

Youth Flag Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's)

•Age Group Alignment

CO-ED. Divisions = 6 and Under (6U), 8 and Under (8U), 10 and Under (10U), 12 and Under (12U), 14 and Under (14U) – **based** on the student-athlete's age on the day of the first game, in the designated season*

Your athlete may play UP in an older age group, but will NEVER be allowed to play DOWN in a younger age group. For example: Your 11 or 12-year-old may play in 12U division or the 14U if you desire. However, your 11 or -year-old may never play in 10U division.

•Roster Size

Rosters can carry up to a maximum of 10 players.

Practices & Playtime

Practice opportunities will be made available to each team 15-30 minutes prior to your game's scheduled start time, or based upon season and field space allowance. Coaches may contact families regarding availability for additional practice days or times, on their own. Coaches may never solicit player fees to cover the costs of additional practice spaces. These additional practice offerings are always optional keeping paramount the flexibility that our preparatory leagues strive to create for families. Equal playtime may not always be feasible based upon situation BUT FAIR PLAYTIME IS and will be monitored. Inability to attend optional practice offerings will not limit your athlete from play and unfair playtime practices within Michigan Made prep leagues could result in the coach's removal.

•Game Timing

Games are two 20-minute halves per game.

Spectators

For the purposes of health, safety and space, it is requested that your athlete promptly leaves the field following their game, and spectators dismiss themselves from the designated spectating areas unless you have another athlete playing at that time. Parents and spectators should never enter the playing field for any reason unless of injury to their athlete or as directed. Parents, families and spectators should never use surrounding facility equipment without direction of Michigan Made staff.

•Game Play Format

Games are played 6v6 *based on final roster sizes and field space allotment. Future 7v7 and Tackle football formats will be announced.

Field Size

Field dimensions will be 20-30 yards wide by 40-60 yards long (could vary based upon the designated prep league).

Registering as Team or Individually

Each athlete will need to register online individually. When you visit our page and click the button labeled "Register Now" you will have boxes available to "request a coach," or "request a friend." If you fill these in with FIRST & LAST NAMES, it will sort, however for the sake of balancing teams in regions, the only way to guarantee player and friend requests is to be the designated volunteer coach of the team.

•Combine/Draft

Some Michigan Made youth prep league locations may opt to utilize our football combine / draft format, however it is at the discretion of the Site Operator and is not mandatory. In the combine/draft format, all registering athletes will be entered into a pool and required to attend a fun and challenging circuit of pro-style football tests to receive ranking in key categories. Staff and volunteer coaches will be in attendance for assessments.

Confirmed volunteer coaches will able to exercise the selection of their allotted # of close friends. The allotted # of close friends is at the discretion of the Site Operator and is not mandatory. A draft will be conducted with attending volunteer coaches following the combine / draft for all of the available league players assessed. All late registrants, coaches or players not in attendance will be placed by Site Operator to balance team numbers.

*When drafting Site Operators will always take into account: relatives and siblings, similarities in schools or districts and neighboring communities on top of friend and coach requests. Forms must be completed correctly upon submission or no action will be assumed. Our goal is not to keep friends apart but to create a fun and balanced league.

Please view your specific locations page to find out if the location conducts a draft or if it is based on friend and coach request, along with corresponding dates. The Combine/Draft format is not the standard format for Michigan Made Prep Leagues.

•Flag or Touch

This league is FLAG through 6U, 8U, 10U, 12U and 14U divisions. Future 7v7 and Tackle football formats will be announced.

Volunteer Coaching or Assigned Coaches

All coaches are volunteer coaches from around various communities. If you'd like to coach please select the appropriate check box when registering your athlete. Some teams will be provided a local volunteer coach and many teams will likely already have one in place prior to each team member registering. All volunteer coaches will be required background screening, abuse and concussion training through partner, Players Health.

•How to Become a Coach (Background Check)

Please select the appropriate check box when registering your athlete indicating your desire to coach. If you do so you will receive the appropriate links via email. There is no fee associated for required background screening and training. If you do not have an athlete participating but still would like to coach a team, contact director, Vince Agnew (vinceagnew@michiganmade.net). In both of these instances, a background check is mandatory by Michigan Made.

•Volunteering for Other Roles (Background Check)

If you are a high school student-athlete interested in approved volunteer or paid hours officiating games, setting up, tearing down or working open and close, contact director commissioner, Vince Agnew (vinceagnew@michiganmade.net). In this instance, a background check is also mandatory by Michigan Made. This background fee will be fully refunded upon completion.

•Refund Policy (Non-COVID related)

All refund requests must be submitted to the League director prior to specific dates:

• FULL Refund issued prior to a uniform being ordered for a player. Athlete will not receive uniform with non-participation.

- HALF Refund issued after uniform is ordered and prior to the 2nd game of the season beginning. Athlete will not receive uniform with non-participation.
- NO Refunds will be issued after the team's 2nd league game begins non-negotiable. Athlete will not receive uniform with non-participation.

•COVID Related Refund Policy

Full Refund is issued prior to a uniform being ordered for a player if league is cancelled for changes in our Region's health policy.

If season is cancelled after jersey order but before the season starts, Parent has 2 options

- Option 1: Refund is given minus \$50 for jersey and shorts. Athlete will not receive uniform with non-participation.
- Option 2: Stay registered and game play resumes once allowed. Athlete will receive designated uniform.

<u>If games have been played</u>, then players and teams will stay aligned with game play resuming where the season left, off once allowed to do so. If the season began but cannot resume, a credit will be applied to a future season. NO refund will be issued.

•Health and Safety Protocol

Please visit this link for a detailed look at Michigan Made latest health and safety protocol:

Michigan Made | Health & Safety

Athlete Attire

Every athlete will receive team performance game shirt and shorts to keep, and will be required to wear their provided uniform. Back-ups will not be provided on site. If shirt or shorts are lost or forgotten, wear a similar color (NO shorts with pockets).

Cleats or athletic shoes are required for safety purposes. At The Factory indoor facility, no cleats will be allowed.

Athletes may wear mouthpieces, gloves, elbow pads or kneepads, but please note that these items are not provided. Exposed braces, metals or items like watches are not allowed.

•Weather Delay and Cancellation Policy

If there is thunder or lightning present, a 30-minute delay will be places on games being played. If the inclement weather is persistent, games will be cancelled without reschedule. If two games are missed due to weather challenges, going forward any further weather cancellations will be rescheduled.

League commissioner and staff will make final judgement calls on weather and weather predictions with the safety of all coaches, players, officials and volunteers as the top priority.

•Financial Assistance

Athletes and Families will be able to apply for financial assistance through the SWAGNEW FOUNDATION. After the completing the required application, your request will be reviewed. Fee assistance can also be gained through league volunteer and work opportunities, making it possible for everyone to participate.

Sponsorships and Donations

You can make donations of various amounts to sponsor the league, its supplies and the athletes needing assistance by donating to the program. Your donation goes entirely towards the advancement of the youth, and also provides the benefits of league marketing for your company or personal endeavors. More information contained here, in our Sponsorship Brochure:

Michigan Made 2023 Sponsorship Brochure

Your home for Michigan Made Youth Flag Football: www.MichiganMade.net/youthflag