

**Memorandum of Understanding between the  
Cleveland Metropolitan School District and the  
Cleveland Teachers Union, AFT Local 279, AFL-CIO  
RE: Spring Football Program for the 2020-2021 School Year**

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Cleveland Metropolitan School District (District) and the Cleveland Teachers Union, AFT Local 279, AFL-CIO (CTU) memorializes the District and CTU's shared commitment to continue the current collaborative working relationship thus enhancing the shared responsibility to provide quality educational services for all District students.

The District recognizes that all provisions in the Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) effective July 1, 2019 between the District and the CTU and future CBAs as ratified, as well as other binding agreements on the CTU and the District in the form of Memoranda of Understanding (hereinafter collectively "CBA"), shall remain in full force and effect.

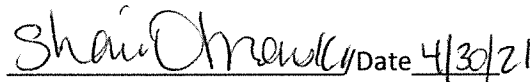
Whereas the District and CTU wish to foster opportunities for students to participate in athletics and other extracurricular activities that are not specifically identified in the current CBA's Differential Listing;

Therefore, the District and the CTU agree that the District may elect to offer the following differential for the 2020-2021 academic year pursuant to the following terms and conditions:

1. The District will offer Spring Football for the Spring 2021 season, May 3, 2021-May 31, 2021.
2. This program will follow the OHSAA Spring Football Guidance Document attached.
3. All current high school football coaches will staff this program unless they are currently coaching a spring sport.
4. Coaches and Assistant Coaches will be paid the appropriate Fall Football Differential listed in the CBA Appendix A based on modified length of the spring season.
5. Spring Football will be offered at the following High Schools: Collinwood, East Tech, Glenville, James F Rhodes, John Adams, John Hay, John F Kennedy, and John Marshall.
6. The District will ensure compliance with Title IX under federal law;
7. This MOU expires June 30, 2021.

SIGNED AND AGREED TO BY:

FOR THE UNION:

 Date 4/30/21

Shari Obrenski, President  
Cleveland Teachers Union

FOR THE DISTRICT:

 Date 4/30/21

Eric S. Gordon, Chief Executive Officer  
Cleveland Metropolitan School District



## FOOTBALL

### A. GENERAL SPRING 2021 REGULATIONS

#### 1) Interscholastic Participation

##### 1.1) Practice and Coaching

1.11) Mandatory practice may begin April 15 for all schools that did not participate in the Fall of 2020.

1.12) All schools must respect a five-day acclimatization period. All athletes joining the team for the first time at any point during the season after the first day of mandatory practice must participate in a five-day acclimatization period prior to any contact drills. There must be an adequate recovery period between practice sessions.

1.13) During practices within the acclimatization period, players may wear helmets only on the first two days. On days three and four, helmets and shoulder pads are allowed. From day five onward, full pads are allowed. Full contact is NOT permitted until the acclimatization period is completed. During the first five days of practice, athletes may engage in conditioning, speed, strength, agility drills and may use “dummies” for drills and walk-through practices.

1.14) Any practice or workout including two or more school teams or partial teams is a scrimmage.

1.15) Conduct of Practice Sessions. **Know both the temperature and humidity.**

1.15.1) When temperatures are 84 degrees or higher, temperature and humidity readings shall be taken at the site 30 minutes prior to activity.

1.15.2) **Test the air prior to practice or a game using a wet bulb, globe, temperature index (WBGT index) which is based on the combined effects of air temperature, relative humidity, radiant heat and air movement.** The following precautions are recommended when using the WBGT Index: (ACSM's Guidelines for the Team Physician, 1991):

Below 64 - Unlimited activity

65-72 - Moderate risk

74-82 - High Risk

82 plus - Very high risk

1.15.3) One other method of measuring the relative humidity is the use of a sling psychrometer, which measures wet bulb temperature. The wet bulb temperature should be measured prior to practice and the intensity and duration of practice adjusted accordingly. Recommendations are as follows:

Under 60 F      Safe but always observe athletes

61-65 F        Observe players carefully

66-70 F        Caution

71-75 F	Shorter practice sessions and more frequent water and rest breaks
75+ F	Danger level and extreme caution

1.15.4) See the Heat Regulations on page 91 of the General Sports Regulations.

1.16) Practices: When more than one practice takes place in a day, full contact is permitted only during one of the practice sessions. With the importance of recovery time to help minimize concussion risks, consideration should also be given to the timing of full contact during the next day (i.e. if full contact occurs during session 2 of two-a-days, there should not be full contact in session 1 of two-a-days the following day).

1.16.1) Contact Definitions

1. Unrestricted Activities

A. Air – (Coach pre-determined outcome) – Players run a drill unopposed without contact.

B. Bags – (Coach pre-determined outcome) – Drill is run against a bag or other soft contact surface.

C. Control – (Coach pre-determined outcome) – Drill is run at assigned speed until the moment of contact; one player is pre-determined the “winner” by the coach. Contact remains above the waist and players stay on their feet.

2. Restricted Contact

A. Thud – (Non coach pre-determined outcome) - Drill is run at assigned speed until the moment of contact; no pre-determined “winner”. Contact remains above the waist and players stay on their feet and a quick whistle ends the drill.

B. Live Action - (Non coach pre-determined outcome) – Games, scrimmages and drills run in game-like conditions. These are the only times that players are taken to the ground.

1.17) In Season Practice

1.18.1) Consider limiting full contact on consecutive days.

1.18.2) A student-athlete is limited to 30 minutes of full contact in practice per day.

1.18.3) A student-athlete is limited to 60 minutes of full contact in practice per week.

1.18.4) A student-athlete can be involved in full contact in a maximum of two practices in a seven-day span.

1.2) Games/Scrimmages

- 1.21) Any practice or workout including two or more teams or partial teams is a scrimmage.
- 1.22) Grades 9-12 - Scrimmages or games may be held after one day of full contact practice.
- 1.4) Quarters and Game Limitations
  - 1.41A) 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade student is limited to playing:
    - a) A maximum of four quarters in one day
    - b) A maximum of 50 quarters per season
    - c) A maximum of 10 games or scrimmages combined.
  - 1.42) **Any player who participates in two or more consecutive downs in one quarter shall be charged with one quarter of play. A down in which the offensive team is in a scrimmage kick formation or a free kick occurs does not count in the quarter limitation. A down repeated due to penalty does not count. Note: This is not the formula for Competitive Balance rostering.**
- 1.5) Length of Periods
  - 1.51) Grades 9-12 – Maximum length for each quarter for 9<sup>th</sup>, JV and Reserve – 10 minutes, Varsity — Maximum length of each quarter is 12 minutes.
  - 1.52) **Overtime is not permitted during this Spring timeframe.**
  - 1.53) Point Differential/Running Clock: After the first half of regular season 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade, sub-varsity and varsity contests, any time the score differential reaches 30 points or more, a running clock shall be used. After the 30-point differential has been met but the score drops below 30 points, the clock reverts to regular timing.
 

Running clock procedures, which include when the clock will still be stopped, are published on the OHSAA website and in the OHSAA Football Manual.

**Note:** The use of this rule does not preclude the use of NFHS Rule 3-1-3, which reads: “A period or periods may be shortened in any emergency by agreement of the opposing coaches and referee. By mutual agreement of the opposing coaches and the referee, any remaining periods may be shortened at any time or the game terminated.”
- 1.6) No Contest/Forfeit
 

Teams are expected to play all games not begun on the earliest potential makeup date. If a game is not played on the scheduled date and the schools are unable to agree to a mutually convenient

make-up date, the OHSAA office will determine whether the date is treated as a “no-contest” or forfeiture, taking into consideration the reason for cancelling the scheduled contest and the rationale used by the schools in their efforts to re-schedule the contest.

**3) Ejection for Unsporting Conduct**

Any student or coach ejected or disqualified for unsporting conduct or a flagrant foul shall be ineligible for all football contests for the remainder of that day. In addition, he/she shall be ineligible for all football games at all levels until one regular season/tournament contest is played at the same level as the ejection or disqualification. (General Sports Regulation items 13 and 14).

Exception: A player disqualified for flagrant personal fouls **other than fouls in Rule 9, Section 4 Articles 1, 2 and 3-j**, shall be ineligible for all contests for the remainder of that day. The disqualification for these fouls may be extended through the next scheduled game at the same level of the disqualification by the OHSAA Football Administrator or his/her designee. Video of these fouls shall be emailed to the OHSAA Football Administrator or his/her designee within 48 hours of the contest.

**4) Transfer Bylaw**

Due to the many questions regarding this bylaw and its application to students desiring to play football, please go to the OHSAA website ([www.ohsaa.org](http://www.ohsaa.org)), click on the “Eligibility” link, then click on the “Transfer Bylaw Resource Center” to assist in the understanding of this bylaw. **Note that students who transfer and do not meet an exception to this bylaw are ineligible for all contests after game 5 of the regular season including post season contests.**

**5) Noise**

A. Bands shall not play music at football games while the ball is in play, or while signals are being called by the quarterback. This means that it is not permissible to use either:

1. Drum roll or beat
2. Cymbals clashing
3. Horn sounds, or
4. Any other kind of musical instrument while the play is underway in football.

5. Roving bands shall be allowed to participate at the discretion of the host Athletic Director. However, such bands shall not perform while the ball is in play or while signals are being called by the quarterback.

B. Amplified Noise Shall not be played while the ball is in play, or while signals are being called by the quarterback. This includes, but is not limited to:

1. Any noise over the public-address system.
2. Any “powered” noise such as a cannon or whistle.

**Note: Game Administration shall be notified if these violations occur and they shall correct the situation. Game officials are not authorized to give a penalty for these violations.**

**6) Non-Interscholastic Participation**

6.1) A member of an interscholastic football team (any student who has played in any scrimmage, preview or regular season/tournament contest) shall not participate in an athletic contest, a tryout or any type of team or group training or practices (including open gyms/fields) with a non-school team in that same sport during the school team's season. **Note:** This regulation applies to students invited to participate in a tryout, group training or practice at a college or in contests, tryouts, group training, camps or practices with any non-school program or team.

**Other Regulations pertaining to Non-Interscholastic Participation may be found in General sports Regulation 7.4.**

**NOTE: All activities must be non-contact and the only football equipment the player may wear are helmets and cleats.**

6.2) All-Star Competition  
In the sport of football, only a graduating senior or a student completing athletic eligibility at the end of the current semester may participating in "All-Star" competition.

See General Sports Regulation 7.4 for regulations permitting students to participate on non-school teams outside of the school team's season.

See General Sports Regulation 7.6 for regulations permitting coaches to coach their own student-athletes on non-school teams outside the school team's season ("All-Star" Games).

6.3) Coaching and Coaches

- 6.41 All interscholastic football coaches, whether paid or volunteer, must be approved by the Board of Education.
- 6.42 See General Sports Regulation 8.2.1 for regulations permitting school coaches to provide individual skill instruction from August 1 through May 31.
- 6.43 See General Sports Regulation 7.5.1 for regulations permitting school coaches to coach their own student-athletes on non-school teams outside the school team's season (10-day rule).

**8) Penalties**

8.1) The maximum penalty for violation of Sports Regulation 7.4 (participation with a non-interscholastic football squad) or any OHSAA regulations for any member of the school squad, EXCEPT a senior, is ineligibility for the

remainder of the interscholastic football season and/or the ensuing football season. For a senior, the maximum penalty shall be ineligibility for the remainder of the school year.

**9) Addendum to 2021 Football Regulations**

- 9.1) The 2021 Football Manual is published as an addendum to these regulations. Items of interest include, but are not limited to regulations regarding contest management, bands, conduct of practice, 25 second clocks, protection of officials, additional penalties, etc.

**B. SPECIFIC REGULATIONS — Grades 9-12**

- 1) Coaching and tryouts may begin — April 15 for all schools who did not participate in the Fall of 2020.
- 2) First game or scrimmage — April 23, 2021.
- 3) Coaching and Season end — May 31, 2021
- 4) Scrimmages— Two scrimmages are permitted. Schools may use a Jamboree format in scrimmages. See the OHSAA website for details.
- 5) Regular season games or scrimmages combined —10.
- 6) Rules — National Federation Football.
- 7) Officials:
  - 7.1) Varsity — OHSAA Class 1 football only. Minimum crew of at least 5. Recommend crew of 6 including a Center Judge.
  - 7.2) Reserve/Junior Varsity — Minimum of 4, recommended 5 OHSAA Class 1 or Class 2 football only. Freshman — Minimum of 4 OHSAA Class 1, 2 or 3 football officials required. All other officials shall be OHSAA Class 1, 2, or 3 or OHSAA football officials in training. In the event only 3 OHSAA registered football officials arrive to the game, the game may be played provided the participating coaches agree.