



PPKUSA 2023 RULEBOOK



Punt, Pass and Kick USA, Inc. – 2023 Rulebook – www.PPKUSA.com
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In an effort to revive the former PPK program and offer this great opportunity to the youth of the United States to participate in a healthy and fun football skills competition Punt, Pass and Kick USA, Inc. has created these rules to foster a fun, healthy and fair competition for all involved.

These rules are designed as guidelines to create a fair competition which will allow all participants an equal playing field to showcase their talents and skills to reach a conclusion of which participants are the most successful in this competition at each level.

These rules may be modified by the volunteers conducting the competitions at the Local level in any manner which will help them to run their event in a more efficient and organized way while still allowing for the intended results which represent the intent of this program.

At no time should any volunteer or participant promote or engage in any conduct or activity which is not within the intent or spirit of this program and its mission which is solely to offer a youth football skills competition.

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ABOUT PPKUSA

Punt, Pass & Kick USA, Inc. (PP&K USA, Inc.) was created as an IRS registered and approved 501c3 Non Profit Corporation to facilitate the rebirth of a free National Youth Football skills competition. With decades of experience in the Recreation and Parks field as well as being a volunteer coordinator in the former NFL PPK program we have made it a mission to bring this program to life and provide opportunities to all youth in our country.

We have created a new design of the previous program to allow for more inclusion and to allow for more participants to qualify for and experience higher level competitions. We actively seek out Recreation and Parks Departments, Civic Groups, School Physical Education Teachers, Private Recreation Organizations and anyone else with interests in Football to join us and volunteer to host Local Competitions. We also actively seek out donors and sponsors through all volunteers to help us to maintain this program as a free program for all. PP&K USA, Inc. organizes and manages the entire program each year with the help of the many volunteers in this program and an Advisory Committee of Volunteers to promote it and suggest and implement changes to make it better and stronger.

This program cannot survive without the many Volunteers involved. Every Local Competition has one Volunteer Coordinator and multiple helpers. Volunteers are the backbone of this program and many more are needed.

PROGRAM CALENDAR

This program relies on timely scheduling to allow for adequate time between Local Competitions and the National Finals competition so that participants and their families may plan for travel accordingly.

Registration for Volunteer Coordinators begins in April of each year. Registration for participants normally starts soon afterwards.

All Local Competitions must be completed by the date(s) required as set by Punt, Pass and Kick USA, Inc. and its volunteer coordinators each year. Locals typically need to be completed no later than October 31st of the current year but may be earlier or later dependent on the date of the National Finals Competition.

The National Finals will be held near the end of January of the year immediately following the current season.

REGISTRATION

All participants must register online through the PPK USA website to compete at a registered Local Competition and to be eligible to participate. All online waivers must be agreed to and accepted to complete this online registration. All participants may register for and compete at one (1) and only one (1) Local Competition per season.

Walk up registrations on the day of a Local Competition will still require the parent of the competitor to complete this registration online using a smartphone or a tablet which may or may not be provided by the Local Coordinator and their staff. Upon completion of this walk-up registration process the participant will receive a confirmation email from the system which may be used for approval to compete.

Registering to host an approved, sanctioned Local Competition will also be handled through the PPK USA website. Registration for this PPK USA program is and always will remain free of charge.

SKILLS OFFERED

In the PP&K USA, Inc. program the following skills are offered:

Punting, Passing, Kicking, 40 Yard Dash and the Broad Jump in which each participant will be allowed up to two attempts of each skill at each level of competition. Two attempts of each skill is optional at the Local level of competition. These skills are to be attempted in a manner which is consistent with the game of Football and may not include a drop kick. Rocking or Quick starts are not allowed in the 40-yard dash competition. Feet must be parallel to each other and cannot leave the surface prior to the jump.

SCORING

Scores are based on both distance and accuracy for Punts, Passes and Kicks. Scores are based on distance in the Broad Jump. Scores are based in time for the 40-yard dash. Attempts will be measured in feet and inches while always rounding up to the nearest full inch for all skill events except for the 40-yard dash which is measured in time with no rounding. No participant may receive a negative score. The lowest possible score is zero (0). Once all participants in an age group have completed their attempt(s) the coordinators will rank each participant in each skill based on their best attempt with 1 being the best then 2, 3, 4, and so on until all participants are ranked in every group. Overall winners are determined by adding all of their skill rankings with the lowest number being declared the overall champion for each age group.

The competition coordinator will designate the scratch line(s) for the competition and the mark directly in front of and in the middle of this scratch line from which all measurements will take place. Measurements will start at this mark and go in a straight line directly to the spot where the football first touches the ground during the skill attempt(s).

The participant's measurement for each attempt will be the distance on the tape measure at the spot where the football first touches the ground on that attempt. If a football first touches the ground outside

of the marked boundary area then the volunteers will mark the attempt in the same manner as above, however, the participant's measurement will be the distance on the measuring tape at the intersection of the tape and the marked boundary line. Participants may not step over or across the designated scratch line during any attempt except for their plant foot on the "Kick" skill. This applies until the ball is released or kicked and does not constitute a foul on a follow-through. This foul creates a five (5) foot penalty on the attempted skill. A complete miss of the ball during any attempted skill does not constitute an attempt or have any penalty associated with it. For the Broad Jump distances are measured from the designated spot to the closest spot the participant's body touches during the attempt to the scratch line, including any spot when falling or stepping backwards during their attempt(s). For the 40-Yard Dash time in seconds will determine rankings and scores.

AWARDS

Awards will be handed out for the first, second and third place finishers in each skill and for overall finishers in every age group participating.

At the Local Competition level the awards will be ribbons. At the National Finals Competition level the awards will be trophies for overall winners and medals for skill winners. Competition shirts will also be provided at the National Finals Competitions for all participants in attendance.

HOW TO ADVANCE

From every Local Competition all award winners for each skill and for overall categories in each of the ten (10) competing age groups will automatically qualify to advance to the National Finals Competition.

THE FIELD

Ideally each competition will be held on a marked football field. The competition area should be marked to provide an approximately 50 foot wide in-bounds area. This may vary based on the competition field available but must be the same and consistent for every competitor in each competing group. The competing area should also be at least 80 yards in length.

On a standard High School Football field the distance between a sideline and the hash marks is 53.3 feet. On a standard NCAA field this distance will be 60 feet. Both of these properly, well-marked field setups would be allowed for any PPK USA competition as long as every participant in each competing group uses the same competition area.

For competitions which utilize an open field or recreation area it is suggested to use any existing structures or permanent marks available to designate the competition area as is available while still providing a consistent and safe zone.

For all fields and competition areas it is highly recommended that cones be used to mark the boundary lines of the competition areas at least every 10 yards. This provides a framed reference for all competitors as to where their in-bounds area lies.

EQUIPMENT

The Local Host shall provide all equipment used for this program other than the clothing and shoes worn by the participants. No outside footballs or tees will be allowed for the competition.

Competitors may not wear any type of a cleated shoe such as those worn for football, soccer, baseball, softball or any other sport. Competitors must wear shoes to participate. Shoes must be of a type consistent with traditional gym shoes or cross training shoes.

The footballs for this program shall be: the Wilson NFL MVP Pee Wee football for the 6/7, 8/9 and 10/11 year old age groups and the Wilson NFL MVP Junior football for the 12/13 and 14/15 year old age groups or best equivalent balls the Local Host has access to. Other necessary equipment to host an event include a 300 foot measuring tape, a stopwatch, pens and the awards to present. The Local Host should also confirm enough volunteer help to run their event.

TIE-BREAKING PROCEDURES

The tie-breaking procedure for any and all ties is to use the competitor's attempts at each skill which were not used for scoring purposes. These scores will be compared and ranked between the tied participants to determine their final placing.

If the tie is to determine awards and this process does not break the tie or if the participants only had one attempt each then a playoff of one attempt of each skill will be used to break the tie. If the tie(s) are for placings with no awards and each participant only had one attempt at each skill then the participants will remain tied. All ties in individual skill events must be broken. Any additional attempt to break ties will not be used in any other scoring process.

GENERAL CONDUCT & INFORMATION

Competitions will be held rain or shine. Local hosts must cancel in threatening or dangerous weather conditions and reschedule the event. The host on site will make cancellation decisions. If an event is canceled, please contact your Local PP&K USA, Inc. Coordinator for information on a rescheduled date.

**PLEASE NOTE: the PP&K USA, Inc. website does not automatically notify participants that the event has been canceled.*

Finals competitions are held on the date scheduled regardless of weather or other circumstances. These competitions are scheduled at facilities which do not allow for rescheduling of the competitions.

PP&K USA, Inc. and subordinate coordinators/organizers of PP&K USA, Inc. reserve the right to rule and make any recommendations regarding the PP&K USA, Inc. competition that they feel are beneficial to the continuance of the program. All decisions are final.

Coordinators have the right to modify this program in any way or form as they deem appropriate within the intent and spirit of this program.

No horse play, rough conduct, contact football, foul language, poor sportsmanship or any other inappropriate conduct as determined by the volunteer coordinator on site will be allowed or acceptable. Conduct deemed inappropriate or not in the best spirit and intent of this program and/or fair competition may result in immediate disqualification of a participant making them ineligible to qualify to advance to the next level of competition for the current season.

All participants when not actively competing and spectators must remain in the designated viewing areas. Parents and/or Legal Guardians must remain on site of the competition with their child(ren) at all times.