



# Twelve Bridges Jr Rhinos

## 2026 Football Information Packet

[www.jrrhinos.com](http://www.jrrhinos.com)

**TEAM INFORMATION:** Our program will have 4 teams: (ages by August 31st)  
Note, this is a SAC rule change this year to bring our policy within one day of being in direct alignment with the California Department of Education (CDE) and ensure that students of the same age compete at the appropriate level. Additionally, this approach introduces stricter restrictions to prevent reclassification abuses.

Jr. Pee Wees: Ages 9U  
Pee Wees: Ages 11U  
Jr. Midgets: Ages 13U  
Midgets: Ages 14U (14 years that are in Middle School)

A maximum of thirty-five (35) players will be selected for each team, some teams may retain 5 additional redshirt players for development.

### **PLAYER EXPECTATIONS:**

While we want everyone to have fun, football does take hard work and commitment. Not only on the players' part but the family's as well. Football players will be expected to attend all practices, as well as games on the weekends. Please consider our schedule if your athlete participates in other activities and sports. These dates **MUST NOT** conflict with any of our dates. Mandatory practices will start on July 20th and will continue until November 14th, please plan family vacations accordingly.

### **FAMILY EXPECTATIONS:**

Once mandatory practices start, we expect our families to ensure their player attends all practices, film and games on time or as directed by their coach. We also require all of our families to volunteer at our events throughout the season. Each family is required to volunteer 10 hours throughout the season. We require a \$500 hold check for deposit to ensure these hours are completed. If you do not have the time to donate, a Volunteer Opt Out fee is \$350 and is due by July 18, 2026.

Games CANNOT start if volunteers are not in position for PAR, chain gang, and spotter and can result in a forfeit for TBJR. Electronic phones, airpods, and watches are not allowed on the sidelines. We also request that our families act responsibly, respectfully and display good sportsmanship at all Jr. Rhinos events.

### **FUNDRAISING EVENTS:**

We strongly encourage participation in all fundraising events. These events help cover the rental of our facilities, referees and EMT's for game days, and ensure our players have the safest and best equipment available. Our ONLY major fundraiser is on May 30th 10:00 am - 2:00 pm at the 1st Annual Top Golf Tournament. This will be a family friendly fundraiser so we are asking the entire family to come out and participate! Please watch our social media and [www.jrrhinos.com](http://www.jrrhinos.com)

for information on how to participate, coming out soon. We are also looking for donations of items for raffle baskets. Please contact Joe Morgan at fundraiser@jrrhinos.com if you are interested in donating an item for a silent raffle or raffle basket.

Throughout the season we may also have dine out events and other community builders and encourage participation from all families at all events. The money earned goes directly back to the football, cheer and STUNT program.

We are also looking for businesses to sponsor the Jr. Rhinos this season. Please see our website for more information.

### **SAFETY FIRST:**

Our first priority is the safety of your child. We ask that parents are open about any health issues. Any child that cannot participate in heavy physical activity should consider if this is the right sport for them. Many games/practices can occur during the hottest part of the day so if heat is an issue for your child, please consider this as well. If your child requires an inhaler, you must inform your coach and be sure your child carries an inhaler to practice daily.

If your child experiences an injury on the practice or playing field, coaches will create an injury report and depending on the severity of the injury, they may need a clearance from a doctor to return to practice/play. Players will follow the CIF return to play protocol if diagnosed with a concussion.

A defibrillator will be present at each practice and games. At practices, it will be located with a designated team which will be announced at a later date. At home and away games, it will be located under the Board Tent.

A physical must be completed annually for each player participating in football. SAC Physical forms will be available soon on the website. You must bring the provided SAC physical form and have your physician complete it. We will not accept other forms. The physical must take place **AFTER** April 15, 2026 and prior to equipment issue July 18, 2026.

### **CONCUSSION SAFETY:**

All of our coaches and Board Members are concussion safety certified with CDC HEADS UP, Youth Sports Coaches: Online Concussion Training. Your child will be required to wear a Guardian helmet on their helmet (provided by the league) at all practices. If your child does not have their Guardian at practice, they **WILL NOT** practice until the parent/guardian replaces it.

Players will follow the CIF return to play protocol if diagnosed with a concussion. They will need to be cleared by a physician to return to practice and play.

### **GAMES & PLAYOFF INFORMATION:**

Jamboree is on August 15th. The first football game will be on Saturday August 22nd. Games will be played on Saturdays from August through November. At times our league may switch our games to Sundays due to field scheduling. The playoff schedule will be announced later in the season. Jamboree, games, practices, and Play-offs are **MANDATORY** events.

### **COMMUNICATIONS:**

TBJR uses Team Sideline for registration and communication. Please do not flag Team Sideline as Spam, as you will miss very important information from our organization. Coaches may use communication apps to disseminate information to their teams. We encourage that all questions

and concerns first be directed to your athlete's head coach or team parent. The next level of communication should be with the Football Director then the TBJR President and Vice President. We are all here to support your athlete and have their best interest at heart.

### **PRACTICE GUIDELINES:**

- Attending practice is mandatory, homework does not excuse an absence.
- Starting on June 3rd-June 24th we will offer conditioning clinics on Sunday & Wednesday evenings. These are optional noncontact clinics and are highly recommended and open to the entire community.
- Twelve Bridges High School Football Camp- June 25th-26th This is an optional fundraiser to help our High School Football program, put on by high school coaches and players. This is a great opportunity for our entire community to work with the HS football program and get a taste of what it is like to be a part of the Rhino Family!
- Mandatory practice begins on July 20th. Practices will be 5 days per week until our first game, when they will switch to 3 days per week and 1 film day. Film will be an extra cost to parents as WPUSD charges us for facilities Use. Some teams may choose to do film at a restaurant, which may incur additional fees.

### **FEES/INCLUDES:**

- Registration for the 2026 season is \$500 and is due in full by July 3rd. Monthly payment plans are available. Registration opens 3/1/2026. If fees are not paid in full by July 18th, equipment **WILL NOT** be issued.
- The registration fee includes:
  - TBJR Spirit Pack (Shirt, shorts & Practice jersey) - Players will get to keep these items.
  - Use of equipment issued to players (practice pants, game pants, pads, helmet, basic chin strap, game jersey, equipment bag, guardian cap).
  - Player field access to all home and away games and practice facilities.
- Some items players will need to purchase separately include cleats, mouthguard, black socks, gloves (if desired) and water bottle.

### **CODE OF CONDUCT:**

TBJR is committed to providing a safe, respectful, inclusive, and developmentally appropriate environment for all athletes, families, coaches, board members, volunteers, and spectators. Our Zero-Tolerance Policy protects the physical, emotional, and psychological well-being of every participant. Players, coaches, board members, volunteers, spectators and parents are to conduct themselves in a manner that demonstrates good sportsmanship and respect to other players, coaches, board members, volunteers, officials and spectators year round, not just during the season. TBJR and SAC reserves the absolute right to eject any player, coach, board member, volunteer, spectator and parent from practice or the field for failure to abide by its code of conduct.

### **REQUIRED PAPERWORK:**

Before equipment can be issued on July 18th, hard copies of all paperwork, fees and hold checks must be submitted to the Registrar. You will have several opportunities to submit the paperwork before that date. If fees, paperwork and checks are not collected, equipment **WILL NOT** be issued and your athlete **WILL NOT** practice.

- Birth Certificate (New Players Only)
- Report Card/Grade Verification Form (13 & 14 Year olds only)
- SAC Medical Clearance Form (dated 4/15/2026 or after)
- SAC Code of Conduct

- TBJR Code of Conduct
- \$500 registration paid in full
- \$450 Equipment Hold Check

Additional information can be found in the Sierra Athletic Conference (SAC) rule book and on our website [www.jrrhinos.com](http://www.jrrhinos.com).