Does your child need to play tackle football before high school to become an NFL legend? No!

Meet the all-time greatest NFL offense and defense made up entirely of athletes who didn’t play tackle football until high school.

With Jerry Rice, Jim Brown, Lawrence Taylor, Walter Payton, and Tom Brady, this list includes the top 5 players of all-time as well as 16 Hall of Famers. Every player on the field went to at least 3 Pro Bowls.

![Image of football players]

Football legends and medical experts agree: to become an NFL star, a child is better off playing flag football or other sports until high school to let their body and brain develop for tackle football.

“With flag football you get all the techniques. Why do we have to start with a 5-year-old who was just potty trained a year ago and put a helmet on him and tackle? We’ll eventually get to tackling.”

—John Madden, Pro Football Hall of Fame Coach

“I think every American boy should play soccer till the eighth grade, then they should play football — American football.”

—Jim Harbaugh, Head Coach, University of Michigan

To learn more, visit FlagFootball14.org

Is someone missing from the all-time team? Tell us on social media using #FlagFootball14