



# SPORT ÉTUDIANT

## Greater Montreal - GMAA

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### G.M.A.A.

### BANTAM FOOTBALL HANDBOOK

#### **Football Sports Committee**

Shall consist of the chairperson of football and all the football coaches for that particular season. The chairperson shall call one meeting prior to the opening of the season and one meeting at the end of the football season. A mid-season meeting may be called at the discretion of the chairperson of football or at the request of 25% of the coaches of football.

**Season** - As per GMAA Calendar

**Classification** - Bantam

#### **Eligibility**

A girl may play on a boys bantam football team in the GMAA boys bantam football league provided that girl meets the age requirements and is judged by the coach and the school principal to be capable of playing in the GMAA bantam football league. Factors such as size, weight and skill of the player should be considered in determining the capability of that player.

#### **Place**

All participating schools are required to provide suitably sized, adequately marked and equipped playing facilities for all scheduled competition. The home team is responsible to provide each team with at least one bench to use at the playing field.

#### **Time**

Starting times will be agreed to by the coaches at the scheduling meeting.

#### **Schedules**

League games have priority over any exhibition game/or tournament. League games will not be postponed due to conflicting schedules.

Scheduling tiebreakers - tiebreaker date are to be put into the schedule at the pre-season or scheduling meeting.

No. of games - each team should play not more than 6 regular season games.

#### **Team Entry**

The entry deadline date is 4:00 p.m. the date of the coaches pre-season football meeting. No entries will be accepted unless signed by the Principal or a Vice-Principal.

#### **Eligibility**

The following special rules apply for football.

i. Football - Any boy who plays league or exhibition games (after the start of the GMAA season) on any outside team shall NOT BE ELIGIBLE to represent his school.

#### **Governing Rules**

i. League games shall consist of four (4) quarters of fifteen (15) minutes with a maximum of ten (10) minutes between halves or five (5) minutes - if coaches agree. The clock will be stopped after a touchdown and restarted at the kick-off.

The last 5 minutes of play in the 2nd and 4th quarter shall be stop time and follow CAFA rules.

Any game which is stopped before the 4th quarter of play due to extraordinary circumstances (i.e. lightning storm) shall be replayed.

ii. Teams may dress and play an unlimited number of players. However, a minimum of 20 players must be listed on the game report.

iii. All players whose names appear on the game report shall be considered as having taken part in that game.

- iv. A team will play 6 regular season games instead of eight and a team may not play more than 2 games per week
- v. At least one staff member, i.e. a permanent member of the teaching or administrative staff, must be present at all times in each team's bench area during league games.
- vi. The official game ball will be the Wilson NFL ball or one of comparable size.
- vii. That the home team be responsible to provide the official timer, who must be a school staff member. Should the home school be unable to provide a staff member to time the visiting team may provide the official (a staff member).
- viii. That the visiting team be permitted to have an official timing representative (staff member only) who must be present at the beginning of the game for the referee's instructions and shall remain with the official home-team timer (who controls the only watch to be used) throughout the game.
- ix. The league will adopt the 4 Down Rule. The 1 yard between defensive line and offensive line will be kept as in 3 down football.

#### **x. Weigh In**

- a) The weigh-in of the team members must be done within 48 hours prior to that team's first regular season game.
- b) The athletic director must be present during his school team's weigh-in.
- c) The weigh-in weight of the players must be included on the player registration form.
- d) The player registration form which states the players' name, date of birth and weigh-in weight must be signed by the principal or vice-principal and team coach.

#### **The bantam weight limit is:**

- A weight limit of 160 pounds is set for all Defensive and Offensive linemen. This 160 pound weight limit allows for a 5 pound permissible weight gain during the season.
- The weight limit of 145 pounds is set for all other players (including line backers, defensive backs, any eligible receivers as well as all ball carriers). This 145 pound weight limit allows for a 10 pound permissible weight gain during the season.
- e) The bantam age limit is: 14 years of age and under as of Sept. 1st  
Penalty for using an ineligible player is FORFEITURE OF GAME

xi. Supplementary BANTAM registration must have the weights verified by a member of the school's administration or a player is INELIGIBLE.

xii. SPECTATORS - The principal of the visiting team is required to advise the principal of the host school re: the attendance of his students at any upcoming game and that a minimum of two staff members (excluding coaches) be provided per bus.

#### **Playoffs**

i. All playoffs are sudden-death games.

ii. In a five team league, the 1<sup>st</sup> four teams in the team standings at the end of the regular season play shall qualify for playoffs. The semi-final games shall be played at the home of the higher placed team.

In a four or five team league, the playoffs will be as follows.

4 vs. 1

3 vs. 2

In the event of a tie in the final team standings, refer to governing rules.

iii. If the score is tied at the end of regular time in a sudden-death game, each team will start from their 35 yard line and play until they are stopped, or they score. A punt for a single is not permitted.