

EBYFC – NOVICE DIVISION
ARTICLE I – RULES OF PARTICIPATION

The Novice Division is a secondary division which provides EBYFC Member Cities the opportunity to offer an introductory based level of contact football in effort to provide less experienced participants an alternative place to play while they learn the game in a less competitive atmosphere. Emphasis at this division will be focused on developing core position fundamentals, player tackling safety, and rules of the game.

EBYFC Member Cities fielding teams for Novice Division must meet the following criteria:

- Must field a team for “Competitive Division” play in order to be eligible to field a Novice Division team; exceptions may be made dependent on circumstance
- Competitive Division Team roster must consist of **30** players minimum
- Novice Division Team roster must consist of **16** Players Minimum
- Coaches are required to meet standard EBYFC certification requirements
- Coach rosters must follow same Competitive Division rules
- Standard EBYFC League Weight Limit rules must be followed for each team, and adhere to EBYFC current weight limits
- High School Rules for Eligible Player Jersey Number will **NOT** be enforced at the Novice Division

ARTICLE II – Player Eligibility

- Players must be **entering their First, Second or Third Year** of organized full-contact football (i.e. players can only have 2 seasons of tackle football experience)

YEAR 1 = 1 st Year Played
YEAR 2 = 2 nd Year Played
YEAR 3 = Current 2023 Season

- **Older Lighters** will **NOT** be allowed at the Novice Division
- Players cannot be swapped between Competitive and Novice Divisions after Player Cards are certified during any part of a given season
- Interdivisional practices are forbidden within a Member City’s programs; the Novice Division squads cannot practice against Competitive Division squads during the course of the week leading into Gameday
 - Member City’s found in violation will be subject to suspension or expulsion

ARTICLE III - Gameday Format

- Game play will follow standard football rules that the Competitive Division follows
- All teams will be required to meet minimum play requirements during the course of play; Minimum Play Requirements will differ slightly from Standard Division rules:
 - **Each player must play 50% of Play Requirement on Offense and 50% on Defense**
 - Kickoffs and Punt Returns = DEFENSIVE Play
 - Kickoff Return, Punts and PATs = OFFENSIVE Plays
- Total Plays required will be determined by gameday roster.

Number of Gameday Eligible Players	Minimum Plays Required
15 – 19	14
20 – Up	12