



Hello Coaches:

THIS IS AN IMPORTANT EMAIL UPDATE FOR PARTICIPATING COACHES ...PLEASE MAKE SURE AND READ ALL INFORMATION. (This is the first FSYFL Coaches Update for the new 2012 Season. Remember this update and all forms mentioned are available at the FSYFL Documents Library <http://www.fsyfl.com/coaches-documents/>)

Register Your Teams Now!

If you are planning on participating in the FSYFL tournament for this season please register your team by going to the Team Registration Page on the FSYFL website at <http://www.fsyfl.com/team-registration-page/> Every team must register individually. If you are a registrar for your whole organization you can register all your teams but they must be done for each division individually. *If you have already registered you should have received your user name and password in an email this past weekend. If you did not receive it please email sandy@youthspringfootball.com*

Start making your Player Payments

If you have already begun to collect some of your player registrations, these payments can be sent to the FSYFL now using the Coaches Disbursement Form and mailed to FSYFL, P.O. Box 260183, Tampa FL 33685. Use the "FSYFL Coaches Disbursement" form from your Coaches What To Do Document" it is also attached to this email or available for download [HERE](#). Checks should be made out to FSYFL. As you receive additional payments just continue to mail them in until all your players fees are paid. The FSYFL will return an up to date payment report to you each time you submit payments.

Online Player Payments (Credit & Debit Cards)

Please note you can now have your players pay online at the FSYFL web site <http://www.fsyfl.com/payment-players/> and choose the Player Registration button. All Credit cards and Debit Card payments are accepted there.

Team Registration Deadline

All teams entering the FSYFL tournament MUST have fulfilled two items by January 15th, 2012 to be added to this season's FSYFL schedule. **#1**) register their team online and **#2**) have paid a minimum of \$500 of their player registrations (4 players). **THIS MINIMUM REGISTRATION FEE PAYMENT IS MANDATORY BY JANUARY 15th IF YOU WANT TO BE ON THE 2012 SCHEDULE.** Please note this is NOT an additional team deposit but the equivalent of 4 players registration fees.

Team Registration Console

The FSYFL is no longer using the old Team Zone Sports program for input of player rosters. The FSYFL has launched their own Team Management Console on the FSYFL website. Once you have registered your team on the FSYFL website you will receive an email back with a user name and password for your link access to your team page on the FSYFL Team Management Console. All players on your rosters **MUST** be entered into your team page. (As you add players to your team so they should be added to the Team Management Console)

New and Exciting FSYFL stuff!

The FSYFL continues to assess their program and add to the excitement of the tournament in order to accurately reflect our "FSYFL...the NFL of Youth Sports" mantra. The following are some of the "new items" for 2012:

1. *Red Challenge Flag* - All head coaches will now be provided with a Red Flag at each game allowing them to challenge a referee call on the field. Obviously we do not have instant replay, but we have instituted a program that gives our coaches the chance to challenge a referee call they deem incorrect. The following rules will apply:
 - o Only the head coach may challenge a play

- Only non judgment calls can be challenged
 - Each coach will have 1 challenge per half
 - If a coach loses their challenge it will cost them a time out, if they win, then the call is reversed and the timeout refunded
 - Once the red challenge flag is thrown this will require all the field referees to huddle to confirm that they collectively agree with the given referees decision, once the call is confirmed or changed the head coaches will be informed of the final decision.
2. *State Championship Rings* - We will be awarding THREE (3) State Championship rings to the state winning Head Coach, Offense and Defense Coordinators of each division. Teams desiring additional rings for their other coaches and/or their players will be able to purchase them through our preferred program vendor.
 3. *Armband, Visors, Tape, Helmet stickers, MVP awards and Game time celebrations* - We have decided to abolish the armband, tape and visor restrictions from the referee uniform rules. Players will be able to tape up, wear armbands wherever they want and have any kind of visors on their helmets that they wish. Nicknames on jerseys, helmet stickers, game balls and MVP awards are all now allowed. We have also instructed our referee staff that reasonable player field celebrations will be allowed. However cursing, taunting of opposing teams/players, excessive celebrations, unkind team behavior of any type is strictly prohibited and will be penalized. Delay of game penalties will be assessed on teams delaying games by excessive time wasted in celebrations.
 4. *State Student Athlete Awards* - There will be two State Championship Student Athlete Awards provided by the FSYFL that will be awarded prior to each State Championship game, to the two athletes from each State Championship team selected by their coaches and teammates who have excelled in their school work. These awards will be announced and presented at mid field by an FSYFL special guest to celebrate student grade achievement.
 5. *The PRO Bowl* - The FSYFL has expanded the Pro Bowl program from 12 to 24 teams. 4 teams of 15 players from each division (NE, SE, NW, SW) of each Conference (East and West) will play in a tournament format on April 28th and 29th, 2012. Each player will receive a Pro Bowl jersey, custom socks and certificate. Please review the Pro Bowl guidelines document on the FSYFL web site for the full Pro Bowl rules.

Pre Certification Meetings

The FSYFL conducts pre-certification meetings in every market in the 10 days prior to the start of the season. The dates and meeting locations will be announced well in advance to all coaches. Teams may bring their players to any one of those pre-certification meetings to complete as many of their players book check certifications and weigh ins as possible. Players can still be certified prior to their teams first games at the fields, but these meetings are provided as a courtesy to coaches to clear as many of their players as is possible prior to the start of the season.

Referees Association

The FSYFL has now started their own Referee Organization. FSYFL referees will be registered, trained, certified and passed by examination in the FSYFL rules prior to the season start. This will hopefully assist in the quality of referees and standards across the FSYFL tournament as a whole.

Field Locations

The FSYFL is still in the process of finalizing all of the specific fields locations for the 2012 season. The final field location matrix will be released by Jan 15th, 2012. In the interim the following summary describes all general locations, with amounts of fields in parenthesis: Jacksonville(2), Palm Coast(1), New Smyrna(1), North Orlando/Deltona(1), South Orlando(1), Titusville(1), Port St Lucie(1), Okeechobee(1), Miami(1), Ocala(1), Land O Lakes(1), North Tampa(1), Central Tampa(1), Brandon(1), Tarpon Springs(1), St Petersburg(2), Seminole(1), Port Charlotte/Englewood/Northport(2, 1 tbd), Venice(1), Ft Myers(1), Naples (1 tbd)

Siblings playing on different teams

The FSYFL will always ensure that teams from different divisions that are from a single organization will always play at the same field every week, regardless of whether the week is a local or travel game. FSYFL does not cause parents with siblings to have to separate to watch their kids play. If you are a coach that is coaching 2 divisions please email sandy@youthspringfootball.com to ensure your teams are scheduled with enough of a break to allow you to coach both teams. If an organization enters multiple teams in a single division these teams will also not play each other in the regular season. However if both teams make it to the playoffs all bets are off.

Birth Certificates & ID's

While the FSYFL dispenses with some of the unnecessary Fall program rules and paperwork, the one area we are very stringent on, are the division age and weights stipulations. Please make sure and take the time to read the Certification documents that are contained in your "Coaches What To Do" document and ensure your players abide by these rules otherwise they WILL fail the certification process. Returning FSYFL players may use their past season STAMPED birth certificates as verification as long as they are the copies that contain the ORIGINAL FSYFL STAMP from last season. Remember you only need to inform the parents of players that the original birth certificates/ID's will need to be shown ONCE at the Pre-certification meetings or the players first game. Start collecting their copies for now to put in their team folders, but inform parents they will have to show the original only once to an FSYFL official at either of these events. That way you don't have to hold onto the originals in the interim. The FSYFL will then stamp your copy once they see the original and the copy will remain in the folders.

The FSYFL Store

The new FSYFL online store will be launched this coming week with special online ordering. Custom FSYFL design T-Shirts and apparel will be available. In addition weigh in outfits and specialty designed game jerseys and pants and football equipment will be offered. Teams can pre-order items for their season through this FSYFL shop. Please keep a look out on the FYSFL web site for information.

Playoff Spots

With the growth of the FSYFL some divisions this season could grow to more than 30 teams. Currently 16 teams per division make it to the playoffs. We will be adding additional playoff spots if a given division exceeds 32 teams this season.

Player Physicals

I have had many calls on the requirement of physicals. Please note that Physicals are NOT a requirement for participation in the tournament, or part of the team book.

Coaches What to Do Document & General Documents

The most important document for all coaches is the "**COACHES WHAT TO DO DOCUMENT**". This and all required documents and instructions are available at the Documents Library section of the FSYFL website. If you do not have a copy of this document please email me immediately on sandy@youthspringfootball.com or go to the website and download it.

Coaches Background Check System

Please review the FSYFL Coach Screening page <http://www.fsyfl.com/new-coach-screening/> for information on this process. Due to the fact that the FSYFL is a tournament, in the past we have relied on individual organizations to manage the background check process. However the FSYFL now has their own background check system in place. We have done extensive research on state wide leagues and if your coach has a valid up to date certification with an FSYFL verified/accepted league then your coach is waived for the background check requirement, by providing a photocopy of their current badge. Coaches without this waiver should complete the FSYFL background check process to be eligible to coach. **Head coaches should submit the "COACHES BADGE APPLICATION FORM" to order their teams FSYFL coach badges here** <http://www.fsyfl.com/docs/Coach-Badge-Application.pdf>

Jerseys and Numbers

From 2012 we will no longer provide numbers on jerseys ordered from the FSYFL. Coaches will be required to contact their local equipment provider to place numbers on their jerseys. With the size of the tournament and all the changes from each teams coaches it became impossible to handle all the number requirements. The jerseys will also now arrive earlier, allowing coaches time to achieve this process.

Looking for extra Kids?

The FSYFL receives requests from a large number of parents contacting us directly for a place for their child to play in all regions across Florida. If you are looking for kids please email sandy@youthspringfootball.com and we will send you the list of kids from your area looking for a team to play on.

Important Dates

Team Registration Deadline - Sunday, January 15th, 2012 (*\$500 of your player registrations must be paid*)

Schedule Released - Friday, February 3rd, 2012

Pre Certification Meetings - Wed, Feb 8th - Friday Feb 17th (specific date & location calendar to be released by Jan 15th)

First Game - Saturday, Feb 18th

Roster Freeze Date - Saturday, March 10th, 2012 (players may be added up until this date only)

FSYFL State Championship - Saturday, April 21st, 2012

FSYFL Pro Bowl Tournament - Saturday, April 28th, 2012

Thanks for your participation!

Thanks

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