

# ***SCPC***

**"SOLITAIRE COACHES POINTS CHALLENGE"**

# ***GAMEDAY***

**Volume 1 Issue 2**

**April 2015**

## **SEASON 3**



**Solitaire Miniature Electronic Football**

**GRIDIRON  
GAMES**

**publications**

## ***PJ Blair 1966-2015***



*The end of February brought sad news to the SCPC and miniature electronic football community with the passing of PJ Blair. Although I had never met him personally, I had gotten to know a little bit about him through the SCPC and conversations with him on the MFCA and Tudor forums.*

That is one of the great things about these forums, even though we may never meet face to face, we get to know each other and become friends and are able to share our love of the game and passion for the game through these venues.

So it was no question that this month's cover article would have to be about PJ. Even though he had just gotten started in the SCPC and with his league, he had posted some very good information and pictures about his SCPC League - "PJ's Solitaire Electric Football League."

I have taken some of this info and created an article that I hope will be of interest to you.

SCPC League updates include all the games played for weeks 30 - 33 (March 1 - March 28)

The National Rankings are updated through Week 33 ending March 28, 2015. Due to personal time limits this month I had to cutoff this info @ 8:00pm CDT.

The "Featured Game of the Month" comes from the Elite Electric football of India"

The "Rules of the Game" feature some good info on "the Field" or game boards.

The "Offensive Playbook" presents the beginnings of using the "Pro Set" offense, the "Defensive Playbook" gives some basics on the "4-3" defense and "Special Teams" features the "Kickoff Return".

In case you missed it ESPN featured a very good segment on electric football in a documentary titled "Its Not Crazy - Its Sports", featuring MFCA Coach John "larue" DiCarlo, Subterranean Stadium and the Charlotte (NY) EFL. This is the best documentary and feature on electric football I have seen produced to date. John, his family and friends personified what this game and hobby is all about. If you haven't seen it it is well worth taking the time to find it on the internet and watch it.

Finally, I am still looking for information from several leagues to update the League Directory. The League Directory is basically your (the coaches/owners of the SCPC) opportunity to promote your league.

*Chris LeMay*

Publisher / Editor and SCPC Commissioner

Volume 1 Issue 1

April 2015

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## SCPC GAMEDAY

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# Play Electric Football !



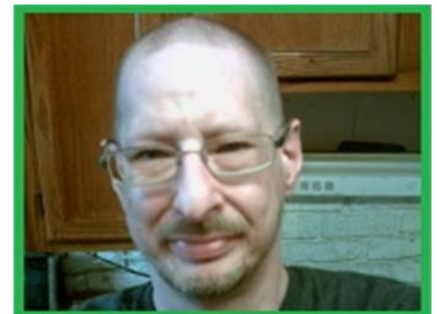
WELCOME TO THE HOME OF THE

## PJ's Solitaire Electric Football League

**Playing All 28 Original Vintage Tudor NFL Teams From The 1960's Through The 1980's.**

**This Is A 3.0g Inclusive Weight Limit League. ☐**

**All Games Are Played On The Tudor Games NFL Pro Bowl Set.**



About PJB1966

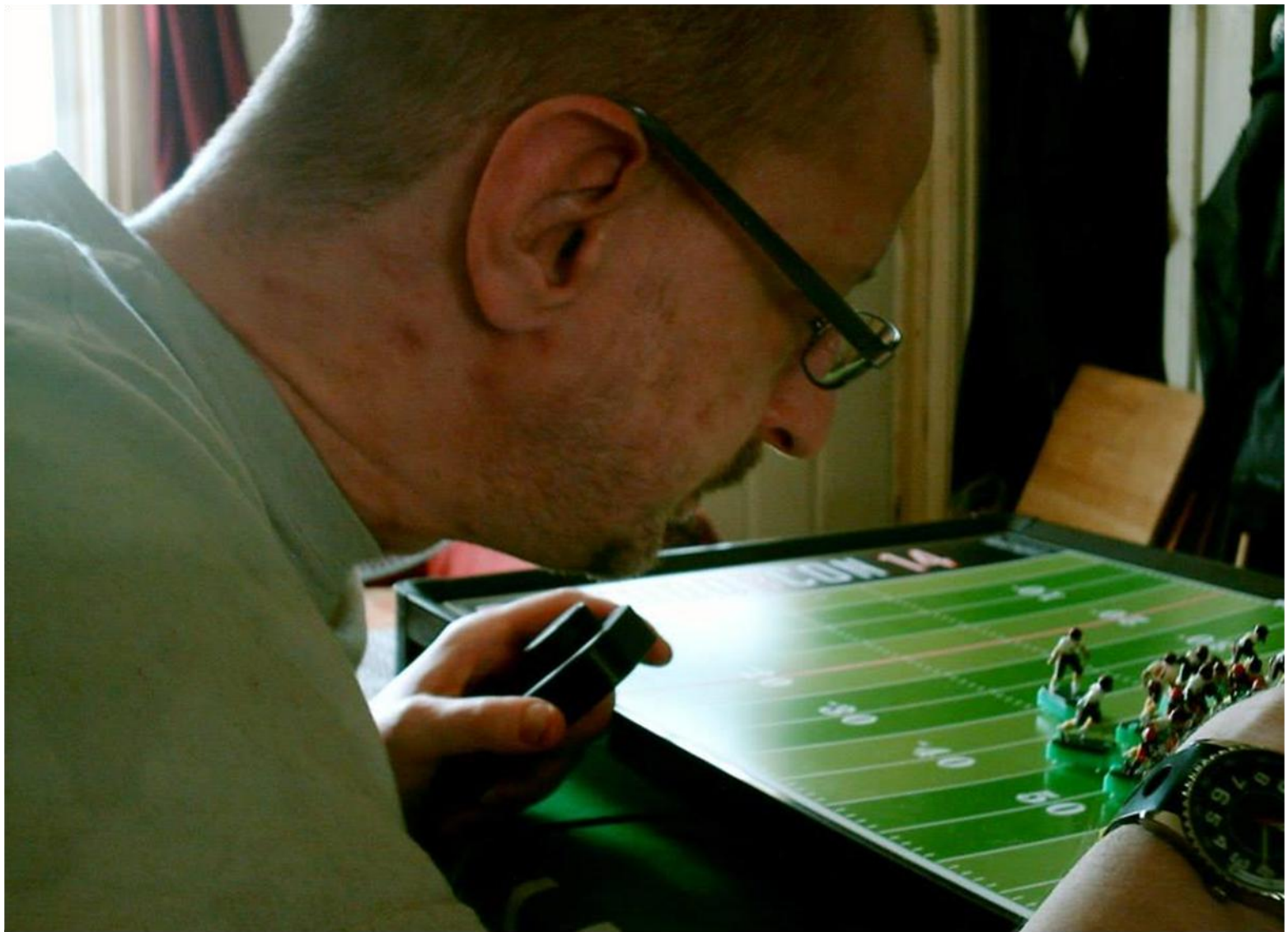
### Biography:

My name is PJ and I'm from Harrisburg, Pa. I'm very happily married to the BEST WIFE in the world. I love playing electric football as well as Z Scale model railroading.

Location: Harrisburg, Pa.

Interests: Electric Football, Z Scale Model Railroading.

PJ's "About Me" info from his MFCAs Profile Page.



**NEW NFL TEAMS IN OFFICIAL UNIFORMS!**  
All 32 NFL teams will be available.  
Consumers may order favorite teams in both light and dark jerseys.





# The Road To.... **THE PJSEFL BIG BOWL CHAMPIONSHIP !!!**



The following are the games and results found on PJ's website: [www.pjsefl.com](http://www.pjsefl.com)

Date: Monday, January 5, 2015  
Division: NFL  
Visiting Team: New Orleans Saints (14)  
Home Team: Philadelphia Eagles (7)

Date: Wednesday, January 7, 2015  
Division: NFL  
Visiting Team: L.A. Rams (14)  
Home Team: Washington Redskins (20)

Date: Sunday, January 11, 2015  
Division: NFL  
Visiting Team: New York Jets (0)  
Home Team: Houston Oilers (7)

Date: Monday, January 19, 2015  
Division: NFL  
Visiting Team: L.A. Rams  
Home Team: Miami Dolphins  
\*\*\* No results were entered for this game \*\*\*

The following are the games and results of PJ's games and league from the SCPC database.

Date	Winning Team	Score	Losing Team	Score	Coach
2014-12-25	Philadelphia Eagles	14	Pittsburgh Steelers	13	pjblair1966
2015-01-01	Buffalo Bills	27	Minnesota Vikings	10	pjblair1966
2015-01-04	New Orleans Saints	14	Philadelphia Eagles	7	pjblair1966

Rank	Team Name	Owner	Division	Home League	Win	Loss	Tie	SCPC Total
86	Philadelphia Eagles	pjblair1966	3.3 Inclusive	PJ's Solitaire Electric Football...	1	1	0	9
88	Buffalo Bills	pjblair1966	3.3 Inclusive	PJ's Solitaire Electric Football...	1	0	0	8
88	New Orleans Saints	pjblair1966	3.3 Inclusive	PJ's Solitaire Electric Football...	1	0	0	8
121	Pittsburgh Steelers	pjblair1966	3.3 Inclusive	PJ's Solitaire Electric Football...	0	1	0	5
154	Minnesota Vikings	pjblair1966	3.3 Inclusive	PJ's Solitaire Electric Football...	0	1	0	2
160	Detroit Lions	pjblair1966	3.3 Inclusive	PJ's Solitaire Electric Football...	0	0	0	0
160	Houston Oilers	pjblair1966	3.3 Inclusive	PJ's Solitaire Electric Football...	0	0	0	0
160	Washington Redskins	pjblair1966	3.3 Inclusive	PJ's Solitaire Electric Football...	0	0	0	0

## PJ's Solitaire Electric Football League

	W	L	T
Buffalo Bills	1	0	0
New Orleans Saints	1	0	0
Philadelphia Eagles	1	1	0
Washington Redskins	0	0	0
Houston Oilers	0	0	0
Detroit Lions	0	0	0
Pittsburgh Steelers	0	1	0
Minnesota Vikings	0	1	0



## The Individual Team Records

### Philadelphia Eagles

Owner: pjblair1966 | League: PJ's Solitaire Electric Football League

Record: 1-1-0 | SCPC Points Total: 9 | Rank: 86

#### Games

Opponent	Score	Date	Points Scored Bonus	Points Allowed Bonus	Game Scenario Bonus	Division Bonus	Quality Win Bonus
Pittsburgh Steelers	W 14-13	2014-12-25	2	2	0	0	0
New Orleans Saints	L 7-14	2015-01-04	1	2	0	0	0

### Buffalo Bills

Owner: pjblair1966 | League: PJ's Solitaire Electric Football League

Record: 1-0-0 | SCPC Points Total: 8 | Rank: 88

#### Games

Opponent	Score	Date	Points Scored Bonus	Points Allowed Bonus	Game Scenario Bonus	Division Bonus	Quality Win Bonus
Minnesota Vikings	W 27-10	2015-01-01	4	3	0	0	1

### New Orleans Saints

Owner: pjblair1966 | League: PJ's Solitaire Electric Football League

Record: 1-0-0 | SCPC Points Total: 8 | Rank: 88

#### Games

Opponent	Score	Date	Points Scored Bonus	Points Allowed Bonus	Game Scenario Bonus	Division Bonus	Quality Win Bonus
Philadelphia Eagles	W 14-7	2015-01-04	2	3	0	0	2

### Pittsburgh Steelers

Owner: pjblair1966 | League: PJ's Solitaire Electric Football League

Record: 0-1-0 | SCPC Points Total: 5 | Rank: 121

#### Games

Opponent	Score	Date	Points Scored Bonus	Points Allowed Bonus	Game Scenario Bonus	Division Bonus	Quality Win Bonus
Philadelphia Eagles	L 13-14	2014-12-25	2	2	0	0	0

### Minnesota Vikings

Owner: pjblair1966 | League: PJ's Solitaire Electric Football League

Record: 0-1-0 | SCPC Points Total: 2 | Rank: 154

#### Games

Opponent	Score	Date	Points Scored Bonus	Points Allowed Bonus	Game Scenario Bonus	Division Bonus	Quality Win Bonus
Buffalo Bills	L 10-27	2015-01-01	1	0	0	0	0

### Detroit Lions

Owner: pjblair1966 | League: PJ's Solitaire Electric Football League

Record: 0-0-0 | SCPC Points Total: 0 | Rank: 160

### Houston Oilers

Owner: pjblair1966 | League: PJ's Solitaire Electric Football League

Record: 0-0-0 | SCPC Points Total: 0 | Rank: 160

### Washington Redskins

Owner: pjblair1966 | League: PJ's Solitaire Electric Football League

Record: 0-0-0 | SCPC Points Total: 0 | Rank: 160

\*\*\* Editor's Note\*\*\* I just wanted to post this info to show the type of information that can be gathered from the SCPC Data Base. Since PJ's league had just gotten started, it was fairly easy to gather this info and put it into an easy-to-read format. Every year I put together an SCPC Season in Review to preserve for the SCPC Archives a record of every league and team participating in the SCPC. I hope you find this data informative and entertaining.

# SCPC League Update

## SEASON 3



In Week 30 of the SCPC (March 1 - March 7) , 30 new games were played and added to the database. Brian “wolverine” Wittkopp played 13 games and took the lead in the overall points standings with his 8-0 Detroit Wheels. Former #1 Andy “Mactele52” McLaughlin’s Atlanta Falcons fell to # 3.

Here are the game results for Week 30:

Date	Team 1	Score	Team 2	Score	Coach
1. 2015-03-06	Buffalo Bills	21	Southern California Sun	7	eflfanatic
2. 2015-03-07	Baltimore Ravens	17	Denver Broncos	14	Mactele52
3. 2015-03-07	Seattle Seahawks	33	Kansas City Chiefs	20	rigchute
4. 2015-03-07	Sacramento Goldminers	23	Portland Storm	10	wolverine
5. 2015-03-07	Hawaii Hawaiians	17	Los Angeles Cobras	14	wolverine
6. 2015-03-07	New Jersey Generals	28	Philadelphia Stars	17	wolverine
7. 2015-03-07	New York Knights	24	Washington Federals	22	wolverine
8. 2015-03-07	New Orleans Breakers	28	Jacksonville Sharks	24	wolverine
9. 2015-03-07	Missouri	35	Kansas St	3	tigers16
10. 2015-03-07	Orlando Thunder	24	Charlotte Hornets	20	wolverine
11. 2015-03-07	Milwaukee Mustangs	26	Ohio Glory	17	wolverine
12. 2015-03-07	Detroit Wheels	28	Chicago Blitz	14	wolverine
13. 2015-03-05	Notre Dame	21	Florida	14	tigers16
14. 2015-03-04	Cleveland Browns	28	Florida Blazers	0	eflfanatic
15. 2015-03-05	Dallas Cowboys	24	Denver Broncos	17	RooMorgans
16. 2015-03-04	Nebraska	7	USC	0	tigers16
17. 2015-03-02	New York Giants	14	New York Jets	0	Mactele52
18. 2015-03-03	Chicago Orange	21	88 Notre Dame	14	sandfoot
19. 2015-03-03	85 Bears	17	88 Notre Dame	21	sandfoot
20. 2015-03-03	Chicago Gold	14	88 Notre Dame	3	sandfoot
21. 2015-03-01	Houston Oilers	18	Memphis Southmen	14	eflfanatic
22. 2015-03-03	Minnesota Vikings	37	Idaho Talons	17	rigchute
23. 2015-03-03	Texas	35	Michigan	7	tigers16
24. 2015-03-02	Oklahoma	19	Iowa St	7	tigers16
25. 2015-03-01	Minnesota Vikings	19	Pittsburgh Steelers	17	RooMorgans
26. 2015-03-01	Washington Federals	31	Charlotte Hornets	21	wolverine
27. 2015-03-01	Orlando Thunder	23	Los Angeles Cobras	17	wolverine
28. 2015-03-01	Jacksonville Sharks	24	Portland Storm	7	wolverine
29. 2015-03-01	Hawaii Hawaiians	30	Chicago Blitz	17	wolverine
30. 2015-03-01	New York Knights	28	Ohio Glory	14	wolverine

Week 31 (March 8- March 14) 16 games were played with “wolverine” again leading the games played with 13 more games played. His Detroit Wheels maintained the #1 ranking despite a lose to the Milwaukee Mustangs. The top 4 teams in the SCPC rankings belong to “wolverine” and Mactele52’s Falcons fell to #5.

### Here are the games played for Week 31

Date	Team 1	Score	Team 2	Score	Coach
1. 2015-03-14	Seattle Seahawks	34	Idaho Talons	13	rigchute
2. 2015-03-14	USC	21	Florida	17	tigers16
3. 2015-03-14	Orlando Thunder	26	Jacksonville Sharks	21	wolverine
4. 2015-03-14	Sacramento Goldminers	31	Los Angeles Cobras	24	wolverine
5. 2015-03-13	Michigan	14	Nebraska	6	tigers16
6. 2015-03-12	Baltimore Ravens	28	Seattle Seahawks	6	Mactele52
7. 2015-03-13	Hawaii Hawaiians	24	Portland Storm	22	wolverine
8. 2015-03-12	Minnesota Vikings	10	Seattle Seahawks	0	rigchute
9. 2015-03-12	Washington Federals	27	Philadelphia Stars	21	wolverine
10. 2015-03-12	New Jersey Generals	31	New York Knights	28	wolverine
11. 2015-03-11	Kansas St	35	Oklahoma	0	tigers16
12. 2015-03-10	Idaho Talons	14	Seattle Seahawks	6	rigchute
13. 2015-03-10	Iowa St	42	Kansas	0	tigers16
14. 2015-03-10	Charlotte Hornets	28	New Orleans Breakers	17	wolverine
15. 2015-03-10	Ohio Glory	24	Chicago Blitz	20	wolverine
16. 2015-03-10	Milwaukee Mustangs	27	Detroit Wheels	24	wolverine

Week 32 (March 15 - March 21) had 9 games entered.

1. 2015-03-21	Detroit Lions	34	Cleveland Browns	10	RooMorgans
2. 2015-03-21	Kansas St	10	Kansas	7	tigers16
3. 2015-03-19	85 Bears	21	Chicago Orange	20	sandfoot
4. 2015-03-19	Kansas City Chiefs	16	Seattle Seahawks	14	rigchute
5. 2015-03-18	Missouri	42	Oklahoma St	10	tigers16
6. 2015-03-17	Texas	28	Notre Dame	7	tigers16
7. 2015-03-14	Denver Broncos	17	Green Bay Packers	35	Mactele52
8. 2015-03-15	New Orleans Saints	13	New York Giants	31	Mactele52
9. 2015-03-16	Green Bay Packers	27	Oakland Raiders	7	RooMorgans

Week 33 (March 22 - March 28) as of 8:00pm CDT. 14 games entered

1. 2015-03-27	Missouri	21	Oklahoma	3	tigers16
2. 2015-03-26	Seattle Seahawks	0	Minnesota Vikings	6	rigchute
3. 2015-03-25	Florida	35	Nebraska	10	tigers16
4. 2015-03-24	Texas	24	USC	7	tigers16
5. 2015-03-24	Michigan	21	Notre Dame	7	tigers16
6. 2015-03-22	Oklahoma St	14	Iowa St	0	tigers16
7. 2015-03-22	New Orleans Breakers	24	Orlando Thunder	14	wolverine
8. 2015-03-22	Los Angeles Cobras	27	Portland Storm	21	wolverine
9. 2015-03-22	Sacramento Goldminers	33	Hawaii Hawaiians	31	wolverine
10. 2015-03-22	New Jersey Generals	28	Washington Federals	17	wolverine
11. 2015-03-22	New York Knights	20	Philadelphia Stars	3	wolverine
12. 2015-03-22	Jacksonville Sharks	31	Charlotte Hornets	24	wolverine
13. 2015-03-22	Milwaukee Mustangs	28	Chicago Blitz	21	wolverine
14. 2015-03-22	Detroit Wheels	28	Ohio Glory	7	wolverine

“Wolverine” Brian Wittkop finished the season of his Nothern Michigan EFL. His Detroit Wheels remain atop the SCPC Rankings with a 9-1 record and 141 total points . Seven of his teams are now bowl eligible.

## Featured "Game of the Month"

The month's featured "Game of the Month" comes from the Elite Electric Football League of India.



### Pune Marathas 28 Pakistan Wolfpak 7

The Marathas used a balanced offense and a stifling defense to completely dominate the Wolfpak. QB Dinesh Kumar passed for 97yds and 2TDs, and the Marathas finished with 151 team rushing yards. Defensively, they held the Wolfpak to 23yds rushing, forced one punt, sacked Wolfpak QB Jahangir Nawaz once for 7yds and intercepted him once. The Marathas are now 3-0.

Dinesh Kumar (#7) 31yd run



Dinesh Kumar to Jay Thiyagarjan (#85)  
43yd TD pass



Jahangir Nawaz (#7) to Waqar Javaid  
(#22) 21yd TD pass



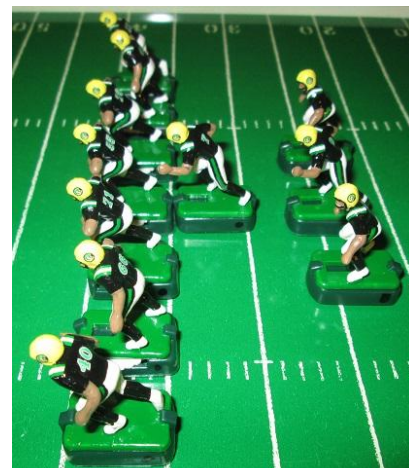
Pradeep Pandhare (#11) 71yd TD run



Kumar to Nanaraj Dinesh (#88) 54yd TD



Ramachandrin Rahul (#25) 30yd TD run



# National Rankings Update

The TOP 25 as of March 28, 2015 \*as of 8:00pm CDT\*

33 weeks completed - 13 weeks remaining

222 Teams playing in 13 Leagues

4 teams bowl eligible (6 or more wins) 7 teams eliminated (5 or more losses)

# SEASON 3



Rank	Team Name	Owner	Division	Home League	Win	Loss	Tie	SCPC Total
1	Detroit Wheels	wolverine	Unlimited	Northern Michigan EFL	9	1	0	141
2	New Orleans Breakers	wolverine	Unlimited	Northern Michigan EFL	8	2	0	131
3	New Jersey Generals	wolverine	Unlimited	Northern Michigan EFL	8	2	0	129
4	Sacramento Goldminers	wolverine	Unlimited	Northern Michigan EFL	9	1	0	126
5	Atlanta Falcons	Mactele52	3.3 Box Stock	Dirty Bird EFL	14	2	0	96
6	New York Knights	wolverine	Unlimited	Northern Michigan EFL	8	2	0	95
7	Orlando Thunder	wolverine	Unlimited	Northern Michigan EFL	6	4	0	95
8	Hawaii Hawaiians	wolverine	Unlimited	Northern Michigan EFL	7	3	0	90
9	Milwaukee Mustangs	wolverine	Unlimited	Northern Michigan EFL	5	5	0	81
9	Washington Federals	wolverine	Unlimited	Northern Michigan EFL	5	5	0	81
11	Chicago Orange	sandfoot	Unlimited	Shamrock EFL	5	3	0	75
12	Charlotte Hornets	wolverine	Unlimited	Northern Michigan EFL	3	7	0	71
13	Jacksonville Sharks	wolverine	Unlimited	Northern Michigan EFL	5	5	0	69
14	Chicago Gold	sandfoot	Unlimited	Shamrock EFL	5	2	0	68
15	Florida Gators	RooMorgans	3.3 Inclusive	ECFA	5	1	0	60
16	Alabama Crimson Tide	RooMorgans	3.3 Inclusive	ECFA	5	0	0	58
17	88 Notre Dame	sandfoot	Unlimited	Shamrock EFL	4	3	0	58
18	85 Bears	sandfoot	Unlimited	Shamrock EFL	3	5	0	58
19	Minnesota Vikings	rigchute	3.3 Box Stock	TVEFL	5	1	0	53
20	Auburn Tigers	RooMorgans	3.3 Inclusive	ECFA	4	1	0	49
21	Los Angeles Cobras	wolverine	Unlimited	Northern Michigan EFL	2	8	0	49
22	Chicago Blitz	wolverine	Unlimited	Northern Michigan EFL	1	9	0	48
23	Portland Storm	wolverine	Unlimited	Northern Michigan EFL	1	9	0	47
24	Minnesota Vikings	Mactele52	3.3 Box Stock	Dirty Bird EFL	4	1	0	46
25	Houston Oilers	eflfanatic	3.3 Box Stock	WLAPF	5	0	0	45

## DIVISIONAL LEADERS

Rank	Team Name	Owner	Division	Home League	Win	Loss	Tie	SCPC Total
5	Atlanta Falcons	Mactele52	3.3 Box Stock	Dirty Bird EFL	14	2	0	96
19	Minnesota Vikings	rigchute	3.3 Box Stock	TVEFL	5	1	0	53
24	Minnesota Vikings	Mactele52	3.3 Box Stock	Dirty Bird EFL	4	1	0	46
15	Florida Gators	RooMorgans	3.3 Inclusive	ECFA	5	1	0	60
16	Alabama Crimson Tide	RooMorgans	3.3 Inclusive	ECFA	5	0	0	58
19	Minnesota Vikings	rigchute	3.3 Box Stock	TVEFL	5	1	0	53
49	Phoenix Cardinals	skins	4.0 Inclusive	R.E.F.L	3	0	0	28
62	Washington Redskins	skins	4.0 Inclusive	R.E.F.L	3	0	0	23
70	Miami Dolphins	skins	4.0 Inclusive	R.E.F.L	2	1	0	20

1	Detroit Wheels	wolverine	Unlimited	Northern Michigan EFL	9	1	0	141
2	New Orleans Breakers	wolverine	Unlimited	Northern Michigan EFL	8	2	0	131
3	New Jersey Generals	wolverine	Unlimited	Northern Michigan EFL	8	2	0	129

# The FIELD

Every rule set should contain information on the type of game board that will be used for playing games on.

Basically any game board that has been expressly designed for playing miniature electronic football on may be used for playing the game. The only requirements should be that it represents a “scaled American (or Canadian) football field and that all accessories such as the 10 yard chain and goal posts are scaled to match the scale of the playing field.

MFCA member Coach “Kit Kichen recently produced a set of rules called the “Official Rules of the Expert Football League’ that gives some very good Specifications and Standards for game boards.

## SPECIFICATIONS AND STANDARDS

### FIELD

Boards from all manufacturers past or present are allowed starting at model 620 and larger. Personalized versions must contain a sideline, endcap and meet the following:

#### Shape:

Flat; replicating a regulation American Football field (120 yards long by 53.33 yards wide).

#### Dimensions to Scale: (Playing field)

Min: Model 620= 90:1 (13/32 in=1yrd)

Max: Monster=72:1 (1/2 in=1yrd.)

#### Conditions:

Level on all sides, free from concave or convex areas (dips or mounds).

Free from obstructions that protrude to cause a player to change direction.

### MOTION GENERATOR

Motors from all manufacturers past or present are allowed. Personalized versions will contain and meet the following:

#### Conditions:

Contain no exposed, frayed wires or improper electrical connections.

Switched with a control knob for tuning

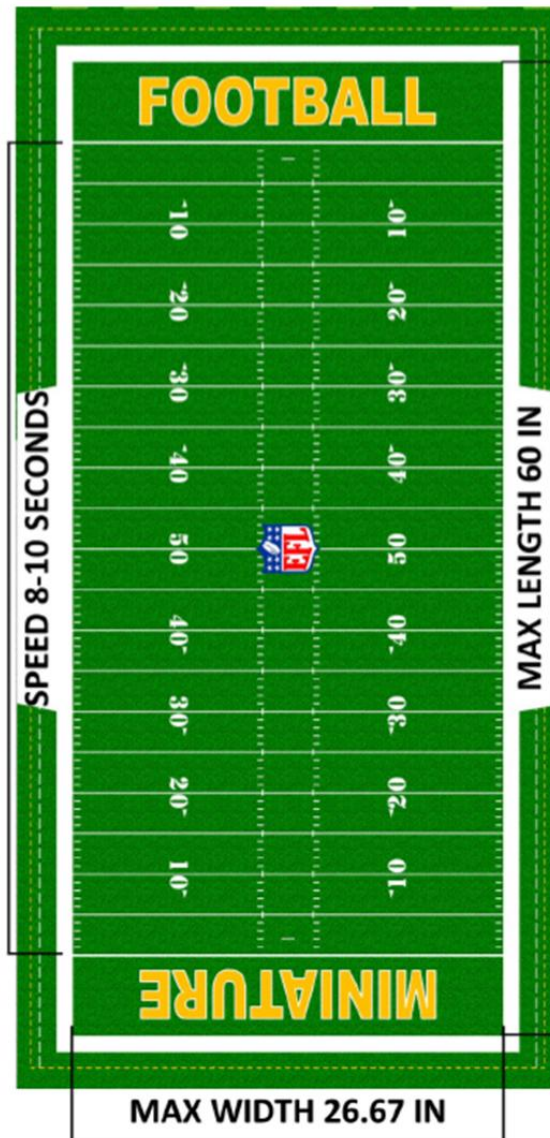
#### Voltage:

AC or DC

#### Board speed:

Smooth consistent vibration that does not cause the players to fall down excessively.

A fast base travels from goal line to goal line in 8 to 10 seconds.



## Offensive Playbook

*The Pro Set Offense is the basic offense used by professional football teams.*

*It is characterized by one TE, 2 WR's, 2 RB's and the QB lined up under center to receive the snap.*

The offensive linemen are lined up in a balanced line (2 guards on either side of the center and 2 tackles on each side of the guards).

Depending on which side of the line the TE lines up on determines whether the formation is "strong right" or "strong left".

One WR lines up on the line of scrimmage to either side of the line and the other WR or "flanker" lines up off the line of scrimmage to the opposite side.

The two RB's are aligned side by side behind the QB but remain inside the "tackle box". This is why the pro set is sometimes called the "split backs" formation.

This formation is particularly popular because teams can both run and pass the football out of it with an equal amount of success. This is important because it keeps defenses guessing on what type of play the offense will run. Because the backs are opposite each other, it takes the defense longer to read the gap the offense will run the ball to.

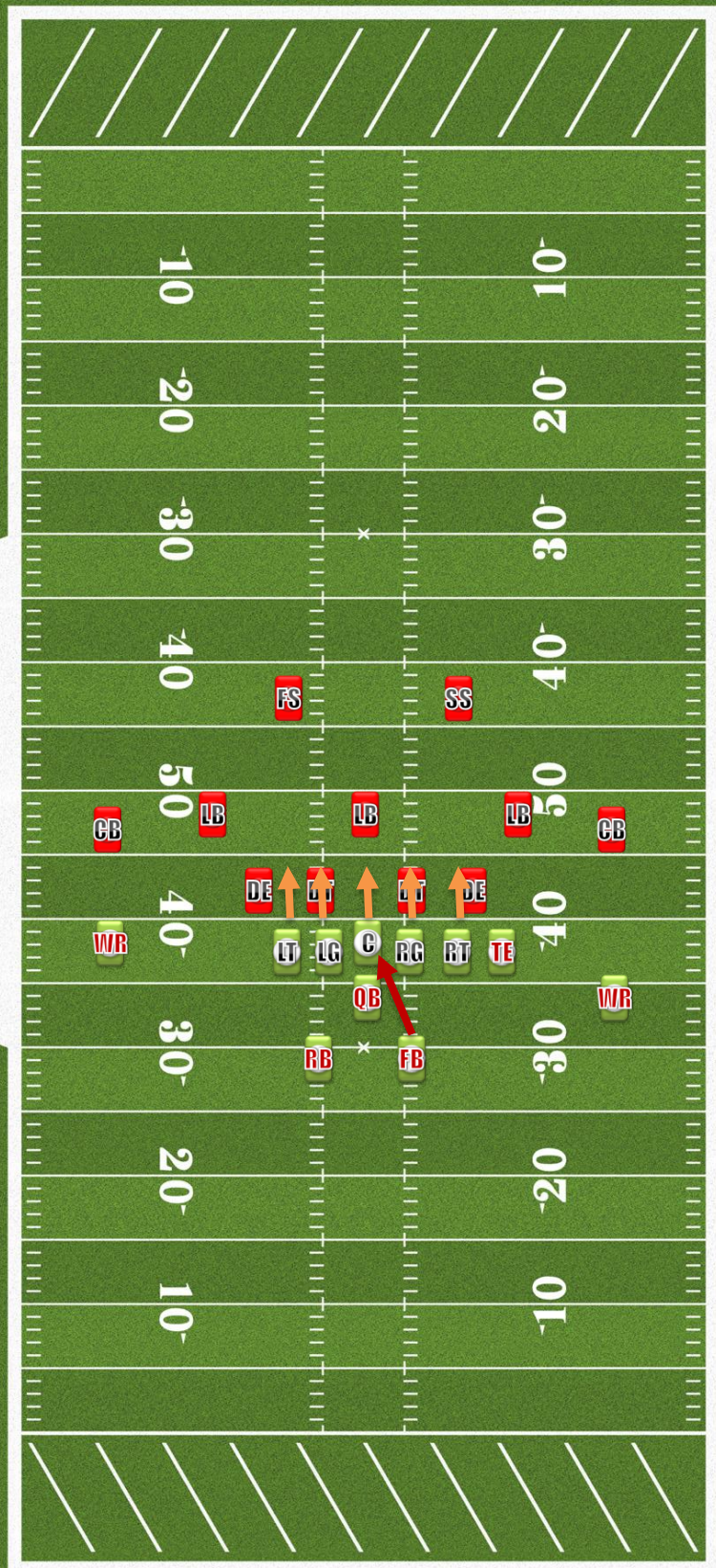
Once the run has been established, it can be a very dangerous formation. Because of the real threat of a team running out of the pro-set, defenses must respect the play fake and play run. This pulls the safety to the line and opens up the middle of the field deep. Also, with both backs in position to "pick up" an outside blitz, the pro-set gives a quarterback an abundance of time to find an open receiver.

A common variant of this formation removes the tight end and replaces it with a third receiver in the "slot" position. The formation is utilized to remove a defensive player from the tackle box to give the offense a 7-on-6 matchup.

Diagramed is a basic dive play to the fullback with straight ahead blocking. Many running plays (off guard, off tackle, around end or sweep) can be executed from the pro set formation, to either back and to any hole in the line.

*In future issues we will diagram more specific plays using the pro set formation.*

# The Pro Set Offense



## Defensive Playbook

The 4-3 or 4-3-4 defense is the basic defense used by professional football teams today. It is called the 4-3 because there are 4 down defensive linemen and 3 linebackers.

In the 4-3 defense the defensive tackle (DT's) line up over the offensive guards and the defensive ends (DE's) line up on the outside shoulder of the offensive tackles with the middle linebacker over the center and the other linebackers outside the ends.

### Defensive Linemen

The job of the DT's is to stop runs up the middle and off guard and to rush the QB on pass plays from the inside.

It is the job of the DE's to prevent runs off tackle and to put pressure on the QB from the outside on pass plays.

### Linebackers

The 4-3 has one inside linebacker or "middle" line backer (MLB). He is also known as the "Mike" line backer. His primary responsibility is to stop the run but he must also be able to drop back in pass coverage and cover the middle zone.

There are two outside linebackers. The "Sam" linebacker lines up on the "strong" side of the offense (the side where the TE lines up) and the "Will" linebacker lines up on the opposite or "weak" side.

The "Sam" LB covers the TE in pass coverage but also must play the run while the "Will" LB is more free to blitz but must also cover screen passes to his side.

### Secondary Defensive Backs

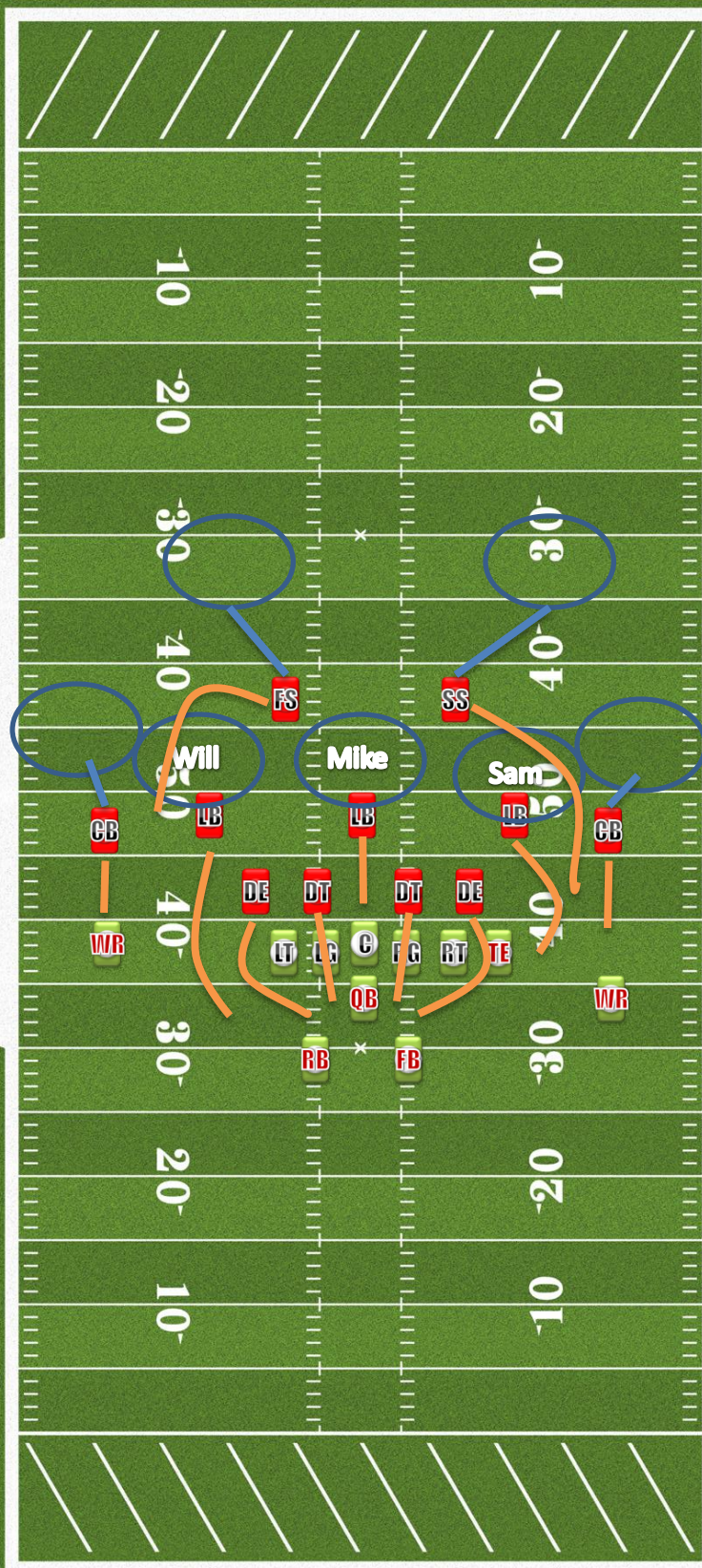
The 4-3 typically uses 4 defensive backs, 2 "cornerbacks" (CB's) and 2 "safeties" (FS or free safety and SS or strong safety).

The CB's play 3 - 5 yards off the line of scrimmage and jam the WR's at the line before going to pass coverage.

The FS is responsible for reading the offensive plays and covering deep passes. Depending on the defensive call, he may also provide run support. He is positioned 10 to 15 yards behind the line of scrimmage, toward the center of the field. He provides the last line of defense against running backs and receivers who get past the linebackers and cornerbacks. The SS is positioned relatively close to the line of scrimmage. He is often an integral part of the run defense, but is also responsible for defending against a pass; especially against passes to the tight-ends.

*These are just the basics of the 4-3 defense. In future issues we will look at more variations of how the 4-3 defense is used to combat the offense.*

# The 4-3 Defense



## Special Teams

# The Kickoff Return

*The kickoff return can turn a game around and give a team the momentum it needs to swing the game in their favor.*

The goal of the kickoff return team is to return every kickoff at least to the 30 yard line to gain good field position for the offense.

Every kickoff return play is designed to score points.

### Personnel

Center: Tight End or Fastest Best Lineman

Guards: Linebackers, Tight Ends, Full Backs, Running Backs or Best Linemen

Tackles: Tight Ends, Wide Receivers, Defensive Backs, Linebackers or Running Backs

Ends: Tight Ends, Wide Receivers, Defensive Backs, Running Backs, or Full Backs

Upbacks: Next best deep returners. Must be good open field blockers. Fearless.

Returners: Best deep returners. Must be able to communicate with others on the field. Fearless.

### Blocking assignments

Center, Guards and Tackles: The front line of blockers drop back approximately 15 yards to form a wall in front of the return.

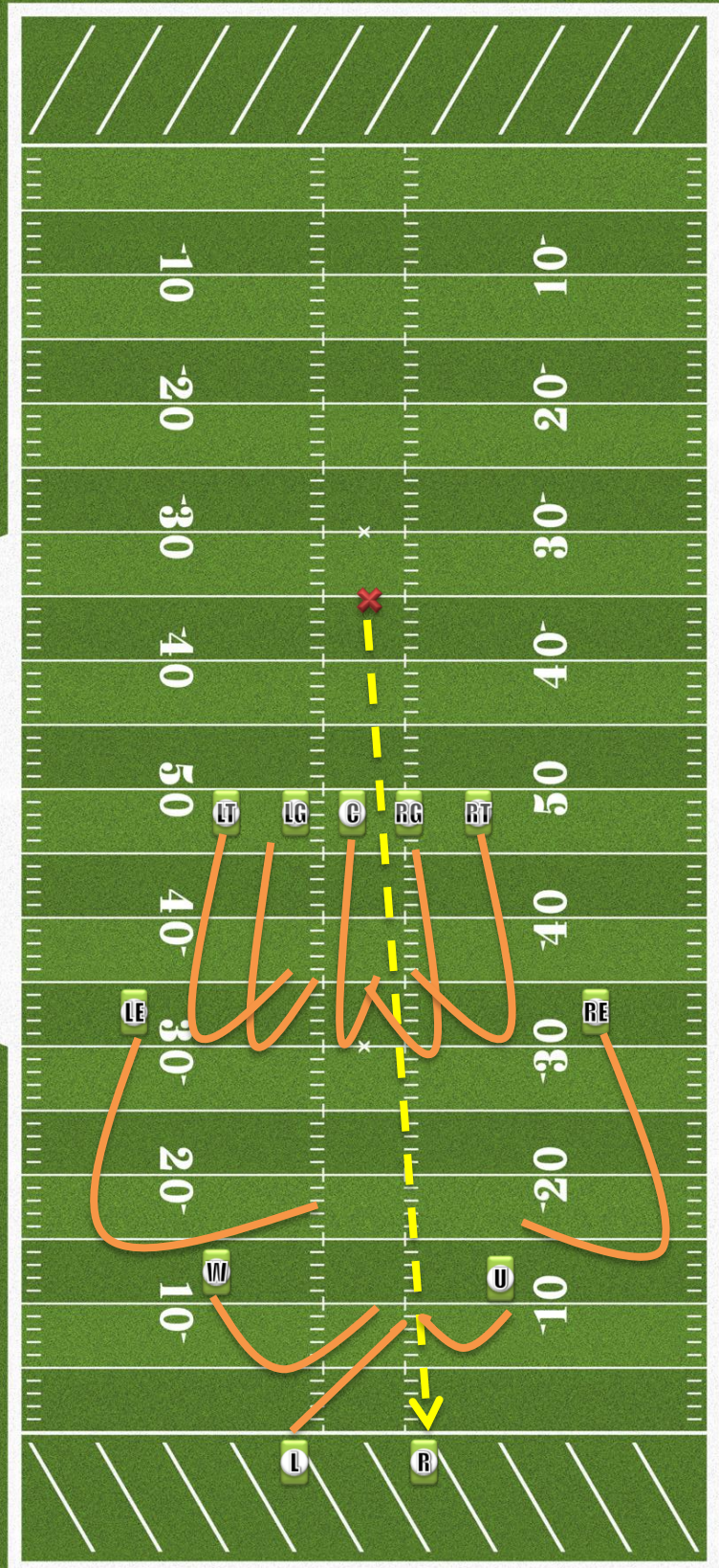
Ends: Drop back approximately 15 to 20 yards to protect the inside lane.

Upbacks: Drop back to form a wedge with the returner not receiving the kickoff to form a wedge of blockers approximately 5 yards in front of the returner.

Returners: Returner not receiving the kick forms a wedge with the upbacks in front of the returner. Returner receiving the kick follows the blockers and looks for an opening up the middle or to the outside to return the kick.

Blocking can be set up to return the kick up the middle or to the right or left side of the field. The goal of the kick return team is to return the kick at least to the 30 yard line. When returning the kick to either side of the field the blockers try to set up a wall approximately 5 to 10 yards in from the side line and the returner attempts to run the ball up the field behind this wall.

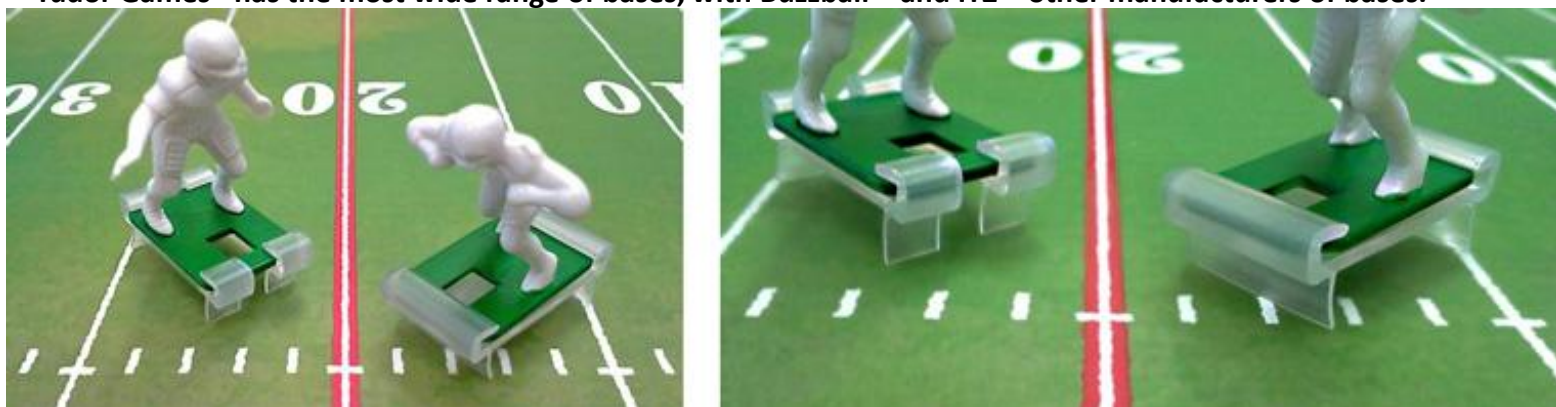
*In the future we will diagram more specific kick return formations with blocking assignments and returns to various areas of the field*



# **“Basing Up” and “Tweaking” your SCPC Teams**

*Once you have your teams painted, you then want to put bases on you players and “tweak” them for optimum performance. “Tweaking” is the term used by coaches of the miniature electronic football community to enhance the performance of their individual players.*

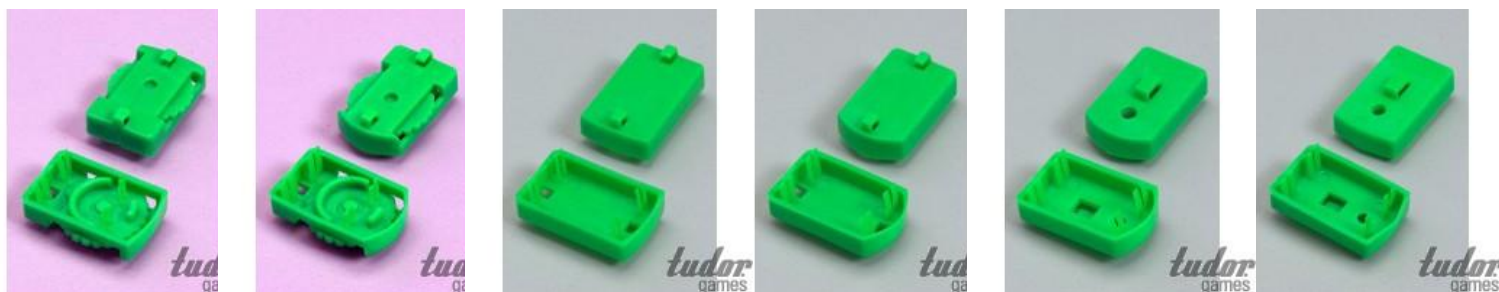
There are many commercially available bases available from various manufacturers to “base up” your teams. Tudor Games® has the most wide range of bases, with Buzzball™ and ITZ™ other manufacturers of bases.



Tudor Games® new Invisabases™ are pictured above. Speed bases ( on the figures to the left) and Strength bases (on the figures to the right) are the first bases that come “right out of the bag” ready to go and requiring very little “tweaking”. The bases pictured below are Tudor’s regular bases available as TTC (Total Team Control) and Rookie and in a wide variety of colors. The colored bases are often referred to as “Miggle Convention Bases” because they were made available at the Miggle conventions and the only bases that could be used at their tournaments in previous years. Black and white dials are also available for separate purchase.



Tudor Games® also offers Pro Line™ and Super Pro Line™ TTC and Rookie bases with straight fronts, rounded fronts, fast, strong, double clip and single clip configurations.



Buzzball Products (4buzzball.com) offers 3 sets of bases these are compatible with all types of figures.



*Buzzball Repro R/L Base*



*Buzzball DDB (Diamond Directional Base)*



*Buzzball Speed Diamond White Lightnin' Base*

ITZ Bases (itzbases.com) is another option of commercially available bases.



ITZ FAST DCB BASES



ITZ DCB POWER BASES



ITZ STANDARD POWER BASES



ITZ FAST STANDARD BASES



ITZ GEAR BASES

ITZ BUMPERS



ITZ BUMPERS



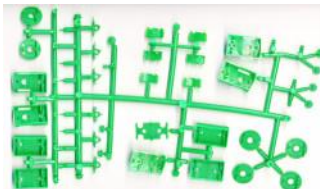
ITZ DIALS



ITZ OFFSET DCB DIALS

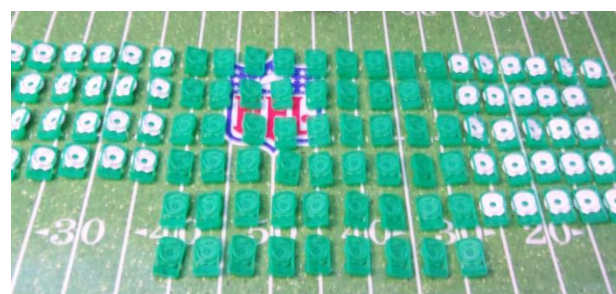


ITZ CONVENTION SET



ITZ BASE SET

For coaches who would rather buy bases already “tweaked” then there is the option of purchasing “Custom Tweaked Bases” Norbert Revels is one source for these bases.

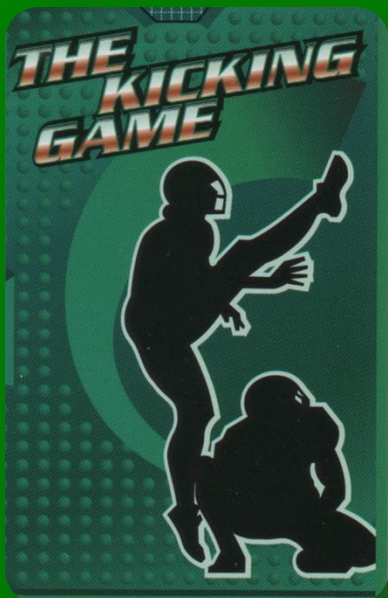


These are just some of the many options for “basing up” your SCPC teams. Depending on how your teams are “based up” and “tweaked” also determines the SCPC Division that they will be competing in. For example, if your teams bases are not “tweaked” or just minimally “tweaked” for straightness, speed and strength using one manufactures bases they would be classified as “3.3 Box Stock” teams and if they are heavily “tweaked” for maximum performance and you are using bases from many manufactures and custom “tweaked” then they would be classified as “Unlimited” teams. So these are just some of the factors to take into consideration when building your SCPC teams and leagues.

In the next installment of “Team Building” we will look at the tools needed and methods of “tweaking” your bases.

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