



## **Stoney Creek Jr. Cougars: Sideline Spotter Guide**

As a sideline spotter for the Stoney Creek Jr. Cougars, your role is essential in ensuring that all players meet the minimum play requirements. This guide outlines your responsibilities, including tracking player participation, specific duties during the game, and completing the spotter sheet.

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### **Minimum Play Requirements**

Every uniformed Freshman or JV football player must play a minimum number of plays per half, determined by the total number of players on the squad:

- **31 or fewer players:** 6 plays per half
- **32 to 41 players:** 4 plays per half
- **42 or more players:** 3 plays per half

**Play Definition:** A play counts towards the minimum requirement as long as it is fully completed, even if there is a penalty (except for ineligible plays listed below).

**Ineligible Plays for Minimum Play Requirements:** The following offensive plays cannot be counted toward the minimum play requirement:

- **Taking a Knee:** When the offensive team intentionally kneels to end the play.
- **Spiking the Football:** When the offensive team intentionally spikes the ball to stop the clock.

Note: Defensive plays, including those listed above, can count toward the minimum play requirement for the defensive team.

**Overtime Rules:** The minimum play rule is suspended during overtime. Only regulation time counts towards the minimum play requirements.

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### **Spotter Duties During the Game**

#### **1. Verify Minimum Play Requirements:**

- Ensure each player receives their required minimum number of plays based on team size.

## **2. Opposing Team's Spotter Responsibilities:**

- The spotter from the opposing team is responsible for recording information on the spotter sheet, while you observe and help locate players on the field.

## **3. 6-Minute Warning Timeouts:**

- At each 6-minute official timeout, notify the team's General Manager and/or Head Coach of any players who have not received their minimum number of plays.

## **4. Documenting Issues:**

- Document any problems or discrepancies at the bottom of the spotter sheet. Both spotters are required to sign the spotter sheet at the conclusion of the game.

## **5. Submitting the Spotter Sheet:**

- The opposing team's spotter is responsible for providing the completed spotter sheet to the team's General Manager or Head Director.

## **6. No Phone Use:**

- Phone use is not allowed during your spotting duties to avoid distractions.
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## **Preparation and Equipment**

### **1. Bring a Clipboard and Pen:**

- Although the coach usually provides these, it's a good idea to bring your own clipboard and pen to ensure you are prepared if they are not available.

### **2. Spotter Sheets:**

- You will receive a spotter sheet from the home team coach for our team and a copy from the opposing team's spotter. Use these sheets to track player participation accurately.
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## **End of Game Reporting**

### **1. Tracking Plays:**

- Mark each valid play that a player participates in, ensuring all players meet the minimum play requirements by the end of each half. Be mindful of ineligible plays.

### **2. Review and Submission:**

- Review the spotter sheet to ensure all information is accurate. Submit the signed spotter sheet to the NYFL GM of Football along with the game reports.
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Your role as a sideline spotter is vital in ensuring fair play and equal participation for all players on the Stoney Creek Jr. Cougars. Your attention to detail and adherence to these guidelines are greatly appreciated. Thank you for your commitment!