

FCA Football Challenge Rules 2026

Game Play:

- The ball will be placed at the 40-yard line to begin the game and after each change of possession.
- In pool play, the first team listed on the schedule will start with the ball.
- In elimination games, a single game of rock, paper, scissors will be played to determine possession.
- A horn will sound to begin and end each game
- Games will be 20 minutes with a running clock

Moving The Ball:

- Passing only
- Offense may use any formation to move the ball with
 - 1 Quarterback - 5 Eligible receivers - 1 Center
- **THREE downs to gain 20 yards**
- Then **THREE downs to gain 10 yards**
Inside the 10-yard line: **FOUR downs to score**

Coaching:

- ONE offensive coach is allowed on the field, positioned behind the offensive huddle
- All other coaches can work from the sidelines

Game Rules:

- 25-second play clock
- No Blocking
- Ball carrier is down when touched with ONE hand below the neck
- A defender may not leave his feet to make a tag
- All fumbles are dead balls, and team in control will maintain possession at the spot
- The offensive team is responsible for retrieving and returning the ball to the official



Point Values:

- Offensive touchdown = 6 points
- Extra point from 5-yard line = 1 point
- Extra point from 10-yard line = 2 points
- Defensive interception = 3 points

Overtime:

- During Elimination Games Only
- The team that starts the game on offense will start the overtime on offense
- Each team will get ONE snap from the 40-yard line, and the team that progresses the ball the furthest down the field will be declared the winner. This will repeat until a winner is declared.

Penalties:

- Defensive passing interference or holding will result in an automatic 1st down, and the ball will advance to the nearest 10-yard marker. If the penalty is inside the 10-yard line, the ball will be placed on the 1-yard line
- Offensive passing interference or holding will result in a loss of down, and the ball will return to the previous spot.
- Profanity by the defense will result in an automatic 1st down, and the player will be removed for the rest of the drive or the following drive if the play resulted in a change of possession.
- Profanity by the offense will result in a loss of down, and the player will be removed for the rest of the drive or the following drive if the play resulted in a change of possession.

Code of Conduct:

- Players, Coaches, Spectators, and Parents are to conduct themselves in a manner that demonstrates good sportsmanship and respect for others. Profanity will not be tolerated; an official will first warn any player or coach who uses profanity, and a second offense may result in an ejection from the current game and the next game.

All Officials are volunteers. Any abuse of officials may result in the forfeiture of a game or disqualification from the tournament

