



**LAKE BRANTLEY YOUTH FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION  
2019 CODE OF CONDUCT  
FOR FOOTBALL**



Since 1929, the Pop Warner Football program's philosophy has been: Academics and athletics go hand-in-hand. At every level, Pop Warner Football seeks to develop well-rounded young men and women who learn not only the fundamentals of football or cheerleading, but also the importance of education in an atmosphere conducive to developing sound mind, body and character - and having a good time along the way!

In an effort to provide a safe, enjoyable and positive football experience for all those involved, it is important to establish a set of guidelines to ensure the full cooperation of all team members at all times. Working within an established set of guidelines and regulations not only provides the football players with a framework of acceptable behavior, but also serves to assist in building and implementing the program.

In any team sport, it is important to be consistent with the enforcement of rules. The following rules and regulations are designed to clarify preexisting rules, and further establish and standardize guidelines for all Lake Brantley Youth Football Association football teams. Lake Brantley Pop Warner will follow the age/grade placement established by the National Pop Warner guidelines, thereby eliminating any confusion as to where your child will be placed.

We recognize that the large majority of our football players, parents and family members will be committed to the football program and organization as a whole. It is our hope that all members have a positive experience while participating in the Lake Brantley Youth Football Association programs. The ultimate goal of the Lake Brantley Youth Football Association is to provide our children with a safe environment where they can develop new skills, learn teamwork and sportsmanship, make friends, and have fun. Nonetheless, as with any large organization, it is important to clearly set forth expectations and consequences so as to minimize misinterpretations should issues arise.

The following Code of Conduct, Rules & Regulations is intended to provide a set of ground rules. We understand that families new to the organization may feel a bit overwhelmed. However, please recognize that these rules are put in place for the few who choose not to follow them, not the majority that would do so under any circumstances. Should you have any questions or concerns, please never hesitate to contact the Athletic Director or another Board Member for clarification.

**Conduct:**

The Lake Brantley Youth Football Association expects all football players to conduct themselves with the highest level of integrity and sportsmanship. Certain behaviors cannot be tolerated by the Association. The first is any participant who engages in **intimidation, bullying, attempting to intentionally harm another player (i.e. intentionally leading with the helmet repeatedly, intentional helmet to helmet contact, etc.) , or disrespect for authority during practices, games, or off the field.** These activities, when witnessed by LBFYA staff, shall be disciplined. The first offense is punishable by up to and including a suspension from a game by the head coach (The timing of this suspension shall be at the sole discretion of the head coach). A second offense will result in a one week suspension from the team and shall be at the discretion of the Athletic Director. A third offense will result in suspension from the team for the balance of the season at the discretion of the Vice President of Football Operations. In addition to the above, the Association does not tolerate **fighting**. A fight is defined as a single punch or kick by one individual to another person (a second party). If the second party does not retaliate, they will not be disciplined unless it is determined that they provoked the fight in **any** manner. If a fight is witnessed by LBFYA staff, both parties shall immediately be suspended for the following game.



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**General Rules:**

1. This is a Pop Warner Association. Board Members, Team Moms and Coaches are volunteers who donate many hours to this organization. Parents, children, family members and guests are expected to communicate and interact with Board Members, Team Moms and Coaches in a respectful manner as more fully set forth in the Code of Conduct.
2. The Pop Warner season runs from August 1 to December 31.
3. Football players must maintain good academic standing of at least a “C” average.
4. Football is a commitment and a team effort. The Coaches need each parent to cooperate with them at all times. Parents are expected to have their child at all practices, games and events dressed, on time, and ready to participate.
5. Each child is required to furnish the Association with a completed and signed current physical/medical form, Code of Conduct form, Equipment Requirements form, Age and Weight Requirements form, photo authorization form, a copy of last year’s final report card, the original and one photocopy of the child’s birth certificate (original to be returned upon verification), absentee form (Pop Warner Form) and any other paperwork required by National Pop Warner. ***YOUR CHILD CANNOT PRACTICE UNTIL ALL PAPERWORK IS SIGNED AND TURNED IN.***
6. Parents are encouraged to be present at all practices or make arrangements with another parent to be present. **Tiny Mite’s and Mitey Mites are REQUIRED** to have a parent present or make arrangements with another parent to be present at ALL practices. Parents must be prompt in picking up their children from practices/games especially during threatening or inclement weather where practices may be ended early.
7. Parents must be prompt in picking up their children from practices/games. No child will be left unattended. If you are more than 15 minutes late picking up your child, and have not had direct communication with your coach, team staff has been instructed to contact the local police department for care and custody of your child.
8. The use of bad language, tobacco, alcohol, drugs, or criminal behavior will not be tolerated on or off the field. Any of these infractions will lead to disciplinary actions including game suspensions and/or dismissal from the team. Each football player should always work toward being a good example for others. Be proud to wear your uniform and make us proud to have you wear it.
9. If your child misses the first day of practice and the coach was not notified of this absence, LBYFA has the option to fill his spot on the roster and no refunds will be issued (Refer to Practices #1).
10. It is the parents’ responsibility to provide/arrange transportation for his/her child to and from all practices and games. Football players should always be on time and present for all games and practices. Other activities, with the exception of illness, scholastics, religion and emergency family obligations should not interfere with the football schedule.
11. Parents are not to leave their child unattended if unable to locate your team’s coach during practice and games.
12. If someone else is picking up the child other than the parent, the head coach, assigned coach or team mom must be notified. A child may only leave with a parent unless advance arrangements have been made.
13. Parents of a football player must call the head coach, their assigned coach, or team mom in advance if they will be absent from practice.
14. A football player may not be permitted to play if the coach feels that he is not prepared due to missed practices and/or games. This will be solely at the coach’s discretion.
15. Repeated absences from practice/games may result in dismissal from the team.
16. It is the parents’ responsibility to ensure that the football player has used the restroom before coming to practices and games. Restroom facilities may be limited at practice locations and sometimes not easily accessible during games.
17. Parents are not permitted on the field or practice areas at any times. This is for the safety of the children. All Board Members and members of the coaching staff have undergone a background check and have been cleared by Mid-Florida Pop Warner.
18. While in attendance at practices, games or other events on public school property, all parties shall be expected to abide by all School Board rules and regulations.



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19. Parents are responsible for understanding the age and weight requirements. It should be noted that your child does not fall within a particular weight he/she will not be allowed to participate in practice. These rules are effective August 1<sup>st</sup> of each season.
20. Rules are for everyone. Each parent and child must follow all of the rules in order to make this a successful program for everyone. You will be asked to sign an acknowledgment of having received and read these rules. Your child will not be able to participate unless this acknowledgment has been signed by both parent and football player, and received by the Association.
21. If you have any questions during the season regarding actions that have been taken toward your child, please follow the proper chain of command. We encourage you to first speak with your head coach to resolve any questions or conflict. Should you be unable to do so, please communicate with the Athletic Director. We invite any questions or suggestions that you might have. The coaches are volunteering their time for the program. All volunteers involved in the program are open to your comments and suggestions; however, please remember that we must always look out for the best interest of your child and the TEAM.

**Practices/Games:**

1. Practices begin August 1, 2019 from 5:30 PM until 8:00 PM weekdays. Practices will run Monday through Friday, not to exceed 10 hours per week (Excluding water breaks) until Labor Day. In the event of a rain-out there may be a Saturday/Sunday practice scheduled. The practice schedule after Labor Day will not exceed 6 hours per week (Excluding water breaks) at the same above mentioned time. Toward the end of the season as we get closer to day light savings time, practices may begin earlier and end earlier. This change in practice time will be communicated to you by your coaches. The first week of practice is for the purpose of conditioning. All players will be required to complete ten (10) hours of conditioning. You **MUST** get approval from the Head Coach/Athletic Director if you are unable to begin practice on the designated date or will miss any conditioning hours.
2. Players are required to wear their pride packs issued at equipment pickup and are responsible for bringing their own **water** during practice (MINIMUM OF 32 ounces of water. **SPORTS DRINKS ARE NOT ALLOWED DURING PRACTICE**).
3. Parents are not to leave their child unattended if unable to locate your team's coach(es). Prior to the start of practice there is no supervision and, therefore, parents are responsible for the safety and welfare of their child.
4. For safety reasons, all jewelry, of all kinds shall be prohibited.
5. Long hair must be pulled back and out of players eyes.
6. LBYFA considers both Football and Cheerleading a sport which requires physical conditioning and stamina. All players and cheerleaders will be required to participate in the exercise and conditioning portion of practice. In addition, all participants are expected to receive proper nutrition and hydration prior to practices and games in order to prepare for this physical conditioning.
7. Parents shall report any incidents with another player, coach or parent directly to the **head coach only**. This is so that one individual understands all that is occurring with the team and can determine if any trends are occurring that need to be addressed.
8. Parents will refrain from coaching their sons from the sidelines during practices, water breaks and games.
9. Parents shall not pull their child from the practice field without notification to the Head Coach.
10. Games are generally scheduled on Saturdays and are mandatory. There will be home and away games. Regular season games may be played anywhere in the Mid-Florida area and will require travel. If games are canceled, make-up games may be scheduled on weeknights. Generally, games start near the end of August and go through October.
11. The Board Members and coaching staff cannot control delays in game time schedules, games starting early, field accommodations and parking at visiting fields.
12. Players are required to be at the field 1.5 hrs. prior to game time. This time will be spent for practice/warm-up/weigh-in. Adequate water shall be provided by the parents to the players during this time period.
13. We respectfully ask that parents not attempt to talk to their players during the game or halftime. The coaches need your player's full attention and your full support on this issue.



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14. As parents if you are not pleased with the way the game is going or are frustrated with your player's participation, please do not approach the coaches during or after the game. Please hold your comments and speak to the Head Coach on the following **MONDAY** to discuss your concerns. The same holds true with regards to practices. If there is a concern, please speak to the Head Coach after or before practice begins.
15. Access to the playing field during games is limited. Only those adults with a current Mid-Florida issued badge will be allowed on the playing field. Exceptions to this rule would be any parent serving in the volunteer positions of the chain gang. In addition, only those players that are currently playing or are warming up are permitted on the playing field or the surrounding area.
16. Rain or shine, we play! All football players must report to the field unless notified by the coaching staff. Players will only be released from a game if the referees call the game.
17. Important note: Saturday games are held during the day in the HEAT. Children need to be aware that it is very hot during these games and proper hydration precautions should be followed both during and before the games begin. Likewise, football players should have breakfast or lunch before arriving at the field to avoid illness.
18. At the end of each game, football players must remain with their coach until they are dismissed into the custody of their parent. If someone other than the parent is picking up the child, the coach or team mom must be notified in advance. A child may only leave with a parent unless advance arrangements have been made.
19. It is the responsibility of each player to maintain the football equipment issued to him and return all equipment at the last game. Failure to return equipment will result in your child becoming ineligible to play on any Mid-Florida Pop Warner team. ***EACH PLAYER UNDERSTANDS THAT ALL EQUIPMENT ISSUED TO HIM (THIS INCLUDES HELMET, SHOULDER PADS, 2 GAME JERSEYS, AND ONE PAIR OF GAME PANTS) IS THE PROPERTY OF LAKE BRANTLEY YOUTH FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION AND IT IS HIS RESPONSIBILITY TO RETURN ALL EQUIPMENT, OR AGREE TO REIMBURSE THE ASSOCIATION \$300.00, FOR THE COST OF THE EQUIPMENT.***

**Required Equipment:**

The following items shall be worn by players in all divisions beginning with physical contact in practice sessions:

1. Helmet, Shoulder Pads, pride pack, & Game Day Uniform (all furnished by LBYFA)
2. Mouth guard & chin strap (keeper strap required and not clear color)
3. Athletic supporter & 7 Pad Girdle (Jr Pee Wee thru Midget)
4. Shoes: non-detachable, rubber cleats
5. Practice pants
6. Eyeglasses: When worn, shall be of athletically approved construction **with** non-shattering glass (safety glass) or contact lenses.
7. Items #2, 3, 4, 5, & 6 are not provided by Lake Brantley Pop Warner

**MANDATORY Parental Involvement:**

The success of our Pop Warner organization depends on the volunteerism of our Board Members, coaching staff and parents. It is mandatory for one parent of each football player to provide a minimum of two (2) hours of volunteer time in one or more of the following areas:

1. Concession sales

Additionally, parents will be expected to assist in providing team snacks and/or drinks for practices and game days as coordinated by the coaching staff.



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**Adult Code of Conduct in Accordance with National Pop Warner Rules:**

In order to uphold the goals of Pop Warner and ensure that all participants have the benefit of a safe and fun learning environment, all parents, guardians and other adults and attendees of Pop Warner events, including but not limited to practices, competitions, and banquets, must behave in a respectful, courteous and sportsmanlike manner at all times.

Parents and other adults are expected to follow all rules and regulations.

Any adult who is using alcohol, tobacco, non-prescription drugs and/or appears intoxicated at a Pop Warner event, and/or who is flagrantly rude, attempts to intimidate, verbally abuses, is consistently negative/disrespectful, gossips, heckles, taunts, ridicules, boos, throws objects and/or uses vulgarity or profane language/gestures with an official, coach, volunteer, staff member, participant or other event attendee, will be removed from a Pop Warner event. The member organization may issue a written warning to the individual regarding the misbehavior and the adult's children may also be removed from the event. Any adult who commits one or more of the above-stated offenses a second time will be banned from any and all Pop Warner events for a minimum period of one year from the date of the second offense, and their children may also be removed from the program for that time period.

Any adult who physically or verbally assaults an official, coach, volunteer, staff member or participant or threatens grave bodily harm may be banned immediately from any and all Pop Warner events at a minimum for one year from the date of the offense, and their children may also be removed from any and all Pop Warner programs for that same period of time. After the ban has expired, if the individual commits another offense of the adult code of conduct, the individual will be permanently banned from any and all Pop Warner events and the individual's children may also be permanently removed from any and all Pop Warner programs.

Pop Warner, including the Lake Brantley Youth Football Association, reserves the right to suspend and/or remove any individuals from the program or its events in order to ensure the safety of its members and uphold its mission.

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In closing, all LBYFA football players are:

- Expected to follow all rules and regulations as more fully set forth above.
- Not permitted to chew gum; smoke or use smokeless tobacco or vapor cigarettes; drink alcoholic beverages; use foul language or in any way demonstrate disrespect for fellow team members or coaching staff.
- Expected to demonstrate a winning attitude and foster team spirit through cohesion and commitment to common goals.
- Expected to conduct themselves at games and team events in a manner that demonstrates team pride, positive attitude, and gracious behavior towards competitor teams. This behavior is EXPECTED AT ALL TIMES.
- Prohibited from intimidating a fellow team member, or participating in negative behavior by word and/or physical deed. ***This also applies to the use of social media and other online presence.*** Any such behavior will result in mandatory removal from the team per official Pop Warner Rule Book.

While in a Lake Brantley uniform, pride pack or other apparel, the football player is prohibited from the use of social media, photography or live demonstrations that use inappropriate signs, gestures, behaviors, and displays of affection or other actions unbecoming to the Lake Brantley image. Any such behavior may result in disciplinary action and/or removal from the team.

Any disciplinary actions taken by the administration of the school where the football player attends that results in out-of-school suspension or otherwise prohibits the child from being on school property will also result in the suspension of the child from the Lake Brantley program for this same duration.





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Likewise, any other disciplinary actions taken by the school administration and brought to the attention of the Athletic Director shall be addressed and may result in the suspension of the child from the Lake Brantley program.

It is understood that these rules and regulations cannot possibly anticipate all circumstances. Therefore, any adjustments to the above repercussions shall be at the sole discretion of the Athletic Director.

**LET'S HAVE A GREAT SEASON AND STRIVE TO BE THE BEST OF THE BEST!!!**

We want playing football to be a rewarding experience for your son. In order to achieve this goal, we must insist on your cooperation, as well as your son's. Pop Warner football is a 4 to 5 month commitment, requiring exercise, hard work, time and dedication. Football Players should want to be there for themselves not because their parents want them there. **Be prepared & fully committed to attend every practice and every game.**

Playing football is a rewarding experience that teaches many life skills. The Lake Brantley Youth Football Association has made every effort to make this a successful season. With cooperation, hard work and dedication, everyone will be a WINNER!!

Good Luck Lake Brantley Patriots! Let's have a GREAT season!



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The undersigned player, parent or guardian acknowledges that Lake Brantley Youth Football Association has adopted a Code of Conduct, Rules & Regulations for players, parents and guardians and that each of the undersigned has individually read, understands, and has agreed to adhere to such currently issued Code of Conduct, Rules & Regulations for Football.

The undersigned state that they clearly understand that violating the Code of Conduct, Rules & Regulations may cause the player to be suspended for a specified or indefinite period of time based on a review and ruling by the Lake Brantley Youth Football Association Executive Committee and that no refunds will be given.

**Player:**

I have read, understand, and agree to be held accountable for behavior contrary to the Code of Conduct, Rules & Regulations of the Lake Brantley Youth Football Association.

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Player's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent or Guardian:**

I/we have read, understand, and agree to be held accountable for behavior contrary to the Code of Conduct, Rules & Regulations of the Lake Brantley Youth Football Association.

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



**LAKE BRANTLEY YOUTH FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION  
2019 AGE AND WEIGHT REQUIREMENTS  
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<b>Age/Weight Division</b>	<b>Age(s)</b>	<b>Certification Weight Range</b>
<b>TINY-MITE</b> (older/lighter)	5-7 No older/lighter	35-75 lbs. No older/lighter
<b>MITEY-MITE</b> (older/lighter)	7-8-9 No older/lighter	50-100 lbs. No older/lighter
<b>JUNIOR PEE WEE</b> (older/lighter)	8-9-10 11*	65-115 lbs. 65-95 lbs.
<b>PEE WEE</b> (older/lighter)	9-10-11 12*	80-130 lbs. 80-110 lbs.
<b>JUNIOR MIDGET</b> (older/lighter)	10-11-12 13*	95-155 lbs. 95-135 lbs.
<b>UNLIMITED</b> (older/lighter)	11-12-13-14 No older/lighter	105 lbs.+ No older/lighter

*\*The asterisk (\*) provisions in each division allow the so-called "older but lighter" player to also qualify. The last year of eligibility falls under more stringent weight restrictions, per above.*

**A child cannot practice if his weight exceeds 5 lbs. over the maximum weight or 3 lbs. below the minimum weight by August 1<sup>st</sup>. Upon reaching this requirement, the child may practice or the child may be moved to the next team level (If applicable).**

I have read, understand, and agree to the above requirements and understand that meeting the weight requirements is the parent's and child's responsibility.

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_





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As a part of registration, shoulder pads, helmets, game jerseys, game pants and practice jerseys will be provided, as well as a pride pack. However, at a minimum, the following additional equipment will be required to be provided by each player:

- Practice Pants (Recommend integrated pants)
- 5 or 7 pad girdle for non-integrated game pants (Typically for the ages above TM or our larger MM players)
- Knee Pads
- Mouth Piece
- Chin Strap
- Cleats
- Athletic Cup
- Any additional padding or equipment that is desired by the player (Must be approved by Pop Warner and LBYFA)

I have read, understand, and agree to the above requirements and understand that supplying the above equipment, at a minimum, is the parent's and child's responsibility.

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_