

Vermont Chapter National Football Foundation Team Selection Process

Purpose:

This document is to provide a fair and unbiased guideline for the selection of the North and South squads for the VT NFF Chapters Annual Sr Football All Star classic aka the North South Game. Keeping in mind the purpose of the game is to provide one more chance to showcase Vermont high school football talent in an inclusive manner, and to raise funds to support the chapters grants, scholarships and annual banquet.

Process:

Our selection process is grounded in the spirit of embracing the concept of “inclusiveness of participation” for all VT high school football programs, as well as in the interest of ensuring that our state’s very best football senior football players are “on the field”.

The teams will be selected by the assigned head coach and site director for each of the squads in an in person meeting conducted the 2nd week of October (no later than the 2nd Sunday of the month, at a location selected by the head coach and site director and made known to the collective coaches nominating players to each squad). The head coach of each program or his 1 representative may attend the selection meeting and give input but the final decisions on selection are by the assigned squad head coach and the site director. Other VT Chapter NFF Executive committee members may attend in an observer only role. It is expected that the meeting be conducted in a manner respectful of each participant.

The following provides the parameters for the Senior Bowl Rosters, including individual team nomination limits, and the committee selection process.

1. Game Rosters will include 45 players per squad.
 - a. Goal is to create complete two platoons of offense and defense for each squad comprised of 44 players.
 - b. A 45th player is to be Kicking Specialist, only if a qualified kicker is not included in the normal roster. (*Punts, FG and/or Kickoffs*)
2. 1 Player per varsity football team is **guaranteed** a roster spot. Each coach should designate in his nominations who the **#1 nominee** is from his squad that player will be guaranteed a spot. All nominees must be in good standing with the VIFL when nominated that is not under suspension for any reason.
3. The Head Coach of each Vermont Varsity High School Football Program may nominate up to 10 seniors from his team.
 - a. A player who is injured and unexpected to return to play prior to the game may be nominated for recognition. However, they **will not be selected to fill a roster position** unless the head coach informs the selection committee by the selection meeting that they are available.
 - b. Any player chosen to fill a roster slot who becomes injured between the selection meeting and the first practice will be replaced by another nominee who was not initially chosen at the discretion of the selection committee. It may not be a one for one from the squad the injured player came from. Injury replaced players will be recognized on game day and may attend practices.
4. A maximum of 5 players from any one team may be selected for a roster
 - a. One “Wild Card” selection per squad is permitted at the discretion of the Selection Committee which could over-rule the above restriction on the total number from one program.
5. Should a program not nominate or not be able to nominate a player (i.e. they have no seniors) that roster spot may be used however the selection committee deems fitting.
 - a. The selection committee will create a list of back-up players by position to be used to fill a spot for any player injured and/or otherwise becoming unable to play during the selection meeting. This list should be provided to that game chair and admin.
 - b. Head coaches should notify the site director as soon as they become aware a player can’t fulfill his selection due to injury or other unforeseen circumstance so they may contact a pre-designated back-up player and his coach in time to secure their participation.
6. An “airtight” commitment from each team nominations with respect to the Senior Bowl practice schedule and game day activities is required. If a player cannot make such a commitment, please do NOT nominate him.

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7. Nominees are to be made aware by their head coach that they may not get to play in the position that is their normal primary but they have been selected on the basis of their overall talent and need to demonstrate maturity and flexibility at performing their best in whatever role they are given.
8. If a player becomes injured or unable to play before the second practice the selection committee may elect to replace them with a pre-identified nominee on the back up list. After the 1st practice no substitutes to the roster will be allowed, and the head coach may have player play on more than one platoon to fill the open slot.

Every attempt will be made to provide equal playing time for all participants. Please make your player aware of this and note the Site Director is responsible during the game to keep the Head coach of each squad aware of the status of playing time. If necessary the Game Chair may have play suspended to align a Head Coach on this matter.

Final output of the selection meeting will include

A 44-45 player roster by position for 2 offensive and 2 defensive platoons for each squad.

A list of nominees who are unable to play but will be recognized on game day.

A list by position of back up players to be used to back fill any position where a selected player becomes unavailable to play due to injury or unforeseen circumstance.