



SGVJAA Conference Transition – Family FAQ

1. Who is the San Gabriel Valley Junior All-American Football Conference (SGVJAA)?

The **San Gabriel Valley Junior All-American Football Conference (SGVJAA)** is a well-established youth football and cheer conference founded in 1968. The conference serves communities across the greater Los Angeles and San Gabriel Valley areas and has decades of experience providing organized, safe, and competitive youth sports programs.

SGVJAA offers a structured, predictable, and professionally supported experience for athletes and families.

2. Why are we changing conferences?

We are joining SGVJAA to provide:

- Strong safety oversight with dedicated SGVJAA and Mavericks safety officers
- Consistent officiating with certified SGVJAA referees
- Clear league structure and rules
- Reliable, organized scheduling
- Competitive balance
- Long-term stability and sustainability for our program

This transition ensures our athletes compete in a well-run environment while preserving the Mavericks culture families value.

3. What programs are moving to SGVJAA?

Moving to SGVJAA:

- Tackle Football (all divisions)

- Cheerleaders in grades 5–8 (SGVJAA sideline cheer)

Remaining local (not part of the SGVJAA transition):

- Flag Football (co-ed and girls)
- Cheerleaders in grades K–4 (PV sideline cheer)

Flag football and younger cheer will continue operating locally and are not governed by SGVJAA conference rules.

What Stays the Same

4. Daily operations will feel very familiar

Families can expect the core Mavericks experience to remain unchanged:

- Practices remain local in Palos Verdes
- Home games remain at our usual PV fields
- Same coaches and program leadership
- Same Mavericks community and culture
- Same mascot and team colors
- Uniforms remain similar to prior seasons

5. Will the drives be long?

Travel will be similar to prior seasons and generally within the greater Los Angeles and San Gabriel Valley areas. Some may even feel the overall travel burden is less.

Most away games are typically:

- Approximately 20–30 miles from Palos Verdes
- Occasionally farther for locations such as Glendora, Azusa, or Burbank

Families should expect reasonable regional travel, not long-distance trips.

Season Logistics

6. Season timeline and key dates

- Late June / Early July: Football conditioning begins (no sooner than June 29)
- August 1: SGVJAA Certification Day – all tackle and SGVJAA cheer must be present
- August 15: PV sideline cheer camp (K–4)

- August 22–23: SGVJAA sideline cheer JAMZ camp
- Late August: Game schedules released
- August 29: First game weekend
- August 29 – October 17: Regular season
- November: SGVJAA football playoffs and SGVJAA cheer competitions
- December: Potential additional cheer competitions

Game schedules (dates, locations, and times) are shared once confirmed.

7. Season schedule, playoffs, and bowl games

- Each SGVJAA team is scheduled for **8 regular season games** (unless forfeits occur)
- Games may be played on Saturdays and/or Sundays
- Teams may have occasional BYE weeks depending on division size
- Multiple teams per division may advance to SGVJAA playoffs
- Playoffs include quarterfinals, semifinals, and finals
- Teams not advancing may participate in friendship or bowl games
- Maximum total games allowed under SGVJAA rules: 11 including postseason

Every effort is made to reschedule games if needed.

Football Details

8. Football divisions and ages

SGVJAA tackle divisions include:

- Junior Gremlin: Ages 7–8
- Gremlin: 10U
- Junior Pee Wee: 11U
- Pee Wee: 12U
- Junior Midget: 14U

** Division availability depends on enrollment.

9. How are SGVJAA football divisions different?

SGVJAA divisions are primarily age-based, with tighter age groupings than prior Pop Warner structures. This improves competitive balance and safety.

Athletes may move up into a neighboring SGVJAA division when needed to balance rosters, but athletes may never play below their age group.

10. What football changes are new for 2026?

SGVJAA has finalized several updates to the 2026 conference bylaws:

- Weight class limitations have been removed
- There is no longer an “X player” restricted-position designation
- All athletes may participate fully based on their SGVJAA age division

These updates provide greater flexibility, improved roster balance, and more opportunities for athletes.

11. What rulebook does SGVJAA use?

SGVJAA tackle football follows the official rules of the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS), providing nationally recognized standards for gameplay, officiating, and safety.

Flag football is not part of SGVJAA and continues to follow local rules.

12. What about playing time expectations?

SGVJAA football will continue to follow minimum play requirements similar to prior seasons to ensure athlete participation and development.

Cheer Details

13. Do cheer divisions look different?

Yes. For 2026, cheer divisions align with SGVJAA age-based groupings.

The three oldest divisions (grades 5-8) participate in SGVJAA conference play and competitions. The three youngest divisions (grades K-4) remain local and operate as developmental cheer with minimal travel.

Final team placement is determined at the discretion of the Cheer Director based on age, team balance, skill development, and overall program needs.

2026 Cheer Team Alignment

Former Pop Warner Division	SGV Cheer Division	Ages	Typical Grades	New Mavericks Team Name
Tiny Mites	N/A	5–6	K–1	Mini Mavs
Mitey Mites	N/A	6–8	1st–2nd	Jr. Mitey Mavs
Jr. Pee Wee	N/A	8–10	3rd–4th	Mitey Mavs
Pee Wee	Jr. Pee Wee	9–11	5th–6th	JPW Mavs
JV	Pee Wee	10–12	7th	PW Mavs
Varsity	Jr. Midget	12–14	8th	Elite Mavs

14. SGVJAA Cheer Camp

SGVJAA cheer teams will attend JAMZ Cheer and Dance Camp on August 22–23. Details will be shared once confirmed.

15. Cheer competition opportunities

SGVJAA cheer teams will participate in:

- Two SGVJAA-hosted competitions in November
- Potential additional competitions in December

** Younger PV sideline cheer teams may participate in local performance opportunities, more info to come later.

Conference Safety and Standards

16. How does SGVJAA support safety?

SGVJAA provides:

- Certified referees
- Conference safety officers
- Standardized safety protocols
- Eligibility verification
- Consistent rule enforcement

These systems help create a safer and more organized environment.

17. Sportsmanship and character development

SGVJAA emphasizes sportsmanship and character.

After each game:

- Teams receive a sportsmanship score
- Players, coaches, and fans are evaluated
- Scores are posted publicly
- Scores factor into SGVJAA standings and playoff seeding

This promotes accountability, respect, and positive sideline behavior.

Looking Ahead

While our conference affiliation is changing, our mission, leadership, and commitment to our athletes and families remain exactly the same. We are proud to be joining the SGVJAA, a respected, long-standing conference that provides structure, safety, and competitive opportunities.

This transition allows us to maintain everything families value about the Mavericks while partnering with SGVJAA to ensure long-term stability and continued growth. Our athletes will continue to practice locally, play on their home fields, and represent the Mavericks with pride as members of SGVJAA. We are excited for this next chapter and look forward to a great season ahead.

Questions?

Please contact us at pvymavericks@gmail.com. We are here to support your family through this transition to SGVJAA.