

2021 DIAA Unified Flag Football Coaches Rules Clinic

***Special
Olympics
Delaware***



Important Dates

- **August 16th** – Practices can start
- **October 5th** – Play Day Open to All teams
 - **October 12th** – Season Starts
- **November 18th** – Last Day of Competition
- **November 22nd** – Playoff Bracket Released
 - **November 30th** – Quarterfinals
 - **December 7th** – Semifinals
 - **December 10th or 11th** – Championship

Important Reminders

- All Unified coaches are required to be certified in adult CPR and complete the NFHS "Concussion in Sports" course.
- All Unified coaches must take the NFHS "Unified Sports®" course online through NFHSlearn.com every two years.
- Any school that does not meet the above requirements will not be eligible to receive the \$500 stipend provided by Special Olympics Delaware at the end of the season.
- Take the DIAA Unified Flag Football rules test.

Important Reminders

- Once games are scheduled, please make sure your AD has inputted all games into Website4Sports and on arbiter to confirm officials.
- DIAA Eligibility Rosters are due the first day of Unified Flag Football competition.
- All exposed undergarments must be solid black, white or team color
- Shirts with hoods must be tucked in and pants/shorts with pockets are not allowed.
- Flags need to be contrasting color from pants/shorts.
- Remember to have roster cards ready before each game.
- If you did not participate last year, make sure you go over the rules to familiarize yourself with last years rules changes.

Important Reminders

Unified Sports Cancellation Policy

In the circumstance a game must be cancelled or postponed, the school cancelling/postponing must notify the sports official assigner and Nate Threatts at nate.threatts@sode.org by 11:30am the day of game. Failure to do so may result in the offending school being charged the cost of officials for the game (flag football - \$135 and basketball - \$110).

New Castle Football - Rodney Smith - rodney.smith@appo.k12.de.us

Kent Football - Pete Celiberti - heyref@comcast.net

Sussex Football – Jim Feehery - jrfeehery@aol.com

New Castle Basketball – Randy HENZES - rjhenzes@aol.com

Kent & Sussex Basketball - Kevin Gillespie - kppg23@comcast.net

Important Reminders

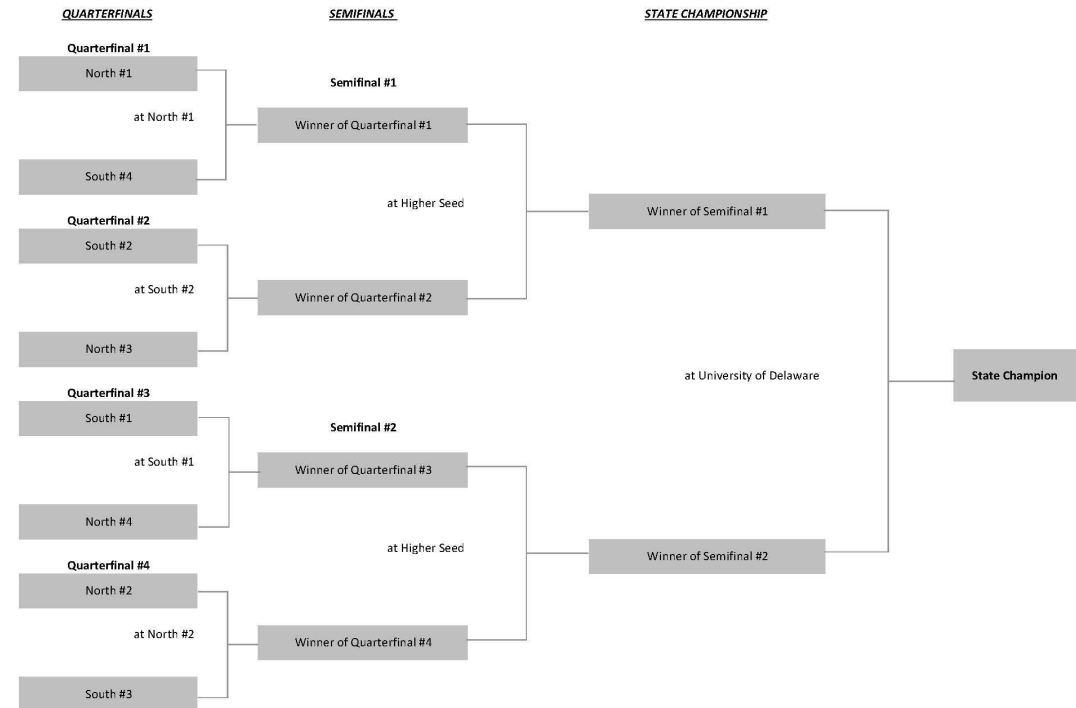
- Top 4 teams from each Division (North & South) will make the playoffs.



Special Olympics
Delaware



Unified Basketball Playoff Bracket



Rules Changes

Mercy Rule

If, at any time during the second half, one team is leading its opponent by 25 or more points, the timing procedures will be modified as listed on the next page.

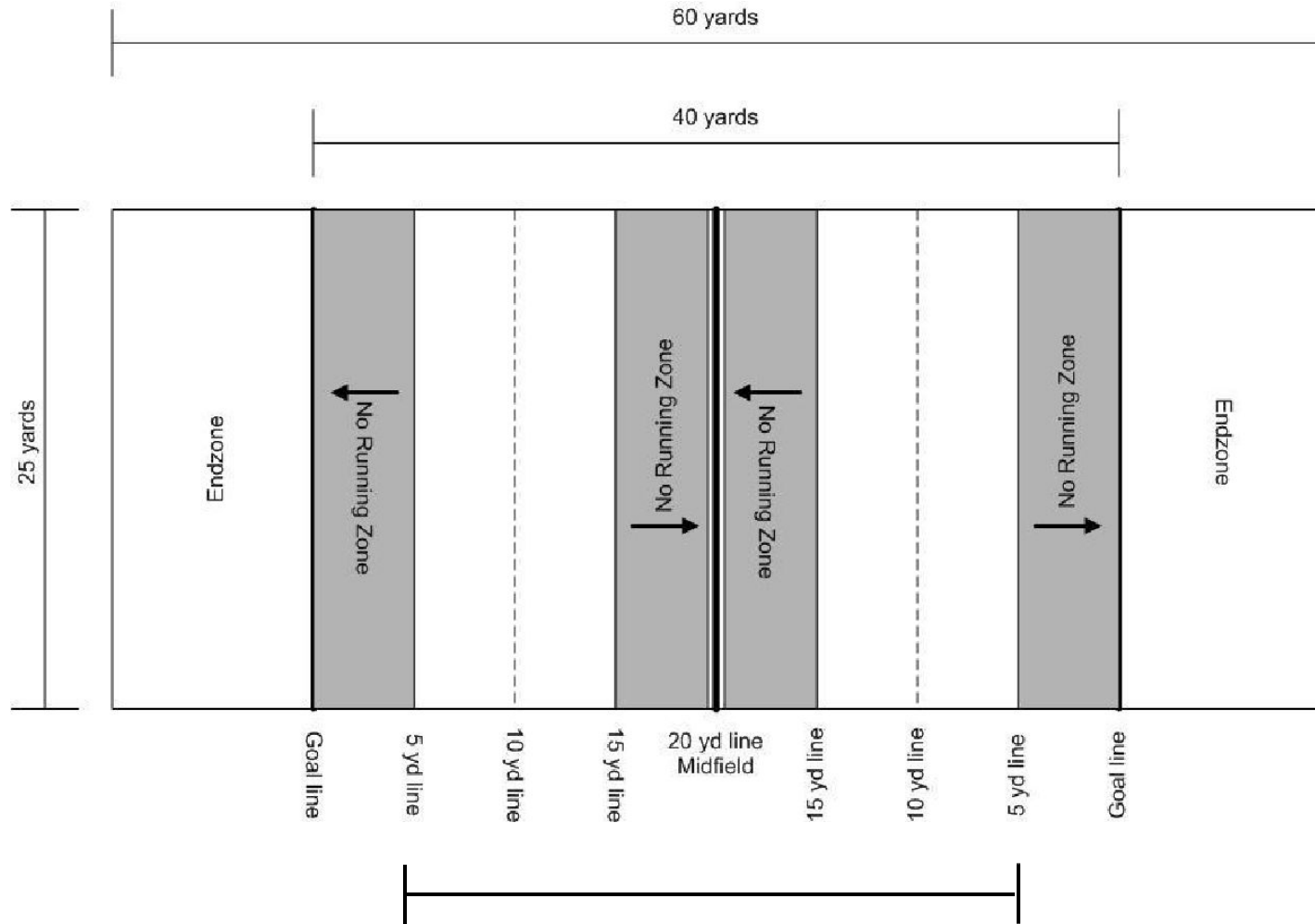
The clock will be stopped only in the following instances:

1. A charged time-out.
2. An officials' time-out for safety reasons, i.e., player appears to be injured, unusual heat or humidity creates health risk for players, player needs equipment repair, non-participant enters playing field, or other situations deemed to be safety related.
3. A one-minute intermission between the third and fourth periods.
4. If the differential is reduced to fewer than 25 points, regular timing procedures will again be used.

There will no longer be an 8-point rule in the final 2 minutes of the 4th Quarter.

Points of Emphasis

- During the game substitutes, coaches, and team attendants should be located on opposite sidelines from the other team and between the 5-yard lines.
- Work on teaching your players to avoid contact.
 - Defenders must make an effort not to run through ball carrier
 - Ball carriers must make an effort to get around established defender
 - No holding a ball carrier to get their flag
- Make sure offensive players' flags are on their hips before the start of each play.
- A Unified Sports team shall not include student-athletes who dominate play, exclude other teammates from contributing to the success of the team, or present a health and safety risk.



30-yard Player & Coaches Box must be at least 5-yards from the boundary line

Coming Soon

- Location, Time and how to register for Play Day
- List of Examples of Player Domination and Meaningful Involvement

**If You Have Any
Questions, Please Contact
Nate Threatts at
nate.threatts@sode.org**