



## MSHSAA Freshman Game Rules

### **JRGAC** SPECIFIC GAME RULES:

#### NO CUT BLOCKS/BLOCKING BELOW THE WAIST

A successful kicked "Extra Points" shall count as 2 points and a successful play from scrimmage will count as 1 point.

All grades shall play 8 minute quarters. If under 2 minutes remain in a half/game, if a team takes a knee, it is understood that they are running out the clock and will subsequently take a knee for the remaining downs in the series. There is a 30 second play clock.

A Mercy Rule shall be enforced if at any time during the game there is a 32 point differential. Once mercy rule is in effect, the clock is running and NO MORE KICKOFFS, the ball is placed on the 40 yard line. (THIS IS NOT OPTIONAL) If you are ahead by 24+ points the winning team is required to take a knee with less than 1 minute to play. Once mercy rule is in effect, it remains in effect throughout the entire game.

**OVER-TIME RULE:** If tied after regulation play is over, the football will be placed at the 10 yard line and each team will have four (4) plays to score. No time outs will be allowed during the overtime period. A coin toss before overtime begins will determine who gets the football first. After one team has an offensive possession, the other team will have an offensive possession to match or exceed the score of the previous offensive team. If the game is still tied after the first overtime game is over then the game ends in a tie.

Chains are to be on the home side.

Parents must sit on the designated sideline for their team. All parents must remain in stands not on track or sidelines.

5th grade coaches are allowed on the field during the plays (one coach for offense and one coach for defense) once the cadence has started the coach is not to talk or coach during the play.

5th grade – all FG and punts are free plays – no rush.

5th grade a defensive player can line up over the center (nose guard).

If a game reaches halftime or later and ends due to weather we will revert back to the halftime score and game will be considered final. If game is cancelled before halftime the game will be rescheduled at a later date and pickup at the time and score of game where it ended.

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