



## **2021 High Desert Tackle Football**

Bend-La Pine Schools Middle School Athletic Directors have met numerous times over the last month regarding our 2021 middle school tackle football season. With guidance from Bend-La Pine Schools, OHA, ODE, and the OSAA around K-12 school sports the outline below is how Bend-La Pine Middle Schools will proceed with the 2021 middle school tackle football season.

### **#1 Goal – Be Safe, Learn, & Have Fun!!!**

#### **Season Design:**

Our goal is to have 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade teams. If our registration numbers do not allow us to offer 2 full rosters at grade level, we will consider combining grades to make 1 team of 7/8.

- Athletes will attend practice Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday. Wednesdays are TBA.
- Practice Time – 4:15-6:00. Athlete pick-up time will be 6:05.
- Transportation will NOT be provided by the district on days athletes are not in-school.
- The season will focus on skill development & technique to get our athletes ready for high school football. Daily practice will be organized with social distancing and all safety precautions as a top priority.
- Face coverings and mouth pieces will be required at all times...practice and competition.

#### **Upcoming Important Dates:**

- Registration for Tackle Football will open Wednesday, March 10<sup>th</sup> and close Friday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- Practices will begin Monday, April 5<sup>th</sup> and season will end Friday, May 7<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Season Calendar:**

- April 5<sup>th</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup> – Practice
- April 12<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup> – Practice
- April 19<sup>th</sup> - 23<sup>rd</sup> – Inter-Squad Scrimmage
- April 26<sup>th</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup> – 1<sup>st</sup> Game
- May 3<sup>rd</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup> – 2<sup>nd</sup> Game

#### **Participation Requirements:**

- All athletes will need to register online with [FamilyID](#) for their home school.
- Pay to Play Fees have been waived for the 2020-21 school year.
- All athletes will need to have an updated physical on file with their home school. All 6<sup>th</sup> graders need an updated physical. All 7<sup>th</sup> graders need an updated physical with a date after May 1, 2020. 8<sup>th</sup> graders only need a physical if they did not get one during their 7<sup>th</sup> grade year. Please contact your home school if you have questions about physicals.

#### **Specific Safety Precautions for Outdoor Contact Sports**

- If county risk level is high or extreme, in order for Bend-La Pine Schools to offer tackle football, we will be required to complete the ODE opt-in for outdoor K-12 full-contact sports.

This includes:

- Complete the Outdoor Contact Sports Opt-In Form
- Collect a waiver from each participant or their parent/guardian that acknowledges the health and safety risks of COVID-19 when participating in outdoor full contact sports.
- Offer, at a minimum, Comprehensive Distance Learning with Limited In-Person Instruction (LIPI), with the goal of implementing Hybrid or full On-Site Instructional Models for students before the end of the 2020-21 school year (we are currently in Hybrid at our middle schools.)
- Comply with the Oregon School Testing Plan
- Limit sports field capacity to 120 people maximum
- Prohibit spectators
- Offer on-site responsive testing for symptomatic individuals and for those with known exposures to individuals with COVID-19. This applies to athletes, support staff and volunteers.  
Collect contact information for contact tracing.

**Additional Information:**

- 1) Daily Attendance Requirement – Athletes will report to the gym after school to complete the check-in process. Students will answer a series of questions and then be released to practice.
- 2) Transportation will not be provided to and from practice and games. Athletes will be responsible to arrange their own transportations during the season. Coaches will give specific times on when/where athletes will need to arrive and be ready to start.
- 3) Games – We are still working through what games will look like. \*All athletes are required to have 9 practices before they are cleared for competition.
- 4) Dressing Down? Athletes will be using the locker room to dress down only when they are at school. We will social-distance and limit the number of athletes in the locker room. Once the athlete is dressed, they will report to the field. If the student is at home for school that day, please have the student dressed down before coming to practice. They will not be allowed in the locker room.
- 5) On “at school days” players will bring gear to the locker room before school and store until practice. Nothing will be stored in the locker room.
- 6) Spectators – Spectators will NOT be allowed at practices with limited spectators being allowed if county is in moderate or low risk level. We will be working with our local high schools to stream our games. We will be re-evaluating how we deal with spectators as seasons progress.
- 7) Masks will be required under helmets. We will have designated areas where athletes will be able to take off their masks if needed.
- 8) Athlete Pick-Up Time: Please be at the school on time for pick-up. If parents are early to pick-up, we ask that you stay in your car. Practice will end at 6:00. We will keep you updated if this time changes.