



PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT FLAG FOOTBALL LEAGUE BY-LAWS

The Adult Sports office telephone number is 972-941-7278, and the fax number is 972-941-7469. Office hours are 8 am - 5 pm Monday - Friday. The website is www.planoparks.org.

A. GOVERNMENT

1. The Plano Parks and Recreation Department shall govern the League.
2. Disciplinary action shall be ruled on by the Flag Football Executive Advisory Committee of the Parks and Recreation Department.
3. Texas Amateur Athletic Federation rules apply.

B. FEES

1. Each team shall pay a participation fee set by the Parks and Recreation Department.
2. All fees shall be paid by the designated date set by the Parks and Recreation Department. **NO EXCEPTIONS.**
3. There will be **no** refunds.

C. ELIGIBILITY

1. **AT ALL TIMES, THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE ELIGIBILITY AND CONDUCT OF PLAYERS AND SPECTATORS RESTS WITH THE MANAGERS OF THE TEAMS.**
2. All participants must either live, work, or worship within the City limits of Plano. Part-time jobs do not fulfill the "work" requirement. Teams that do not meet this requirement will be allowed to participate only on a space-available basis.
3. Minimum age is eighteen (18) years as of September 1 of the current year.
4. No player shall be eligible who has not signed the official playing Roster or Player Addition form.
5. Rosters are limited to twenty (20) players for **8 x 8** flag football teams. Summer rosters for **4 x 4** flag football teams are limited to eight (8) players. These limits do include a playing manager. The original team roster filled out by each member of the team must be turned in to the Adult Sports office at 1409 Avenue K prior to the playing of the **second** game. **Players may not be added to the roster after the sixth game played in the season.**
6. Players may not play on different teams within the same league. No player will be released to play on another team in the same league. Players may play on more than one team; however, they will do so at their own risk.

D. RULES OF COMPETITION

1. **ALCOHOL BEVERAGES ARE NOT ALLOWED ON CITY PROPERTY, INCLUDING THE PARKING LOT!**

2. Unsportsmanlike conduct will not be tolerated at any time for any reason. No player, coach, manager, or spectator may display ungentlemanly conduct such as profane or vile language; abusive language or abusive action toward the officials or Parks and Recreation staff; fighting; or consumption/possession of alcoholic beverages on City property before, during, or after a game. Any abusive language or threats directed toward the officials or Parks and Recreation staff may be grounds for suspension from the league. Unsportsmanlike conduct and arguing with officials are **major** infractions. The Parks & Recreation Department Executive Advisory Committee will decide on the length of all suspensions, but there shall be a minimum of:

a. Two games, or more, for using profane language and/or unsportsmanlike conduct. The suspension shall be effective for the two games immediately following the game in which the violation occurred. If the player participates on more than one night, suspension will be effective then also. The player may not come to the field during the suspension period.

NOTE: Using profane language and/or unsportsmanlike conduct shall be an automatic suspension. It shall not be necessary for the Executive Advisory Committee to meet except to increase the length of the suspension.

b. An indefinite period of time for fighting (fights will be defined as intent to do harm). Any or all persons involved in a fight will be suspended. Whole teams may be suspended if the infraction is severe enough (i.e. striking official, mass fights, striking City officials, etc.)

c. A one-year suspension if a second two-week suspension is drawn. **THE MAXIMUM PENALTY APPLIED AFTER THE SECOND EJECTION MAY RESULT IN A ONE-YEAR SUSPENSION FROM PARTICIPATION IN ALL SPORTS IN ALL T.A.A.F. AFFILIATE LEAGUES.**

d. A one-year or more suspension for striking an official. Suspension will be forwarded to the State Commissioner and the T.A.A.F. Suspension Review Board.

These rules apply to all pre-season and post-season play-offs or tournaments, as well as regular season play.

3. Before each league game is played in this association, each team must have a manager or coach who is the official spokesman for his team and is the person responsible to the referee.

PENALTY: Forfeiture of the game.

4. The referee's decision shall be final on decisions of facts and conduct of the game where such decisions do not involve interpretation of the Rules, the By-Laws of the association, or the eligibility of players.

5. Game time shall be forfeit time for all games, with the exception of the 6:30 games. There will be a ten (10) minute grace period. The clock, however, will start at 6:30.
6. All games will be played as scheduled, except on occasion of emergency or rained-out field conditions as established by the Parks and Recreation Department or the referee. Postponed games will be rescheduled at a later date. If make-ups become excessive, games may have to be re-scheduled for a day different from the regular scheduled one. This may include weekends.
7. Games that are called due to rain or other unforeseen circumstances will be considered final if the game has progressed through five (5) minutes of play of the second half. All uncompleted games will be started from the beginning.
8. If a team manager knows prior to game time that his team will be required to forfeit the game due to lack of eligible players, he should verbally forfeit the game **only** by phoning the Adult Sports staff at 972-941-7278 before 5 pm. Every effort will be made to contact the other team.
9. Forfeiture of three (3) regularly-scheduled games for any reason will disqualify a team from further competition in this association during the current season.
10. If the last game of the evening is a forfeit, the facility will be vacated and lights will be turned off.
11. All players must wear similar-color jerseys, and the jerseys must have **permanent** numbers. No two players on the same team may wear the same number. Numbers must be 8" on the back of the shirt. Shorts or pants may **not** have **any** pockets. Gloves worn by a player must be approved and inspected by game officials. **No jewelry** will be allowed.

PENALTY: Ejection from game when infraction is discovered.
12. Each team will furnish a leather ball before each game. Each team will also furnish its own flags. Velcro or cylinder-type flag belts are acceptable.
13. All players must wear **protective mouthpieces**. This is a requirement in order to play.
14. Rain-out number to call **after** 4:00 pm is **972-941-7278** or check the message board at www.planoparks.org (Athletics tab/ Adult Sports/ Standings/Schedules and Message Board).
15. Rain-out schedules for games to be made up will be **added** to your schedule at www.planoparks.org (same as above). The original date will no longer appear.

E. PROTESTS

1. **No** protests will be allowed.

F. DETERMINATION OF LEAGUE WINNER

1. If a tie exists for any award position, the following tiebreaker criteria will be followed:
 - a. win-loss in head-to-head games
 - b. fewest points allowed in head-to-head games
 - c. most points scored in head-to-head games
 - d. fewest points allowed in league play
 - e. most points scored in league play
 - f. play a tiebreaker game

G. AWARDS

8 x 8 Leagues: 1st place award consisting of 12 custom t-shirts (Spring, Summer, and Fall)

4 x 4 Leagues: 1st place award consisting of 6 custom t-shirts (Summer)