

PLAYER CUT POLICY

Newport-Mesa Jr. All American Football (“NMJAAF”) is one of approximately 26 chapters of Orange County Jr. All American Football (“OCJAAF”). Newport-Mesa is required to follow all of the rules of OCJAAF including a rule which limits the maximum number of players on a football team to thirty-three (33) certified players.

Unfortunately, this occasionally means that players who sign up and attend practice may be cut from the final team in order to reduce the roster to a maximum of thirty-three (33) players.

All players who complete the application process will be assigned to a team, even if there are more than thirty-three (33) applicants for a particular team. The first day of practice is **July 27, 2009**. Certification Day is **August 22, 2009**. OCJAAF Rules requires a team that has more than thirty-three (33) players to cut the roster to the maximum number of players a few days prior to Certification Day.

Subject to certain guidelines, the Head Coach in consultation with the Assistant Coaches makes the final decision regarding which players to cut. No team may cut its roster below the thirty-three (33) player limit. Cuts should be made on the basis of athletic skill, desire, attitude and the needs of the team. In circumstances where all other factors appear equal, a player who has been faithful in attending practices will usually receive a more favorable evaluation than a player who has missed practices. Likewise, a player who demonstrates a good, positive attitude and who exhibits good sportsmanship will normally be selected over a person who does not. Because getting cut from the team can be a big disappointment to a child, the parents are encouraged to attend practices and to consult often with the coaches to determine if there is the potential for a cut to occur. In this way, if it appears that your child is likely to be cut from the team, you can manage the situation so that the child does not have to face the disappointment of loss of self-esteem that may otherwise occur. In the past, some parents have persuaded the child that they should “drop off” the team because the schedule would interfere with family outings or because there are other “more fun” sports that the child can participate in. These kinds of excuses, coming from the parents, can soften the impact.

In the past there have been accusations of favoritism shown in connection with the decision of which players are cut from the team. It is the policy of Newport-Mesa to not show any favoritism, however, the process is subjective. Merely because a coach does not feel that a player has the sufficient skill level, attitude, desire or other qualities to remain on the team does not necessarily mean that the player is non-athletic, only that for a variety of reasons and the best interest of the team, in the opinion of the Head Coach, are best served by his decision, which is final.

Date: _____

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Print Name