

# NYS NEVADA TACKLE FOOTBALL

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## FALL 2018 WEEK 11 PREVIEWS –UNWEIGHTED DIVISION CHAMPIONSHIPS

**\*Editors Note:** *Remember our Reviews & Previews are just for fun. If we misspell a player's name or get a fact wrong... no need to fire off an angry email or Facebook post. We will try our best to get the facts right. Remember that due to the size of the league, we may not review/preview every game, every week. We will make sure we get to every team throughout the season. In the meantime, enjoy the season.*

### **#2 Seed Falcons Hit Squad (8-1) VS #4 Seed Henderson Cowboys (7-2) – 8U**

Where: Bonanza High School

When: 10:00 AM

It's the 8U Nevada State Championship Game that will kick off first this weekend at Bonanza High School as these two top notch squads will head into this game on a mission to take home the big trophy. The Falcons and Cowboys have both really turned it on of late as their playoff runs certainly indicate. The Falcons playoff run has certainly been an exciting one. The Falcons doubled down on their first-round playoff victory over Vegas Strong by taking down the Desert Oasis Jr. Diamondbacks last weekend in the semifinals. Kranston Wong played the role of Big Man on Campus for the Falcons this past weekend with a 4-score performance, but this is a balanced squad that is looking to claim the crown. Wong will look for help from Nasir Smith and Damian Rojas as well as they aim to soar past the Cowboys this time around. The Falcons defeated these Cowboys earlier in the year back on September in shutout fashion, so expect this expert coaching staff to try and repeat and build on many of the things that worked for them in that contest. During the season the Falcons offense was one of the best averaging over 24 points a game. The Falcons defense however has been an even bigger story. They have given up just 2 points a contest to this point. That unit will look to make things mighty difficult on the Cowboys offense this Saturday morning. The Henderson Cowboys meanwhile have really turned things on of late, highlighted by their 2 wins over the Las Vegas Union and their first-round playoff victory over TMT Elite. Since their loss to the Diamondbacks in week 6, the Cowboys have lassoed their way to this point on the strength of a tremendous defense. In their last 3 games, the Cowboys have given up just 1 score proving they can shut down even the best offenses in the league. Led by Judson Warner, Caleb Ramaila, and Rayshawn Brown this Cowboys team will look to let the horses loose and try and gallop to a big victory. The Cowboys offense to this point of the season has been quite good averaging over 21 points a contest. If they want to score on the Falcons defense however, they will need to come with a sophisticated scheme and a full effort. Expect a tremendous low scoring matchup to start Nevada State Championship Day this weekend in what should be a thrilling 8U Division showdown.

### **North #1 Seed Las Vegas Union Thunderbirds (9-0) VS North #2 Seed Vegas Strong (8-1) – 10U**

Where: Bonanza High School

When: 12:00 PM

The 10U Nevada State Championship Game features yet another stellar matchup as the Las Vegas Union Thunderbirds take on Vegas Strong at Bonanza High School. These two teams have certainly looked the part of the two best teams in Nevada to this point. The Union Thunderbirds not only completed a perfect regular season but have followed that up with back to back shutout playoff victories over the Liberty Patriots and Desert Oasis Jr. Diamondbacks, pushing this team to 9-0 to this point. One of those nine victories came over this very Vegas Strong team back in week #4 of the regular season as the Union Thunderbirds claimed a 13-0 victory that Saturday. This Union Thunderbirds squad is certainly deserving of their top seed, especially because they feature the divisions top defense. The Union Thunderbirds have given up just 1 touchdown all season long. That defense coupled with an offense that has averaged 29 points a contest equals a tough combination for any opponent. Led by MVP Finalist Trey'Shaun Jackson, Eric McFarland, Darion Merriweather, and Cameron Turner, this is one talented and driven 10U squad. Don't overlook their opponents however as Vegas Strong has also put together quite the talented 10U Division team. Vegas Strong has just the one loss on the year and has certainly played like a lead dog all season long. Vegas Strong has earned impressive playoff victories over the Elite Las Vegas Wildcats and defending 10U Division Champions TMT Elite thus far in the playoffs. Led by Vaimaona Manutai, Treyton Savea, Adonis Vaughn, and Amari Autrey, Vegas Strong can put up points in a hurry. The Vegas Strong offense has averaged the most points a contest to this point of the season, averaging over 29 points a game. The defense isn't too shabby either, as they give up just 3 points a game to their opponents. Any way you slice it, these two teams match up quite evenly and should entertain their fans with an incredible Nevada State Championship showdown.

### **North #1 Seed Las Vegas Union (9-0) VS North #2 Seed Vegas Strong Black (7-2) – 12U**

Where: Bonanza High School

When: 2:00 PM

In the 2<sup>nd</sup> straight matchup between these two strong Nevada franchises, the Las Vegas Union take on Vegas Strong Black in a 12U Division showdown with the winner claiming the Nevada State Championship. These two teams faced off way back on September 22<sup>nd</sup> in a close battle that saw the Las Vegas Union come with a 12-7 victory. That matchup was almost 2 full months ago however and this matchup with the bright lights of Vegas on both teams will be for more than just a regular season victory. This game is for the rights to call yourself the best team in Nevada and advance to AYF Regional play. The Las Vegas Union completed the regular season with a perfect 7-0 record which they have improved on here in the playoffs with victories over the Las Vegas Red Eagles and Silverado Hawks here in the playoffs. The level of competition steps up yet another level here however and the Union will try and see if their leaders like Makahai Donaldson, Alonzo Balderrama, Raymarion Finnister, and Julian Medina can help push this team to one more big win. The Union feature the divisions top rated offense and defense when it comes to points scored and allowed. They average over 27 points a game on offense while they give up fewer than 3 points a contest to their opponents. Those stats equal some big wins, so let's see if this Union squad can handle a close matchup and some pressure. Vegas Strong Black fell a pair of times during the regular season but has really started to find their rhythm here in the playoffs. Big playoff victories over the Elite Las Vegas Wildcats and TMT Elite have led this team to a tremendous opportunity. Vegas Strong Black has a stellar offense that can light up the scoreboard on the ground and through the air. Led by Maddox Valoaha, Ronnie Silva, Brian Townsend, and Mel Spicer, this team is an offensive powerhouse. They average over 22 points a game as an offense while they give up just over 6 points a game to their opponents. The stats and history between these two teams in theory give us a low scoring defensive battle to look forward to this weekend. The team that can force a few turnovers

and convert some crucial extra points should be the team that comes out ahead and claims the Nevada State Championship.

**North #1 Seed Vegas Strong Blue (9-0) VS South #1 Seed Green Valley Knights (8-1) – 14U**

Where: Bonanza High School

When: 4:00 PM

In the final game of the day, it will be the big boys that take to the field in what should be a stellar 14U Division Nevada State Championship showdown. Vegas Strong Blue will look to complete a perfect 10-0 season while the Green Valley Knights will look to lance Vegas Strong and come up with the upset. Vegas Strong Blue has certainly had a tremendous season. Not only did they complete a perfect regular season, but they followed that up with back to back playoff victories over the Las Vegas Wolverines and TMT Elite. Led by Jeremiah Hughes, Richard Washington, Justyn Rhett, and Edward Sandoval, this team is loaded with stars. This team was stellar all season long on both sides of the football. On offense, this team was tops in the league, averaging 34 points a contest which is crazy impressive. Even more impressive was the Vegas Strong Blue defense! Vegas Strong Blue didn't give up their first score until last weekend. That means that they gave up less than 1 point per game this season. The Green Valley Knights will be looking to crack that tough nut that is the Vegas Strong defense. The Green Valley Knights offenses feature a balanced run & pass attack. Led by Anton Mazzullo, Jack Thow, Blayne Reiner, and Alfredo Rodriguez, this team has its share of talent too! Playoff victories over Vegas Strong Black and the Henderson Cowboys have really shown this teams talent. The Knights offense has been very strong all season long, averaging over 28 points a game to this point. The defense is what the Knights will really need to see step up. They have given up over 10 points a game to their opponents this season and can't afford to give up any extra yards this weekend to a powerhouse Vegas Strong squad. The Knights will need to play a perfect game if they want to pull off the upset, so expect this team to come ready to play in what should be a stellar matchup.