

2019 BANTAM DIVISION GAME RULE MODIFICATIONS
For Ages 12 – 14 (no HS Freshman), Weight Limit - Unlimited.

MANDATORY PLAY RULE: Each player must play a minimum of 3 plays for the game.

1. **THE PROPER SHOE (CLEAT)**
The molded plastic cleat football shoes are for the Bantam Division.
2. **THE GAME BALL FOR THE Bantam DIVISION**
Bantam \implies **TDY WILSON, NIKE YOUTH FOOTBALL**
3. **THE LENGTH OF THE GAME**
Bantam \implies **Four (8) minute quarters of regulation time**
4. **THE PRE-GAME COIN TOSS**
 - A. The head coach and team captains are to meet with the officials at mid-field.
 - B. Each team is limited to (4) team captains to go to mid-field prior to the game.
5. **THE COACHES ON THE SIDELINE:**
 - A. Coaches must stay in between both 20-yard lines.
 - B. Each team is permitted (6) coaches on the field.
 - C. This does not include the organizational coordinator.
6. **THE START OF THE GAME**
Bantam \implies **NO KICKOFF - Offense will start from the 35-yard line.**
7. **TEAM TIME OUTS**
 - A. Each team gets four (4) time outs during the regulation game.
 - B. Each team gets one (1) additional time out in overtime. (Playoffs only)
 - C. Timeouts can be carried over to the next period excluding the O.T. period.
8. **WHEN A SAFETY OCCURS** **After the safety,**
The ball will be spotted at the 50 yard line after a safety
9. **THE HEAD COACH IS THE ONLY PERSON TO ADDRESS THE GAME REFEREES**
 - A. The head coach is the only coach to talk to the referees during the game on rule Interpretations or issues in a **sportsmanlike manner.**

Points of Emphasis
10. **CENTER – KEEP YOUR HEAD UP:**
The center is to keep his head up when snapping the ball to the QB in a shotgun formation.
11. **GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP IS A REQUIREMENT**
Officials are to penalize those participants (both coaches and players) when their conduct violates good sportsmanship guidelines.
12. **ILLEGAL HELMET HITS ARE A BIG POINT OF EMPHASIS THIS YEAR**
No spearing, No helmet to helmet, No initial contact to head, No Face tackling will be carefully watched and penalized in 2018.

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- A. **NO KICKOFF IN THE TERMITE, JUNIOR, PEEWEE & BANTAM DIVISION.**

13. PUNTING – BANTAM DIVISION

- A. **No punting in the Termite, JUNIOR or Pee wee Divisions.**
B. Offensive team may punt at any time.
C. A punt is always a free kick.
D. A punt can only be advanced if caught in the air off of the punters foot.
D. The defensive team may rush a punt only from the outside the last player on the LOS, one player on each side. E. Free Catch-There shall be a free catch of a punt. The receiver shall signify his intentions for a free catch by waving his hand clearly over his head.
F. The return team may not drop back more than three returners.
G. The ball is ruled dead once it has been touched down or the progression of the ball has been stopped.
H. **NO MUFFED PUNT** - a **muffed punt** is defined as "touching of the ball prior to possessing the ball". A **muffed punt** occurs when there is an "uncontrolled touch" of the football by a player on the returning team after it is punted.
I. If the ball is snapped over the punters head in the field of play it will be automatically blown dead and returned to the line of scrimmage and turn over on downs if it was 4th down.
J. If the snap is rolled back or dropped by the punter the play is blown dead and returned to the line of scrimmage and turn over on downs if it was 4th down.

14. **COACHES AND BENCH AREAS** (Amended to league rules due to OHSAA)

- a) Coaches must stay in between both 20-yard lines.
b) (6) Six coaches on the sidelines. (Does not include Coordinator)

15. **THE PROPER EQUIPMENT:**

- a) A participant **may not play** if they are wearing any protective cast.
b) No bandannas or decorative paraphernalia are allowed to be worn.
c) Each participant must wear their own mouth piece item.