



A message from Ron Stolski, MFCA Executive Director

The Minnesota Football Coaches Association has partnered with TackleBar™ Football. We have made the decision to endorse TackleBar because it teaches safe contact, sound fundamentals and is decreasing injuries. TackleBar is increasing youth participation numbers by easing parent fears and making the game accessible and fun for kids of all ages and sizes, all while preserving the tradition and spirit of the sport.

TackleBar Football offers a great alternative to those players and communities who are not yet ready for tackle but want a more complete football experience. As a “keeper of the game,” we have to find ways to engage more kids in this great sport.

The TackleBar harness is designed to teach players to engage the ball carrier in textbook shoulder tackling style. Players learn to track the ball carrier, break down into proper tackling form and wrap them up. The difference is, once wrapped up, they pull a foam bar off a harness on the ball carrier’s lower back instead of driving them to the ground.

We join impressive company with this endorsement. The Minnesota Vikings came out in support of TackleBar earlier this year.

“TackleBar Football encourages more youth to play by taking out the big hits and tackling,” said Vikings veteran EJ Henderson. “We need to be open to new options for our younger players to keep them engaged.”

Currently, more than 2,000 kids are using the TackleBar system. There are youth TackleBar leagues across Minnesota, Iowa, Ohio, Indiana, Wisconsin and the Dakotas. Several high school coaches, including some here in Minnesota, have embraced TackleBar as a safe way to practice fundamentals during the week without the fear of injuries occurring through live tackling.

TackleBar CEO Tim Healy asked me to share the following message with you. "I'm very excited about the endorsement from the MFCA. It's an honor that this group believes in TackleBar. I'm passionate about football. I played through college, coached my kids, and just like you, I want to see the game to succeed. TackleBar is the best way to make that happen, and I'm excited to work together in the future."