**2022 NP JR. TROJANS FOOTBALL CONSTITUTION**

Please go to [www.NPJTrojans.com](http://www.NPJTrojans.com) for the latest updates to game schedules and other important information.

**The football constitution is written to ensure that all participants in the football program are aware of what is expected once they decide to become part of our team.**

**It is imperative that you review and go over this entire document with your child. You, as a parent or guardian, have enrolled your child in the North Pocono Jr. Trojans organization. Your child is now part of a team that depends on the dedication of each and every member to be successful. Please be sure that you and your child can make this commitment. There are many people that count on your child’s attendance at practices and games. This sport is not for everyone because of the time-consuming nature and risks involved. We ask that you go over what this commitment means with your child and make sure it is something you both want and can commit to. We do not want to see anyone unhappy with their decision to join as we get further into the season. If you have any questions or concerns regarding anything contained herein, please address it directly to the football coordinator or any of the NJPT executive members so we can have every opportunity to resolve the issue.**

1. **Eligibility& Team Placement:** Any Youth meeting the following criteria. Team Placement is based on grade and is set forth according to the ACCJFL by – Laws.
2. The child must reside in the North Pocono School District.
3. Must be either 5 years old or not older than 14 before the end of the current season.
4. **Financial Responsibility:**
5. Fees:
6. Registration Fee: A $100.00 non-refundable fee to be paid at registration which includes insurance while at practice and games.
7. Fundraisers: Fundraisers are very important to our organization; if not for them we would not be able to run our program. We run several of them during the season and ask that you participate in all of them. It all benefits the children.
8. More to be explained under the “Uniforms” section below.
9. **Transportation:**
10. Each player is responsible for their own transportation to and from practices and games. If you need a ride, please contact another teammate.
11. For safety purposes, it is the Parent’s responsibility to see that the player gets to their players practice and game location.
12. Players must be picked up promptly at the end of practices and games. Recurring late arrivals and late pick-ups will result in a written warning.
13. **Practice: All practices will be held at the field behind the North Pocono Intermediate School.**
14. Cancellations Due to Weather
15. We will practice in all types of weather including **Snow and Rain.** It is the players’ responsibility to be prepared for all weather conditions at all times.
16. Teams will be notified by the team moms in the event that a game or practice is cancelled.
17. Missing a game or practice due to weather without the NPJT Board cancelling practice will be marked as **UNEXCUSED.** A written warning may be issued.
18. \*\*\*\*\*\*\*Parents also need to keep an eye on the weather. We may end practice early due to Thunder/Lightning. Please be close enough to return and pick up your child in the event this occurs.\*\*\*\*\*\*\*
19. Before School begins: Monday – Thursday from 6PM – 8PM.
20. After School begins: Tuesday – Thursday from 6PM – 8PM
21. We know that some players participate in other extra-curricular activities that have regular meeting times during NPJT practice times. Signing up as a team member of the NPJT’s is an equal commitment to any other organization, therefore, should be taken under heavy consideration. Players may be tardy a **maximum** of **two (2)** practices per week due to other activities.

However, any additional occurrences for other activities will be unexcused, and disciplinary action will be enforced and benching at games may occur.

1. If tardiness is due to physical activity, warm –up is not required. However, for their health &safety if the activity is not physical (such as school, clubs, etc.), the full warm – up will be required before participation is allowed.

G. No cell phone use is allowed during practice unless for medical reasons or emergencies.

1. **GAMES**
2. Games are played every weekend on Saturdays and Sunday
3. Home games are held at the North Pocono Middle School Football Stadium.
4. Kick Off for I team (D Team) is 12PM and playing time is approximately 1 ½ hours. Directions will be provided closer to game dates.
5. Games played home and away are as follows:

Saturday Evening Games:

1. I Team (D Team) 4:30 PM
2. C Team 5:30 PM
3. B Team Approx.7:00 PM (Immediately follows C Team Game)
4. A Team Approx.8:30 PM (Immediately follows B Team Game)

Sunday Afternoon Games:

1. I Team (D Team) 12:00 PM
2. C Team Approx. 1:00 PM (Immediately follows I Team Game)
3. B Team Approx. 2:30 PM (Immediately follows C Team Game)
4. A Team Approx. 4:00 PM (Immediately follows B Team Game)
5. Players must arrive 30 minutes prior to game time for warm-up and practice. Late arrivals will sit on the bench with the coach for the first five minutes of the game. Players may be required to arrive earlier. This is at the discretion of the coaching staff. The players will be notified in plenty of time if this is the case.
6. **UNIFORMS**
7. You will be receiving a uniform consisting of a helmet, shoulder pads, rib pads, practice/game jersey, and practice/game pants. **This uniform will be collected by your coaches at the end of the season at a date/time TBA. Fees may be applied for wear and tear above the norm or for unlaundered items.**
8. Players will be responsible for the purchase of:
	1. Proper mouth guard
	2. Cleats
	3. Chin strap
9. Parents and players are responsible for proper maintenance of issued equipment. Parents are asked to launder the uniform after each use and prior to return.
10. Uniforms are to be worn at games and North Pocono Trojans functions. **Do Not** wear uniforms to school unless approved by the Football Coordinator and/or coaching staff.
11. Normal wear of uniforms is expected. However excessive damage will result in required replacement cost to be paid by parent/guardian. Cost is subject to the current cost of replacement.
12. Jersey:
13. Pants:
14. Shoulder Pads:
15. Helmet:
16. Rib Vest:
17. Attire for Games:
18. No Jewelry of any kind.
19. No food or candy; **WATER ONLY (No Glass Bottles). No Gatorade is allowed in bottles.**
20. Food will be allowed for those players that require it for medical conditions.
21. Color of game jerseys/pants will be decided on a week-to-week basis by the coaching staff.
22. **PLAYERS BEHAVIOR**
23. Game:
24. Players are not to leave the field for any reason during the game. Take care of bathroom needs when you arrive or at half time.
25. Players are to remain with their team at all times while game is in progress.
26. During Half Time, players may be permitted to go to the bathroom and/or get a drink. No food, gum, or candy is allowed during your team’s game. Please eat before or after your designated game.
27. Insubordination:

1. Arguing or disrespect toward the coaches, referees, and/or fellow players **WILL NOT BE TOLERATED. This is grounds for immediate dismissal from the team and NPJT organization.**

2. No foul language at any time. Disciplinary action will be taken if this rule is broken.(SEE BELOW)

3. At all times you should treat the opposing team, coaches and parents with the utmost respect.

 C. Sportsmanship:

1. As a Team, each player will respect the abilities and opinions of others.

2. Keep open, respectful communication with coaches, Discuss problems with them and **NOT** each other.

3. Any player participating in unsportsmanlike behavior with opposing teams will be benched for one (1) game. They will come to the game in full uniform and sit with their coach. If they do not come to the game, they will be removed from the squad. If a player chooses to quit the NPJT to this disciplinary actions, he or she will not be permitted to rejoin the organization in the future.

4. When in uniform, players represent the **NP JR Trojans organization** and should act appropriately.

5. If unsportsmanlike behavior is aimed at any NPJT Player, they must ignore it and report such behavior to their coach who will then take it to the Football Coordinator.

1. **Disciplinary Actions:**
2. Written warnings will be issued at the Head Coach and coaching staff of each teams’ discretion.
3. Warnings will be signed by both the player and the parent and returned to the coach to be kept on file.
4. Three (3) written warnings are grounds for dismissal.
5. 1st Offense: Written Warning
6. 2nd Offense: Written Warning and Suspension
7. 3rd Offense: Written Warning and Removal from the team
8. These steps may be skipped if the behavior is deemed to too disruptive or if the conduct is detrimental to the team. This is left to the discretion of the coaching staff.
9. Sample of Written Warning

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| **NP JR TROJANS FOOTBALL****WARNING SLIP** |
| DATE:Warning#:Player Name:Team:Reason for Warning:Action to be Taken: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Signature (Player) Signature (Parent/Guardian)Signature (Head Coach) Signature (NPJT Board Member)1. **Social Media: This section of the constitution was devised to regulate the appropriate use of NPJT photos, information, electronic/non-electronic bullying, and slander.**
2. **Photographs:**
3. As with all entities working closely with children, a photo release form will be signed prior to release of photos in any form of social media.
4. If photos are taken with children other than your own, the permission from the child’s parents is required prior to posting on any media device (i.e. Facebook, twitter, etc.)
5. **Information:**
6. Personal Information (i.e. medical condition or personal life experiences – no matter how obtained) will remain personal. Sharing personal information by word of mouth or via social media (by either cheerleader or adult) will **NOT** be tolerated. The disciplinary action will be deemed to fit the violation. It could range from a written warning; benching from quarters or even from game(s); to ejection from the team without refund. We are a team and will be committed to one another as team members for the duration of the season; on and off the field.
7. **Bullying:**
8. Any form of verbal taunting, including, but not limited to: name calling, badgering, picking on, teasing, singling out, or any form of physical abuse is bullying and **WILL NOT BE TOLERATED!!!!** First time offenders are subject to be ejected from the team without a refund if an investigation by the board has found them to be guilty.
9. Posting, blogging, emailing, texting, tweeting, facebooking, or any other type of electronic bullying will not be tolerated (including, but not limited to: teasing, taunting, making fun of, name calling, threatening or promising negative messages). First-time offenders are subject to be ejected from the team without a refund if an investigation by the board has found them to be guilty.
10. **\*\*Parents Behavior\*\***
11. There are **NO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES** permitted on the practice field or at any games.
12. There is **NO SMOKING AND NO PETS** permitted on school grounds.
13. **No Foul Language** should be used around any of the children.
14. Parents MUST show respect to all coaches, players, advisors at all times. This includes the opposing team. At no time will any abusive behavior to any player, coach, parent, cheerleader, or referee be tolerated. This behavior can result in the parent being permanently banned from our organization and from further games and/or events.
15. If a parent or guardian wishes to speak to a coach, please do so after practice and in the presence of a member of the NPJT executive board. At no point will any screaming, yelling, cursing, etc be tolerated to any coaches. This will result in immediate removal from the property.
16. Coaches personal cell phones will not be given out under any circumstances. If you would like to speak to a coach, please contact the team mom or a member of the NPJT executive board to set up a meeting.
17. **Concession Stand**
18. Each child’s parent or guardian in football/cheerleading is required to work the concession stand at one home game. Prior to the first home game a schedule will be handed out to each child. It is your responsibility as the parent to check this schedule and show up for your shift. If you cannot do the shift you are scheduled for, then you must find another parent to switch with. If you switch with another parent, you must let a board member know that you have switched your shift.
19. If you do not show for your shift it will result in your child being benched for the next game.
20. If there is inclement weather and you are scheduled to work the stand you must wait to see if they will cancel the game. Most of the time they will take the children off the field to a safe place and will wait to see if it clears. Please check with the NPJT board if you are scheduled to work.

**XVI Weather**1. Football is played in all types of weather, so cancelations are very rare. However, we will try to cancel before practice starts if possible.
2. In the threat of dangerous weather, we will let the players leave as soon as we can. Please be aware of the weather in case this happens. We do not want anyone to be injured.
3. The only ones that can cancel practice or games is the board. If you decide not to bring your child due to weather, you must contact your team mom.

**XVII School Behaviors**1. Although NPJT is not affiliated with the school, they so graciously allow us to use the facilities for games, practices, and events. If for any reason your child has a disciplinary action through the school (i.e. in/out of school suspension) they **WILL NOT** be allowed to participate in NPJT activities until their suspension is fulfilled. Per school policy a child is not allowed to attend school functions **OR** be on school property during their suspension.
2. Based on the severity/reason of the suspension, NPJT does have a right to suspend your child or dismiss them from the league.

The most important thing/we want to strive for this season is for the players to learn the fundamentals of football and to have fun while doing it!! As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to come to us at any time. Here is to a wonderful season. Thank You,NPJT Execuetive Board I have read (or have had read to me), understand and accept the contents of the**2022 NP JR. TROJANS FOOTBALL CONSTITUTION** without exclusion and commit to the rules and regulations:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Parent/Guardian Signature Date Signed\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Football Player Signature ( I, C, B and A Squads ) Date Signed(Circle One) |
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