

## **PRESS RELEASE**

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## NFL Players Kick Off 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Youth 7v7 Tournament in Tampa

TAMPA, Fla. — The Sandlot 7v7 Pro-Am Challenge is returning to Tampa Bay for the third annual youth 7v7 tournament where all participating teams are coached, mentored or sponsored by an NFL player. The event kicks off at the Tournament SportsPlex of Tampa Bay Friday evening, March 22, and concludes Sunday, March 24.

Sandlot has been a draw for active and former NFL players to engage with young players and give back to their communities, said NFL Players Association VP of Player Services **Dexter Santos**. "This event is fundamentally driven by the players and their commitment to see the next generation of talent succeed on and off the field," Santos said.

At least 80 youth 7v7 teams will participate in the tournament with championship titles awarded for the 8U, 10U, 12U, 14U, 15U and 18U divisions. "We see teams traveling to Tampa from around the country because they know Sandlot is where they'll find the toughest, most elite competition," said **Abe Elam**, NFL veteran and co-founder of the TEAM Elam Foundation.

Sandlot 2024 will feature a Girls Skills Showcase led by Buccaneers' running back **Rachaad White** and Super Bowl XXXVII MVP **Dexter Jackson**. Big Man Gauntlet training for linemen will be hosted by Super Bowl Champion **George Hegamin**. Punters **Tommy Townsend** of the Super Bowl-winning Kansas City Chiefs and **Johnny Townsend** of the Oakland Raiders are sponsoring HangTime, a punting and kicking clinic.

Sandlot will also host panel discussions sponsored by EA Sports Madden and Patrol Grooming featuring **Brian Mitchell**, No. 2 in the league for all-time, all-purpose yardage, **Michael Vick**, quarterback with the most career rushing yards and other NFL legends.

Sandlot is supported by its strategic partners, the NFL Players Association, Lamar Jackson's Forever Dreamers Foundation and Abe Elam's TEAM Elam Foundation. Tournament partners include Big Game USA, EA Sports Madden and Patrol Grooming.

For more details follow @Sandlot7v7 on Instagram or visit www.7v7unlimited.com.

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