

**E-Board Meeting – Agenda
Northeast Jr. High Football League
Londonderry, NH
April 7, 2026**

Associations

X	Andover	X	Keene		Windham
X	Bedford	X	Londonderry	X	Winnacunnet
X	Derry	X	Lowell		
X	Dover	X	Manchester		
X	Exeter	X	Merrimack		
X	Goffstown	X	Nashua		
X	Kingswood	X	Portsmouth		
X	Haverhill	X	Timberlane		
X	Hudson-Litchfield	X	Tri-Town		

Board Members

X	Scott	X	AJ		
X	Jen	X	Matt		
X	Ron		Nate		
X	Melissa	X	Roland		
X	Walter	X	Jerry		

Meeting Opened 7:00 PM

Agenda Items:

After attendance, get a count of the number of coaches present and do a check-in with everyone.

- 1. Welcome: Good evening, team. We have a lot to accomplish tonight. Let's all stay focused on the agenda to make sure we get everything completed.**
 - a. This meeting is being recorded
 - b. Good azimuth check on across the league
- 2. Contact List – Being sent around, please update as needed**
- 3. Treasurer's Report – Update**
 - a. **Walter needs Steve to reach out to Bob O'Real to reconcile outstanding invoices from last season.**
 - b. Reminder of payments for dues are due in June
 - c. Insurance Prices

- i. Tackle \$565.43 – (maximum age 15)
 - ii. 2M neuro coverage, no board, no camps or clinics, no molestation coverage
 - iii. Flag \$146.73 – (maximum age 12)
 - iv. Cheer \$430.00
 - v. League dues \$450 per division
 - d. Invoices for missing meetings in March have been sent out electronically.
- 4. Coach courses are now open and available**
 - a. Code for USA Football coaching course is **NJHFL26**
 - i. **Coaches must be fully certified before Jamboree.**
 - b. Vote on new “sportsmanship course” Bullying course from NHFS
 - i. **Haverhill motions to change course from sportsmanship to bullying course, Manchester 2nd, passes unanimously.**
- 5. Set up early weigh-ins prior to Jamborees 8/8 and/or 8/15 – locations?**
 - a. **Discussion about adding a day prior to Jamboree, not decision.**
- 6. Jamboree Locations/Dates**
 - a. **Timberlane 22nd Senior D1**
 - b. **Londonderry 23rd Junior D1**
 - c. **Manchester 23rd Junior D2**
 - d. **Exeter 22nd 2G**
 - e. **Nashua 23rd 1G**
 - f. **Goffstown 23rd Senior D2**
- 7. Scheduler – list of teams that get their schedule form the towns/schools**
 - a. **Bedford**
 - b. **Portsmouth**
 - c. **Londonderry**
 - d. **Keene**
 - e. **Nashua**
 - f. **Goffstown**
 - g. **Haverhill**
- 8. Declaration of teams – any updates**
 - a. **Ron reviewed team declarations and tracked changes.**
 - b. **Steve asked for a deadline for 1G/2G, the goal is at the August meeting.**
- 9. League alignments**
 - a. **Top eight teams make the playoffs**
 - i. **AJ asks D1 teams to stay after, will discuss next meeting**
 - b. **D1**
 - i. **Andover, Bedford, Derry, Exeter, Londonderry, Timberlane Windham, Winnacunnet**

- c. D2
 - i. Dover, Goffstown, Haverhill, Hudson, Keene, Kingswood, Lowell, Manchester, Merrimack, Nashua, Portsmouth, Tri-Town
- d. Youth 1G: Manchester, Merrimack, Portsmouth
- e. AJ recaps his decision making process, Steve asked for clarification for Dover.
- f. Londonderry asks if there are plans for conferences, consensus is no, further discussion if needed.
- g. Timberlane asks for consideration to go down to D2 based on speculation of a competing team starting up in town.
- h. AJ mentions adding a fine for not reporting scores.
- i. Haverhill asks for JV record for Hudson and Dover
 - i. Dover had strong JV record and won championship
- j. Keene asks for youth and junior to be D1 but leave Seniors in D2.
- k. Derry motions to accept alignment as is, Manchester 2nd
 - i. 3 opposed, motion passes

10. Mercy rule (youth – junior – senior)

- a. Youth rule – rules in place
 - i. Once a team has built a lead equal to or greater than 28 points the mercy rule will apply.
 - ii. On change of possession the losing team will take possession on their 40-yard line unless the change of possession occurs within the opposing team’s 40-yard line.
 - iii. The winning team will take possession on their 20-yard line, regardless of where or how the change of possession occurred, unless the change is inside their 20-yard line, in which case the change will occur as normal.
 - iv. Invoking the mercy rule does not mean the game is over.
 - v. If the trailing team closes to less than 28 points normal rules will go back into effect.
 - vi. The entire game will be played and the team with the most points wins.
- b. Juniors and Seniors
 - i. To promote sportsmanship and a positive game environment, a running clock procedure, known as the mercy rule shall be implemented.
 - ii. Activation – the mercy rule will take effect if the point differential between the two competing teams reaches **thirty (30)** or more at any point during the second half of the game.
 - iii. Clock Operation – Once activated the game clock shall run continuously and will only be stopped for the following events, colloquially known as “TIPS”

1. Timeouts - for any charged team timeout or an official's timeout.
2. Injuries - for any official timeout due to an injured player.
3. Penalties – during the administration of a penalty.
4. Scores – following a touchdown, field goal, or safety
- iv. Clock Resumption – Following a stoppage for a timeout, injury, or penalty, the game clock shall restart upon the referee's ready-for-play signal.
 1. Following a score, the game clock shall start according to standard timing rules on the subsequent kickoff (i.e. once the ball is legally touched in the field of play).
- v. Irreversibility – once the mercy rule is in effect, it shall remain in effect for the remainder of the game, regardless of whether the point differential subsequently falls below thirty (30) points.
- vi. Steve suggests adding to this that if the winning team takes a timeout, the clock will continue to run. Haverhill 2nd, motion passes unanimously
- c. The proposed bylaw is in reference to time. Issues with poor sportsmanship/intentionally lopsided scores should be reported to league directors.

11. Overweight ball carriers – update on the rosters

- a. Discussion for next month about how to distinguish ineligible ball carriers, Walter suggests coaches discussing these players in the coaching meeting prior to the game. Steve adds in a column on rosters to list ineligible players separately for clarity.
- b. Steve clarifies with Roland that teams will be charged with a timeout to stop and question a ball carrier, discussion and clarity next meeting.
- c. Roland suggests unsportsmanlike conduct penalties for coaches that run an ineligible player.

12. Game day reports – must be submitted by noon on Monday – must include half-time scores

- a. AJ suggests fine for not reporting scores, deadline suggested Monday at 12pm.
- b. Steve motions that all game reports are due at 12pm on Monday, if not there will be \$50 per game fine and cannot play another game until the score is reported. 2nd by Exeter, motion passes unanimously.

13. Volunteers for the Jamborees

- a. Youth location (Presidential affidavit is due prior to weigh-ins)
 - i. Weigh-In's (Mandatory) (League will help support)
 1. 1G Nashua
 2. 2G Exeter
- b. Junior location (Presidential affidavit due prior to weigh-ins)

- i. Weigh-In's (Mandatory) (League will help support)
 - 1. Londonderry D1
 - 2. Manchester D2
 - c. Senior location (Presidential affidavit due to the start of the weekend)
 - 1. Timberlane D1
 - 2. Goffstown D2
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- Bedford proposes adding a “Junior Gold” for larger teams, Bedford, Exeter, Londonderry, Derry and Hudson expressed interest, further discussion.
 - Also requests to roster an additional team in Youth1G.
 - Catalyst is the request to “flex kids” between levels.
 - Senior JV2/JV Gold potential teams: Exeter, Londonderry, Bedford, Windham, Andover, Manchester

 - Portsmouth brings up questions about paying refs, open discussion with Roland.

Important Dates:

1. Dues to be paid by June meeting – no exceptions
2. June 15 – 3 hours of skills/conditioning per week – no team practices – no scrimmages (Bedford Rule)
3. Insurance with the league – confirm by June meeting
4. Schedule to the membership – June
5. Start of the season – August 10, 2026
6. Jamboree weekend – August 22 and August 23

Next Meeting May 5, 2026

Pal motions to adjourn, Bedford 2nd, meeting adjourned at 8:54pm.