

**CHATHAM COUNTY RECREATION DEPARTMENT
FOOTBALL RULES AND REGULATIONS**

Revised: 9 - 9 -2016

1. Age Division / Weight Limits:

A. Age divisions for Chatham County's Football Program:

- 5 & 6 yrs. - 95 lbs., with equipment, maximum weight for a ball carry only. No limit on the other players.
- 7 & 8 yrs. - 110 lbs., with equipment, maximum weight for a ball carry only. No limit on the other players.
- 9 &10 yrs. - 135 lbs., with equipment, maximum weight for a ball carry only. No limit on the other players.
- 11 &12 yrs. - 150 lbs., with equipment, maximum weight for a ball carry. No limit on the other players.
- Players can only be weighed-in one time a day.
- After a player weighs in, they cannot change equipment or leave the confines of the field unless it is approved by a site supervisor, per head coach.

B. The age control date is September 1st of the current year.

2. Governing Procedures:

- A. Game rules will be governed by Chatham County Parks and Recreation Department and the current rules and regulations of the Georgia High School Association.
- B. All players are required to have insurance and provide birth certificates, parent consent forms, and ID pictures before being eligible to participate. ID pictures must be 2 by 2½. Pictures must be placed on the bottom left hand side of the birth certificate. Chatham County provides an accident insurance policy with Standard Life or waivers must be signed, per player.
- C. Each team is allowed 6 coaches and all coaches must have ID pictures on file with Chatham County Parks and Recreation Department. Each team is also allowed one team mom on the sidelines. Each coach must be uniformly dressed in their team colors to be on the coaching sidelines. No Exceptions.
- D. No kickoffs if a team is 20 points or more behind. The losing team is allowed the ball on the 50 yard line until the deficit is made up or the game is over. Neither team can stop the clock unless it is an official or injury time out.
- E. Defensive players cannot line up over the offensive center at any time. This applies to the 6 & under and 8 & under age divisions.
- F. Players must use colored mouth pieces only.
- G. Players can only play in clear face shields and they must be attached to the helmet.
- H. Players must wear four point contact chin straps.

- I. No rushing or blitzing is allowed. This includes punts and extra point attempts. (Exception 10 & under and 12U Only). Note: The 10 & under cannot rush in until the ball is placed on the Tee.
- J. All field coaches for the 6 & under and 8 & under divisions must be 5 yards behind the furthest player on their team. (The penalty for this is 5 yards). Also, no changing players around once the quarterback is under the center in these age divisions.
- K. For 6 & under, two coaches per team are allowed on the field. For 8 & under, one coach is allowed on the field.
- L. No coaches are allowed on the field for the 10 & under and 12 & under divisions.
- M. Coin flip will determine the home team, unless specified differently on schedules.
- N. Minimum of 15 players with a maximum of 30.
- O. Players can only play in one (1) football league per season.

3. Overtime Procedures

The Chatham County Parks and Recreation Department Overtime Rules.

- Four plays on the 10 yard line (A team cannot make a first down.)
- If a team gains yards and then turns around and loses yards, the minus point will be the mark of the ball.
- Six points will be awarded for a touchdown.
- In the event of a turnover, the opposing team will start on the 10 yard line. (1 point is awarded for penetration.)
- A fumble cancels all forward progress and the ball will be spotted at the original line of scrimmage, unless recovered by the fumbling team.
- Each team will have one timeout.
- If a game ends in a tie after two (2) over time periods, the game shall be recorded as a tie.
- During playoffs and championship games, play will continue until there is a winner.

4. Clock operation:

- Four (4) ten minute quarters (6 & under and 8 & under) with the clock stopping on all whistles during the last two minutes of each quarter.
- Each team will be allowed three (3) timeouts per half.
- The 10 & 12 and under will play by the same rule above. (Exception they will play four (4) twelve minute quarters).
- Ready for play: Time allotted to put ball in play after referee blows their whistle.
 - 6 & under > 35 seconds
 - 8 & under > 35 seconds
 - 10 & under > 30 seconds

- 12 & under > 30 seconds

5. Scoring System

- A. Touchdown- 6 points
- B. Field Goal- 3 points
- C. Extra Points
 - Kick- 2 points
 - Run- 1 point
 - Pass- 1 point
- F. Overtime Penetration 1 point

6. Football Sizes

- A. 6 and under K 2
- B. 8 and under K 2
- C. 10 and under TDJ
- D. 12 and under TDY

7. Protests

- Rule protests must be declared to the head referee prior to the next snap.
- The head coach is the only coach that can register a protest.
- A judgment decision by an official/s on any play shall not be protested.
- Protests regarding player ineligibility, must be submitted in writing, within 48 hours to the administrative office. (For playoff games, all protests and rulings will be decided before the next snap)

8. Sportsmanship & Violations:

- A. The use of an ineligible player will result in a forfeit. A team that has accumulated three forfeits will be put out of the league.
- B. Good sportsmanship will be expected and demanded of all participants, coaches, and team followers.
- C. Players, coaches, and spectators are to refrain from making derogatory comments and fighting. Offenders will be strongly disciplined. **CHATHAM COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT HAS A ZERO TOLERANCE.**
- D. Mandatory play rule: each player is required to play at least (8) eight plays including special teams. Each team is required to monitor their own players.

9. Playoffs

- A. Top 4 teams make the playoffs at the end of the regular season.
- B. Seeding for the playoff team will be as follows:
 - 1. Overall Record
 - 2. Head to Head
 - 3. Points Against

4. Coin Toss

10. All-Stars

- A. At the end of the season, the County Championship coach will select an All-Star to compete in GRPA.