



COACHES EMAIL UPDATE #6

1. PLAYOFF FIELDS

In order to assist some of the clubs that live on the edges of our regions, we have made a decision to have the NE, NW & SW regional games in fields that are more to the north/south to help these clubs with less travel for a change this season. The following details the playoff fields that have been selected for this season:

DISTRICT CHAMPIONSHIPS 4/1/17

NE – MIDDLEBURG FIELD
NEC – NSB FIELD
SEC – ST CLOUD FIELD
SE – PSL FIELD
NW – OCALA NORTH FIELD
NWC - MULBERRY FIELD
SWC – LITHIA PINECREST FIELD
SW – CLEARWATER FIELD

REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS 4/8/17

NE – MIDDLEBURG FIELD
SE – PALM BAY FIELD
NW – INVERNESS FIELD
SW – CLEARWATER FIELD

CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIPS 4/15/17

WEST – BRANDON FIELD
EAST – TITUSVILLE FIELD

STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS 4/29-30/17

TARPON SPRINGS FIELD

PRO BOWL 5/6/17

TITUSVILLE FIELD

2. PLAYOFF FORMAT

The playoff brackets will be released onto the Team Console pages Saturday 3/25/17 by midnight. The FSYFL uses multiple systems to finalize the playoff format. The District Championships will contain double headers for districts that have more than 2 teams, to enable us to achieve a district champion by the end of the day. For a 4 team bracket 1 plays 4, 2 plays 3 and the winners play each other in a double header. In a 3 team bracket 2 plays 3 and the winner plays 1. Additionally, we have a strict rule that every team no matter how small their district team numbers are, a team MUST play and win at least ONE game at either the District or Regional Championships level to advance to the Conference Championships. Therefore in unusual cases this may involve the use of a double elimination bracket format to achieve this. Also teams that are in brackets that contain only 4 teams on the entire coast, these teams may be required to face a full seeding of all 4 teams and then the Regional Championship matchups be played outside of the teams specific districts (1 plays 4 and 2 plays 3). Both these scenarios are rare.

3. NOT WANTING TO ENTER THE PLAYOFFS?

If your team does not want to enter the playoffs please email sandy@youthspringfootball.com as soon as possible. The playoff brackets are very difficult to create and any disruption is difficult and time consuming to fix.

4. D3 BOWL GAMES

Some teams that have not fared well in the tournament can opt to back out of the playoff run. The FSYFL does their best to arrange some D3 bowl games for these teams with other teams of equal talent in their close vicinity. These games are fully refereed and carry a D3 trophy for the winner. If you are interested in participating in a bowl game please email sandy@youthspringfootball.com and we will do our best to accommodate you. This is NOT a guarantee however if we can achieve it we will help facilitate it.

5. SCHEDULE REQUESTS FOR PLAYOFFS

The FSYFL provides an opportunity for teams to make schedule time requests for the playoffs. If you have already submitted a request that we used in the regular season e.g. dual coaches etc, these will be still be carried forward for the playoffs. **Please submit these requests by Saturday 12noon at the latest.**

6. ALABAMA & GEORGIA GAMES

The FSYFL sent 6 teams up to the GA market this week on 3/25/17 to play against the teams in the GA and AL tournament in Atlanta. This helps to make the early adopter teams in that market have a season of a variety of games. The FSYFL gives each team a \$600 stipend toward travel expenses. We are looking for 2 Tiny, 3 Mitey and 1 Peewee teams for this opportunity on 4/8/17 to go to Atlanta, GA. This is the week after the Districts Championships. So if you are still in your playoff run then you will obviously be unable to go. However we will place all

interested teams on the waiting list and if team #1 can't attend we will offer the opportunity to team #2 on the list. Get your names in now if you would like to be considered for this opportunity.

7. PRO BOWL NOMINATIONS

Pro Bowl nominations are now open. **PRO BOWL NOMINATIONS MUST COME FROM THE HEAD COACH OR CLUB ADMIN.** Each team may NOMINATE 3 players. **THIS DOES NOT GUARANTEE EVERY PLAYER NOMINATED WILL BE SELECTED...PLEASE EXPLAIN THIS TO YOUR PARENTS.** Do NOT submit more than 3 names, if the committee needs more they will ask. EVERY TEAM will receive 1 automatic selection. Teams that advance further in the play offs will receive more selections. Areas with few teams may receive 4. All nominations MUST be submitted by email to sandy@youthspringfootball.com in the following format (One Offense, One Defense and One Other) - Team Name, Team Division, with player name and position in order of priority for selection. (i.e. Orlando Jets, Pee wee D1, #1 John Doe/LB, #2 Robert Jones/RB, #3 Jim Fish/QB) Emails that do not have a priority order and/or names and positions will be returned. **EVERY PLAYER THAT IS SELECTED MUST ATTEND THE STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS IN TARPON SPRINGS TO BE PRESENTED ON THE JUMBOTRON AND RECEIVE THEIR JERSEY AND HAVE A FIRST GET TOGETHER WITH THEIR PRO BOWL TEAM.** Do not nominate a player who cannot attend this event, you are wasting your time.

8. SPIRIT AWARD AND COACHES AWARD NOMINATIONS

Nominations for the 4 "Coach of the Year" awards and the 4 "FSYFL Spirit Awards" are now open. The coach of the year is self explanatory. The Spirit award is for ANYONE participating in the FSYFL or NOT that has shown exemplary inspiration in education, life or dedication to others. These nominees can be any age old or young but they must have displayed more than sporting ability. This award is about dedication to others over and above themselves. This is not only for football players but can be anyone, even someone who just helped your team. Nominations must be submitted by email to sandy@youthspringfootball.com with a paragraph explaining why the nominee is worthy of the award. Winners will be presented with their personalized award at the FSYFL State Championships on the Jumbotron and with a personal presentation of their efforts. **Nominate now this is a great award!**

9. D1 & D2 DISCUSSION

Some teams have already been lifted up to the D1 tournament, other teams may still be lifted up. In unusual cases we sometimes drop teams down from D1 to D2. This process began prior to the season's first game by a select committee that was tasked with specific criteria to make these decisions. The FSYFL decisions are final. This is a very serious process and the committee that was convened before the season for this task has worked hard to use all tools at their disposal to make these determinations. It is not a perfect science, and in all cases a team is moved up or down **ONLY** with the **UNANIMOUS** vote of **ALL** 3 members. Teams had to meet the 4-5 criteria to be qualified to be moved FIRST and then also be voted on, so if the decision is made to move a team, it is done so with great seriousness and unanimity. The likelihood of a team being moved DOWN will only occur if there is a compelling reason to do so. If you lost 90% of your games by 4-5 TD's and were beaten by most if not all of your D2 opponents then you will be moved? The committee will NOT drop teams from D1 to D2 that have a strong possibility of beating multiple teams in the D2 tournament the moment they drop. Teams were able to chose their position prior to the season.

10. TROPHIES

The FSYFL provides a small participation trophy for every player that participates in the tournament. These trophies will be provided to the head coaches of each team after they have failed to advance to the next round. In addition we provide a team trophy for each Championship week. District Champion, District Runner Up, Regional Champions etc.

11. STATE CHAMPS FOOTBALL CENTRAL

This year FSYFL will be running a State Championship Football Central event at the State Championship games. There will be all sorts of games, obstacle courses, electronic agility drills etc. Tickets will be available prior to and at the State Games.

12. ADVERTISING ON JUMBOTRON

The FSYFL has a very large Jumbotron at the State Championships to show the games. We are offering advertising opportunities on this Jumbotron for very reasonable pricing. If you are interested on know someone who is please email sandy@youthspringfootball.com

13. EJECTIONS FROM PLAYOFF GAMES

The protocols for ejections will remain the same for the playoffs. Warn your players that should they be ejected they are very likely to endure an additional game suspension. Playoff game or not.

Thanks and Good Luck!