

Winter Flag Football FAQs

If you do not see your question here, please email Matt Tyoe at mtyoe@unitedsports.net

How will we be contacted for this league?

The director will generally use email for league-wide communication. Please make sure to add mtyoe@unitedsports.net to your contacts list to ensure that nothing goes to spam. I will communicate any cancellations, schedule changes, etc. all via email so it is very important to provide an email that is checked frequently to ensure you are aware of all pertinent league information. The default email address on the DASH account for the facility is what is pulled and added for emails at the beginning of the season. If you have another email you need to update, please call the front desk at 610-466-7100 to update, but we can only put one email address as the default. Any subsequent email addresses needed for communication must be manually added by the director. To add more email addresses for the fall season, please contact Matt directly. The main email on file will receive automated game reminders and updates from DASH platform.

Are there practices for this league?

The first week (November 16/17th OR 18th if needed), teams will have an allotted time slot to meet each other, the coaches and practice plays. After the first week, there will be no practices, only games. This will be an ideal opportunity for coaches to create a communication tree to utilize how they will want to contact their teams. I will help by providing coaches email lists. Coaches may set-up to book additional times for practice at United Sports at a reduced rental rate; where space is available. Coaches may also organize their teams to meet off-site early in the season before weather gets difficult. All coaches will be provided an email list of their finalized roster to communicate with the team prior to the first practice.

Are there coaches for this league?

All teams will be coached by parent volunteers; United Sports does not provide coaching except for in rare circumstances. The parent volunteers are required to follow a set of guidelines for sportsmanship and held to a high standard. Parent volunteers must also provide the director with a copy of their PA Criminal Background Clearance (free for volunteers and posted to the web page).

When and where will rosters and schedules be posted?

Rosters and practice schedules will be posted on a link to a google sheet on the Winter Flag Football page no later than Wednesday, November 7th. Rosters will be final and practice schedule will be posted by Friday, November 9th. Coaches will receive email contact lists throughout the weekend, by Monday at the latest. Game schedules will be completed by Friday, November 16th.

When are games played?

Games will be played on Friday or Saturday nights, generally between 5:00 and 9:10pm (on Friday's and 2:00 and 10:00pm on Saturdays. Sunday evenings will likely be used as well if numbers dictate. Generally, K-1st and 4-5th Grade will play on Friday nights. 2nd-3rd and 6th-7th will play on Saturdays. Generally, due to the size of the division, 4th-5th teams have 1-3 Saturday games throughout the season. 8th-9th and HS will play on Sundays most likely unless there is space on Saturday nights. The younger slots will be earlier in the evening

and the older slots will be later in the evening. There may be a few slight exceptions to accommodate large divisions. The director reserves the right to alter or change any above plans to accommodate the sizes of divisions.

Where are games played?

All games are played at United Sports on our indoor Turf Fields. The fields are labeled Turf A and Turf B. Turf A is the first field you can see when entering the building and Turf B is the second. The practice schedule has an outline of the field layout.

How are teams created, and players divided?

We will split kids into teams based on the responses to questions at the time of registration. We do our best to evenly distribute the skill level of players between the teams. Using the skill stat acquired during registrations, I am able to sort all teams within a couple of skill points from one another. Player requests are accommodated where possible; I will attempt to keep too many players from playing together in an effort to create league parity. The balance of fun for players playing together must be met with competitive balance for the league. No requests are guaranteed, but the director will do his best to meet as many as possible.

How many players are on the field at a time?

Indoors, all teams will play 6v6. Coaches are requested to sub players in equally to give everyone a chance to play. Max roster size will be 11 unless a coach requests to take more than 11.

What equipment is needed?

Players will be provided with **reversible NFL jerseys** and **flags** by their first game. Players are asked to wear appropriate footwear (cleats or sneakers are fine). Players should always have their jersey tucked into athletic shorts or pants. Pants or shorts without pockets are best so players' fingers do not get caught. Players should bring a water bottle as well. A mouth guard is a good idea, but not mandated at this time.

Can I request certain game times or certain weeks off?

No. Game times are pre-determined based on age groups and to ensure structure among all teams in the league. A few instances teams may have to play in a different time slot to ensure all games, but this will be an exception to the norm. The winter season is tricky and we have to play on some not so desirable dates (Friday and Saturday after Thanksgiving and before Christmas), but we must play on these dates as space is limited. Please let your coach know if you cannot make these dates.

I am interested in helping coach. What is required of a coach?

Coaches are asked to sub players in and out of the games, and help guide the team. We encourage multiple parents to share the coaching duties. Feel free to take a look at our Coaches Packet which is also posted to the website for additional information. Coaches must provide a free for volunteers PA Criminal Background Check, link on web page.