

PROGRAM OVERVIEW



Purpose

The NFL PUNT, PASS & KICK program creates a lively and engaging forum for boys and girls ages 6-15 to compete individually against their peers in punting, passing and kicking skills.

Philosophy

The NFL and USA Football want every child to be given an equal opportunity to compete. Therefore, there is no registration fee or purchase required for any participant to enter.

Participants at local youth organizations

All participants must fill out a waiver form, which is available online at NFLPPK.com. Children must be age 6 to 15 and show a valid birth certificate for age verification.

Age Groups

The five age divisions are: 6-7, 8-9, 10-11, 12-13 and 14-15, with boys and girls competing separately (age is determined as of Dec. 31 11:59 p.m. local time of the current year). For each age division, the top scorer for each boys' division and the top scorer from each girls' division at each local competition advances to the sectional competition. The top four first-place scorers in each age group for boys' and girls' divisions from the pool of sectional competition champions advance to the Team Championships. Therefore, if there are more than four sectionals in your NFL market, not everyone will advance to the Team Championships – only the top four. A competitor must be a first-place winner at the sectional level in order to be considered for the Team Championships.

Structure

Each NFL city/team is divided into a minimum of four sections by geographic location.

Local/sectional competitions

Local competitions must take place in May, June, July, August or September. Winners from each local competition (one winner from each of the boys' and girls' five age divisions) move on to compete at an assigned sectional competition. Sectionals preferably will be held on Saturdays and/or Sundays in October.

Team Championships

Team Championships take place in NFL team stadiums in November and December (the competition will take place prior to the game). A passing exhibition will take place either during pregame or halftime. The top four scorers from all Team Championships first-place finalists in each age division in both the boys' and girls' groups advance to the national finals. These 40 winners plus one parent or guardian will travel to the finals at an NFL playoff game in January.

COMPETITION RULES



Eligibility:

1. The competition is open to all boys and girls ages 6 to 15. Boys and girls compete separately. The five age divisions are based upon the child's age as of Dec. 31 (11:59 p.m. local time) of the current year.
2. There is no charge to participate in the NFL PUNT, PASS & KICK program.
3. All participants must show proof of age at all levels of competition. Failure to provide a birth certificate or religious document (baptismal record) will result in that participant being ineligible to compete.
4. Participants may register and compete in only one (1) local competition. Competing in more than one local competition will result in the automatic disqualification of that participant.
5. All participants must submit the signed parental waiver form on page 23 to the on-site organizational group. The entry form may be copied onto organization's letterhead.
6. Participants must be present at the scheduled starting time in order to compete. Failure to do so may result in ineligibility.

Scoring/Competing:

1. Each participant is allowed one punt, one pass and one place kick as part of his/her competition.
2. Scores are based on both distance and accuracy. Example: If a participant passes the ball 100 feet, but the ball lands 30 feet to the right of the measuring tape, the final score would be $100 - 30 = 70$. Scores are based on exact feet and inches (no partial inches – round to nearest inch). No participant will receive a negative score; the lowest possible score is zero (0).
3. A participant's final score is his/her cumulative total for the three individual events. Example: If participant scores (40) for punting, (60) for passing and (22) for kicking, the participant's final score is 122.
4. If a participant goes over the line prior to or before releasing or making contact with the ball, he/ she is penalized five (5) feet. Exception: In kicking, a participant may go over the line without penalty provided the tee is placed on or behind the line.
5. There is no violation if the kicking tee is kicked with the football during the kicking event.
6. Scores are determined from where a participant's punt/pass/kick first makes contact with the ground. Bounces or rolls do not add to the score.
7. If a participant tries to punt, pass or kick and misses the ball completely, it DOES NOT count as an attempt, and another attempt is allowed.

COMPETITION RULES CONTINUED



Regulations:

1. No football shoes or cleats of any form are allowed. Only gym shoes (soft sole) are permitted. No bare feet allowed. Failure to wear gym shoes results in the disqualification of the participant.
2. All equipment, other than shoes, needed for the competition will be provided by the school or hosting agency. Participants cannot utilize their own equipment (tees or footballs).
3. Rubber kicking tees: left, right and university styles will be provided by USA Football.

Advancement:

1. All participants must begin competition at the local level through schools, local community events and tackle or flag programs.
2. The top finisher in each of the boys' and girls' divisions from the five age brackets of each local competition advance to the sectional round. The top finisher is the participant with the highest final score for that round. Contestants who qualify for sectionals must compete at the location to which they are assigned. Each school/local will be notified of the location of the sectional prior to the competition. To determine and/or confirm Sectional information, contact your state chairperson.
3. At the sectionals, each competitor begins anew with a score of zero (0). Only the top four (4) first-place finishers in each age bracket from the boys' and girls' divisions from the pool of sectional competition champions advance to the Team Championships. At all levels of competition, only first-place winners are considered for advancement to the next level.
4. At the Team Championships, each of the forty (40) competitors begin anew with a score of zero (0). The top finisher within each age bracket at this level is declared that NFL team's NFL PUNT, PASS & KICK team champion. The top finisher is the participant who has achieved the highest final score for that round.
5. Only the TOP FOUR first-place team champions from each of the boys' and girls' divisions of all NFL Team Championships are eligible for advancement to the National Finals.
6. National finalists will be notified at the conclusion of all Team Championships (end of December).
7. At the National Finals, each competitor will begin anew with a score of zero (0). The top finisher within each age bracket at this level will be named the NFL PUNT, PASS & KICK national champion. The top finisher is the participant who has achieved the highest final score.

COMPETITION RULES CONTINUED



Tie Breakers:

1. If a tie exists for first, second or third place at either the local or sectional round, each participant involved in the tie will compete in a playoff to determine the final standings. The playoff will consist of the participants competing head to head in a repeat of all three events. The playoff winner at a local competition advances to the next round. The playoff winner at a sectional round will be eligible to advance to the Team Championships.
2. If a tie exists for first, second or third place at the Team Championships, the contestant's score in his or her most recent competition will determine the winner. Example: If a tie exists at the Team Championship, the participant's sectional round score would be referenced to determine the winner.

Miscellaneous:

1. Competitions will be held rain or shine. Local host must cancel in threatening or dangerous weather conditions and reschedule the event. The local host on site will make cancellation decisions.
2. If an event is canceled, please contact your local Punt, Pass & Kick participants to inform them when your event will be rescheduled.
3. USA Football, the NFL and subordinate chairperson/ organizers of NFL PUNT, PASS & KICK reserve the right to rule and make any recommendations regarding the NFL PUNT, PASS & KICK competition that they feel are beneficial to the continuance of the program. All decisions are final.
4. Participation constitutes permission to use competitor's name and likeness for promotional purposes without compensation.
5. All participants' parents must sign the entry/release of liability form (page 23) or complete and submit the form online at NFLPPK.com before participants can take part in any NFL PUNT, PASS & KICK competition.