

HYFA Play Time Philosophy

First, HYFA is a feeder program to the Middle School and eventually the High School.

Secondly, HYFA is considered a competitive travel youth football program at both the Pony & Midget levels. However, the Pee Wee program is purely an instructional program, which introduces the boys to the fundamentals of the game of football.

This philosophy is consistent with other teams in the Lebanon Valley Midget Football League (L.V.M.F.L). The league is highly competitive where games are played with the quest to win the Championship at the Pony and Midget levels.

It is HYFA's goal to set expectations and make the HYFA play time position very clear to the parents before we start the season.

This year, all parents will be required to sign a parent code of conduct that includes a new disciplined process for resolving parent/coach play time issues.

Pee Wee Program Play Time

The Pee Wee program consists of boys who are 7 and 8 years old. Each boy in the Pee Wee program is instructed on the basic fundamentals of the game. In the Pee Wee program, each boy gets about the same amount of play time during the games and scrimmages throughout the season. Scores are not kept during their game. There are no league titles to be won at this young age. We want the boys who come out for the Pee Wee program to develop a genuine love of football and learn the life lessons that football teaches as well as develop their football skills.

Pony Program Play Time

The Pony program consists of boys who are 9 & 10 years old. Play time at this level is NOT equal. The Pony League is competitive and a team is crowned the Lebanon Valley League Champion at the end of the year.

We try to get every football player in the game either on special teams or on offense or defense; however, if the game is tight and on the line, and depending on the number of players that are on the team, there could be a time when some of the boys do not get in that particular game. For those boys that do not get much playing time, we set up another game for just those boys on the following Monday night, so that they can have some fun and apply their football skills and compete against other boys that are of similar size and skill level. We call this game a "B" Game.

Typically, 10 year old boys get more playing time than the 9 year olds because the 10 year olds are usually more mature and have that extra year of experience. However, there are exceptions.

The Pony coaching staff will assess each player and put them into positions on both offense and defense that contribute to the overall success of the team. Coaches may switch players to different positions based on what they see as the season progresses.

Midget Program Play Time

The Midget program consists of boys who are 11 & 12 years old. The Midget program will get the boys into excellent physical condition and will build upon the skills learned in the Pony program. This is the last step in the developmental process before they graduate onto Middle School football. Play time at the Midget level is NOT equal. The Midget program is very competitive and they play for the L.V.M.F.L Championship each season.

We try to get every football player in the game either on special teams or on offense or defense; however, if the game is tight and on the line, and depending on the number of players that are on the team, there could be a time when some of the boys do not get in that particular game. For those boys that do not get much playing time, we set up another game for just those boys on the following Monday night, so that they can have some fun and apply their football skills and compete against other boys that are of similar skill level. We call this game a “B” Game.

Typically, 12 year old boys get more playing time than the 11 year olds because the 12 year olds are usually more mature and have that extra year of experience. However, there are exceptions. The Midget coaching staff will assess each player and put them into positions on both offense and defense that contribute to the success of the team. Coaches may switch players to different positions based on what they see as the season progresses.