** – A document library of all forms you need to run a team. It has a coaches update newsletter library with any newsletter you missed.
- **Frequently Asked Questions Page** – Any question you have, you may consider looking here first. I am constantly updating this page if someone asks me something that is not answered there.
- **Team Records** – When the season starts every final score for every game will be placed here. The team records will also be here.

**14. Amount of Teams** – While the exact final number of teams participating is still not 100% confirmed it looks like we will have approximately 100-120 teams participating in 2010. (26 Peewee, 22 Supers, 24 Midgets, 20 Junior Varsity and 20 Varsity) - The FSYFL web site has now been updated with all the participating teams. Go to the Team Records page to view these teams and their regional breakdowns. ([www.fsyfl.com/results.html](http://www.fsyfl.com/results.html)) Please note that these numbers may still change, however I think we are at about 85% accuracy as it currently stands.

**15. Regions/Conferences** – The breakdown of the regions and conferences is on the FSYFL website. ([www.fsyfl.com/results.html](http://www.fsyfl.com/results.html)). We have deliberately maintained the East / West format this year, and while some of the regional team numbers have disparities, we feel confident that the schedule mixes up the teams sufficiently that we will come out of the regular season with the top 8 teams for each conference. The playoff format is as follows:

*The 1st and 2nd rounds of the playoffs are a knock out tournament. The top 3 record teams from each Region automatically advance PLUS the next two best records from the Conference shall advance. Each team is subsequently seeded based on their records using the FSYFL tie breaker process. The #1 seed plays #8 seed, #2 plays #7, #3 plays #6, #4 plays #5. The 3rd round of the playoffs is the Conference Championship between the two best teams of the conference. The State Championship is between the Conference champion of the East and West. Tie Breakers are 1st=Record, 2nd=Head to Head, 3rd=Conf Record Percentage (not record), 4th=Points For/Against*

## **16. Jerseys**

- **Numbers** – Due to the amount of teams we have participating it is impossible for the FSYFL to allow teams to select their jersey numbers. The FSYFL ruling is such that we provide the numbers pre-printed on the jerseys. Should you want your own numbers you can email me and I will send you blank jerseys, with only “FSYFL” on them and you can have your numbers placed onto the jerseys locally.
- **Colors** – The deadline for providing me your jersey colors in this Friday February 5<sup>th</sup>. I will make a couple of attempts to phone you to find out what color you need, after that I will allocate you a color.

- **Color Clashes** – In the event that two teams end up playing each other with the same jersey colors I will have a full set of white jerseys for one of the teams to use for that particular game. Teams will have advanced notice of this fact due to the schedule.
- **Sizes** – The FSYFL standardizes the jersey sizes. (*Pee wee – S/M, Supers and Midgets – Youth Large, JV – Youth XL, Varsity – Adult Large*) The FSYFL carries additional jerseys for players in the event of one or two being way too small.

### 17. Cheerleading Program

Don't forget this season we have started a pilot cheer program. The program description guidelines are on the Coaches page of the web site. However in summary your coaches can form a cheer squad to cheer for your teams. These squads can be made up of mixed age groups if you wish. The program is fairly inexpensive and gives a chance for your cheer girls and coaches to get a small jump on the fall season. The Cheer Director is Suzanne Sarwatka 813 949 0621 and her email is [cheermeup86@yahoo.com](mailto:cheermeup86@yahoo.com) Take a look at the document on line.

Finally, thank you all for your participation in the FSYFL tournament. It is my pleasure to serve you all, and I wish you luck for your season...please do not hesitate to phone me Sandy Beckett 813 728 6747 or email [sandyb@q3solutions.com](mailto:sandyb@q3solutions.com) if you have a question.

*Remember you may be coaching the next John Lynch or Brett Favre...so give them all your heart!*