

Unified Flag Football Timeline

2026-27 Season



3-4 Months Before Competition

Coaches Training

- ☐ Complete all AIA requirements for Coaches' Clearance per Article 17 of the AIA Bylaws & Constitution.
 - ☐ For an outline of all training and certification requirements specific to high school Unified Sports coaches, please visit www.aiaonline.org/sports/unified
- ☐ Complete all district/school requirements for Coach's Clearance per district policy
- ☐ If needed, complete Unified Badminton Coaches' Training
 - ☐ Contact Thomas Miranda at Thomas@SpecialOlympicsArizona.org if you need to be trained

Equipment List

- ☐ Suggested equipment includes:
 - ☐ Intermediate ☐ One – piece three flag (youth football)
 - ☐ Mouthpiece

2-3 Months Before Competition

Meetings

- ☐ Attend **MANDATORY** Coaches Meeting
 - o **Wednesday, August 12th @ 4:00 PM**
 - Registration Link:
<https://specialolympicsarizona.zoom.us/meeting/register/ocgXypibSgSPCXd9hCa6lQ>
- ☐ Contact other schools to schedule regular season matches and the District Flag Football Tournament
- ☐ Hold a Parent Meeting

Collect Required Paperwork

- ☐ Athletes & Unified Partners must complete:
 - ☐ AIA Annual Pre-participation Clearance Packet
 - o Part One – Annual Preparticipation Physical Evaluation (Form 15.7-A).
 - o Part Two – Annual Preparticipation Physical Examination (Form 15.7-B).
 - o Part Three – Annual Preparticipation Acknowledgment (Form 15.7-C).
 - o Part Four – Consent to Treat Form (Form 15.7-D)
 - o Part Five – Unified Sports Participant Release (Form 15.7-E).

Practice

- ☐ Begin Practice (Must hold eight practices, at least 60 minutes in length)
 - ☐ Practice 1
 - ☐ Practice 2
 - ☐ Practice 3
 - ☐ Practice 4
 - ☐ Practice 5
 - ☐ Practice 6
 - ☐ Practice 7
 - ☐ Practice 8

2 Months Before Competition



Unified Flag Football Timeline

2026-27 Season



Regular Season Contests

- ☐ Compete in a minimum of two regular-season matches against two schools

Forms to be completed:

- ☐ SOAZ will send out Area/Sectionals Registration Paperwork
 - Teams must attend Area/Sectionals to qualify for the state tournament
- ☐ Request Transportation at your School

1 Month Before Sectionals

Forms to be completed

- ☐ Complete and Submit Area/Sectionals Competition Paperwork

Competition Dates

Regular Season Matches / District Tournament

- #1 _____
- #2 _____

2026 Sectionals (Qualification) Tournament

*****Schools can attend the Sectionals Tournament, regardless of their school location. *****

- **Thursday, October 29th**
 - 8:30 am - 1:30 pm
 - Estrella Foothills High School

2026 AIA State Championship

- **Thursday, November 12th**
 - 10:00 am – 1:00 pm
 - TBD