

NYS NEVADA TACKLE FOOTBALL

FALL 2018 WEEK 9 PREVIEWS – WEIGHTED DIVISION SEMIFINALS

***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.*

#1 Seed Henderson Cowboys (8-0) VS #4 Seed DO Jr. Diamondbacks (6-2) – 7U

Where: Desert Oasis High School

When: 11:45 AM

The Henderson Cowboys and Desert Oasis Jr. Diamondbacks hook up in what should be a very exciting 7U Weighted Division semifinal showdown. The Cowboys come into this contest riding high off their quarterfinal victory over the Green Valley Knights. Jashawn Crayton and Elijah Kalahiki were stellar in that contest and will look to maintain the Cowboys level of dominance over this division. The Cowboys feature the division's top offense and defense thus far this season to go along with their perfect record. The Cowboys offense has averaged over 30 points a game while they give up fewer than 4 points a contest to their opponents. The 4th seeded Diamondbacks will be the team tasked with snaking their way past the Cowboys and into a Nevada State Championship appearance. These two teams did play during the regular season back on October 6th. In that matchup the Cowboys shut out the Diamondbacks to the tune of a 25-0 victory. The Diamondbacks will try and learn from that matchup and thrive behind the leadership of Keenan Thomas and Octavius Tillman. The Diamondbacks offense was quite solid this season, averaging almost 20 points a contest. Their defense was even more up to snuff as they were venomous on their opponents, holding them to just 5.5 points a contest. Will they be able to slow down the Cowboys offensive rush? This should be an excellent matchup, so don't miss this weekends action at Desert Oasis High School.

#2 Seed TMT Elite (7-1) VS #3 Seed Las Vegas Union (7-1) – 7U

Where: Desert Oasis High School

When: 10:00 AM

The Las Vegas Union and TMT Elite both earned exciting quarterfinal victories to give themselves a chance to participate in the semifinals this weekend. While these teams didn't face each other this season, they did have eerily similar runs to get to this point. Both teams hold identical 7-1 records with each of their losses coming to the Henderson Cowboys. These teams were also right up against each other for seeding when it came to points allowed as both teams feature top notch defenses. TMT Elite earned the #2 seed after allowing just 2 fewer points than the Union did during the regular season. TMT had a real fight on their hands in the first round of the playoffs as they had to fight to the very end to take down the Falcons Hit Squad. Led by Legend Mitchell and Lazerius Winbush, this team has a ton of offensive talent. The Las Vegas Union meanwhile earned a big victory in their first-round matchup over the Las Vegas Tribe as they were able to turn on the offensive afterburners in this one. The Union have an incredibly dynamic trio of offensive

stars that can seemingly score at will from any point on the field. Kareem Knox, Frank Starks, and Terrell Collins are as tremendous a set of runners as any team has ever had. Will they be able to out maneuver TMT Elite's wicked defense? Once again, we have another must see semifinal so head out to Desert Oasis High School for an incredible set of games.

#1 Seed Liberty Patriots (7-0) VS #5 Seed Las Vegas Rams (3-5) – 9U

Where: Liberty High School

When: 10:15 AM

The Liberty Patriots and Las Vegas Rams square off in a semifinal matchup at Liberty High School this weekend in what should be a very exciting matchup. These two teams should be familiar with each other by this point of the season, having faced each other twice during the regular season. Both of those matchups went the way of the Liberty Patriots but both matchups were close. The Patriots second victory over the Rams came in the regular season finale that saw the Patriots finish off the regular season a perfect 7-0. That perfect record led the Patriots to a first round bye that let them rest and recover from a grueling regular season. Led by Demier Zamora and Darian Abella, this team is very talented. The Patriots offense was especially good during the regular season as they averaged over 23 points a contest. The Rams meanwhile will be looking to ride high on the emotions that come with their quarterfinal victory over the Pahrump Trojans. The Rams got huge performances in that first round playoff victory over the dynamic duo of Elijah Richard and Jeremiah Turner. The Rams will look to that duo to lead the way again in their semifinal showdown with the Patriots.

#2 Seed Las Vegas Badgers (5-2) VS #3 Seed DO Jr. Diamondbacks (6-2) – 9U

Where: Desert Oasis High School

When: 1:30 PM

The Las Vegas Badgers and Desert Oasis Jr. Diamondbacks are one of the most exciting budding rivalries here in National Youth Sports. These teams don't have a lot of love for each other and have hooked up in quite a few HUGE matchups over the last few seasons. The biggest of those matchups came in the Spring 2018 Nevada State Championship Game that saw the Badgers take down the Diamondbacks. While many of the players have moved up, some of the faces remain. The emotions of so many close matchups certainly remain for both squads. The Badgers come into this contest feeling well rested after the bye week. The Badgers during the regular season were led by MVP Finalist Isaiah Romero who was nothing short of superhuman all season long. If the Badgers hope to claw their way past the Diamondbacks in this matchup however Romero will need plenty of help from his teammates including Ronald Brackett. The Diamondbacks have an MVP Finalist of their own to lean on in Jerome Sequeira. Sequeira was stellar as this Diamondbacks squad QB as he directed the offense with plenty of help from other stars like Christopher Leuma and Selby Greigo. These teams usually have matchups that go down to the wire so expect yet another playoff thriller here at Desert Oasis High School this Saturday afternoon.

#1 Seed DO Jr. Diamondbacks (7-0) VS #4 Seed TMT Elite (5-3) – 11U

Where: Desert Oasis High School

When: 5:00 PM

The Desert Oasis Jr. Diamondbacks and TMT Elite look to take their games to the next level here in the semifinals as both teams have been playing their best football of late. The Diamondbacks were obviously stellar during the regular season as they earned the divisions #1 seed heading into the playoffs. That high level of play was certainly on display in their

first-round playoff matchup with the North Las Vegas Mustangs as their offense once again ran wild putting up another big #. The Diamondbacks offense has averaged 31 points a contest to this point and will look to keep that type of pressure on the TMT Elite defense. The Diamondbacks will hope that Nigel Edwards, Theodore Edquilang, and Cedric Allen can keep help their squad slither into the Nevada State Championship Game. The Diamondbacks dominated TMT Elite earlier in the season and will look to repeat that performance this weekend. TMT Elite meanwhile turned their season around after that loss as they have now rallied off 5 straight victories since that defeat. While it certainly has been a full team effort, Giovanni Criss and Alex Oller deserve quite a bit of the credit as they have really shined as leaders. It will be TMT Elite's defense that will be really on display in this matchup. Thus far they have given up just 12 points a contest to their opponents but clearly the Diamondbacks feature one of the toughest offenses they will face.

#2 Seed Falcons Hit Squad (7-1) VS #3 Seed Las Vegas Rams (6-1) – 11U

Where: Liberty High School

When: 12:00 PM

The Falcons Hit Squad and Las Vegas Rams hook up in what should be an exciting semifinal matchup this Saturday afternoon at Liberty High School. These two teams faced off earlier in the season in a matchup that saw the Falcons dominate the matchup to the tune of a 35-0 victory. Since that game however both teams have really been rolling. The Falcons come into this showdown riding high off yet another big win as they looked stellar in their victory over the Pahrump Trojans last weekend. The Falcons soared behind the play of X-Zavier Christopher and Joshua Durgann. That duo has led the Falcons offense to average 31 points a contest this season. If they can reach that number again this weekend, they will be tough to stop. The Rams meanwhile will look to charge the field and be the team that slows down the Falcons offense. The Rams earned an impressive first round playoff win of their own last weekend over the Las Vegas Union. Led by Kristopher Greene and Jayden Edwards, this team will try and avenge their only loss of the season and earn a spot in the Nevada State Championship Game. The Rams defense shut down pretty much every other team they played this season, giving up a grand total of 12 points to teams not named the Falcons Hit Squad, so let's see if they can play to that level this weekend

#1 Seed DO Jr. Diamondbacks (7-0) VS #4 Seed Coronado Cougars (5-3) – 13U

Where: Desert Oasis High School

When: 3:15 PM

The Desert Oasis Jr. Diamondbacks take on the Coronado Cougars in a semifinal matchup that should put several offensive stars on display this weekend at Desert Oasis High School. The Diamondbacks finished off the regular season with a perfect record thanks to a trio of young stars. Davion Callahan Collins, Fazion Love, and Daquantay Cage form a vicious trio of offensive stars that can all put up touchdowns in a hurry. The Diamondbacks offense averaged almost 30 points a contest this season, which was good enough for best in the division. Rust might be a factor for this squad. By a quirk in the schedule, this team didn't have a game in the final weekend of the regular season. This team also earned the top spot in the division that earned them a bye. That means this team hasn't played a game in almost two weeks at this point. If they hope to advance to the Nevada State Championship Game, they will need to shake off the rust because the Coronado Cougars are not a team to be taken lightly. The Cougars clawed their way into the semifinals with a first round playoff victory over the Faith Lutheran Crusaders. Joshua Ashley and Tyrese Smith played like superstars in that game, but it will take a true team effort from the Cougars if they hope to pounce on the Diamondbacks. Will the Cougars passing attack be enough to shake the Diamondbacks?

#2 Seed Pahrump Valley Warriors (6-2) VS #3 Seed North Las Vegas Mustangs (6-2) – 13U

Where: Pahrump Valley High School

When: 1:45 PM

The Pahrump Valley Warriors and the North Las Vegas Mustangs matchup appears to be yet another top-flight matchup with a spot in the Nevada State Championship Game going to the victor. These two teams faced each other a pair of times this season. These two teams played in a pair of close games this season that each team was able to get a victory. In the Warriors won the early season matchup by a score of 12-0 while the Mustangs galloped away with the regular season finale by a score of 12-6. Who comes out ahead in this semifinal showdown is anyone's guess. The Warriors got here after taking out the Southern Highlands Jr. Rebels in dominating fashion. The Warriors have been led by Jose Mendoza and Zachary Wilkerson this season and that duo will need to play their best if the Warriors hope to march past the Mustangs in this matchup. The Warriors will look to play to their home faithful as this game is deservedly at their home school. The Mustangs meanwhile will gallop their way out to Pahrump Valley High School for what they hope will be a huge victory. The Mustangs are led by superstar Jaquieze Holland who was a touchdown machine all season long. Each time he touches the football he is a threat to take it to the house. If Holland and the Mustangs are going to get the win, they will need William Faulkner and Davison Glenn to also step up and have big games. In both matchups during the regular season, points were at a premium, so expect both teams to try and cherish the ball and take advantage of field position. This game might come down to the wire, so every detail will count in this stellar 13U Weighed Division showdown!