

WABASH RIVER YOUTH FOOTBALL LEAGUE BY-LAWS

Enacted on 8/02/07

1 ORGANIZATION OVERVIEW

1.01 Purpose

The Wabash River Youth Football League (WRYFL or League) provides an organized, full contact football program for the youth of the Wabash River Conference and surrounding jurisdictions.

1.02 Organization

The WRYFL is an association of individual football clubs (Clubs) throughout the region, bound together with common rules of conduct and play. It is governed by a Governing Board (Board). The Board includes an Executive Committee member, and a voting representative (Commissioner) from each member Club. The Board establishes the rules and policies of the League. The Executive Committee, independent of any individual Club, governs the administration of those League policies and rules. The Executive Committee also establishes and collect league fees from the member Clubs necessary to meet expenses and maintain a stable financial position. Those Clubs current in their dues and actively participating in the government of the League are considered in good standing and maintain voting rights in all elections and League business.

1.03 Membership

Any recognized organization within the Wabash River Conference or surrounding jurisdictions is eligible to petition for membership in the League. Prospective members must demonstrate and maintain an organizational framework with internal policies and rules consistent with League rules and policies, and a commitment to the League to uphold the standards. Acceptance is contingent on a 2/3 majority vote of current members in good standing.

1.03.01 New organizations must apply in writing to the Board. All applications must be received no later than May 1 of the current year. Petitions received after that date will be held until the end of the regular season before any Board level actions or discussions take place.

1.03.02 All organizations must have clearly defined school boundaries to determine eligibility. Attica, Covington, North Vermillion and Warren County will pull from their specific school districts. Danville will pull players from any Vermillion County parochial elementary school. Special exceptions to fill a roster to the minimum number of 18 players will be approved by the Board. This item goes into effect with the 2008 season.

1.03.03 All new Clubs shall enter a probation period of not less than one year and not more than three years prior to receiving full membership and voting rights on the Board.

1.04 Overview

Youth football players (Players) are organized into Teams by their respective Club in accordance with League rules and policies. Teams compete during the regular season based upon a League managed schedule. At the end of the regular season the top two teams in league standings will compete in the Super Bowl to determine a champion in each of the levels. Tie breaker for eligibility is first head-to-head record, followed by least points allowed if needed. Worst case tie breaker would be a coin toss by a nonparticipating Executive Committee member.

1.04.01 Game play and equipment is governed by the current edition of The National Federation of High School Football Rules (NHSF) as modified herein. These are the same rules used by the IHSAA.

1.04.02 The League reserves the right to rule on any inconsistencies identified between written League and NHSF rules.

1.04.03 Certain NHSF rules outside of game play and equipment requirements may be considered as guidelines but not requirements for League play. Other NHSF rules do not apply to the League.

2 LEAGUE STRUCTURE & MANAGEMENT

2.01 Governing Board

The League is governed by a Governing Board consisting of 2 representatives from each member organization (Club). One serves on the Executive Committee and one is a voting Commissioner. This group is responsible for establishing, overseeing, and enforcing League policies and rules.

2.01.01 Club Representation Each organization sponsoring teams shall appoint a local President, who will serve on the Executive Committee, and one Commissioner to serve on the Governing Board. They may also name as many local Board members as required to direct that organizations local football program. Only the local representatives or their designated alternate shall vote on matters placed before Governing Board. Commissioners and their appointed designates shall be identified in writing to the Board through the Executive Committee.

2.01.02 Voting Privileges Each organization shall have only 1 vote on matters brought before the Board, the exception being the team represented by the League Chairman, who only votes in the event of a tie.

2.02 Executive Committee

The Executive Committee shall have and exercise the authority of the entire Governing Board between meetings in the best interest of the League. This authority shall include the interpretation and enforcement of the League rules and policies, the imposing of penalties for rule infractions, and other incidental matters not requiring full Board action. The Committee shall report any and all actions under the provisions of this authority at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Governing Board. Positions and duties of the Executive Committee are defined in the these By-Laws.

2.03 Meetings

Meetings are held at regular intervals as needed. Attendance by each Club's representatives is mandatory. If the Club Commissioner cannot attend, an appointed second shall attend on the Club's behalf. Meetings shall be called by any member of the Executive Committee should the need arise.

2.04 Finance

The Executive Committee through the League Treasurer shall establish a yearly budget based upon anticipated expenses and revenues. Based upon this budget, membership dues and other fees to cover League expenses shall be developed and presented to the Board.

2.05 Scheduling

Schedules will be prepared by the Executive Committee and approved by the entire Board. All schedules will be prepared in accordance with the criteria set out in these Rules. Changes to the schedule due to weather or other unforeseen circumstances shall be made as needed.

2.06 Conduct

The League's integrity and stature is dependant on all of its members upholding the highest level of character and decency. As such, any member determined to be acting contrary to the ideals' of the League may be sanctioned. Such sanctions may include reprimands, fines, probations, suspensions, or expulsions from the Board as determined by the Executive Committee.

2.07 Governing Rules

National High School Federation Rules (NHSF) apply to all scheduled league games unless amended by these Official League Rules. Any questions not covered by the Official League Rules, official interpretation thereof, or

any conflict not subject to protest shall be decided by the League's Executive Chairman in the best interests of the League.

2007 ELECTED GOVERNING BOARD:

Executive Committee

Attica – Steve Smyth
Covington – Brad Wright
Danville – Tony Konieczki
North Vermillion – JR Martin
Warren – John Hegg - CHAIRMAN

Commissioners

Attica – David Huckleberry – SECRETARY\TREASURER
Covington – Mike Cutrell
Danville – Ron Soderstrom
North Vermillion -Cory Zumwalt
Warren – John Kay

3 MEMBERSHIP RULES & REGULATIONS

3.01 Organization

All teams must be sponsored by an organization governed by a local Board of Directors or other responsible body. Each organization sponsoring a team shall appoint at minimum, a President and Commissioner to represent the Club on the Governing Board.

3.02 Attendance at Governing Board Meetings

Attendance at Governing Board meetings is mandatory for each Commissioner or designated representative, and the Executive Committee member. Each Club must be represented at a minimum of three quarters (3/4) of the scheduled meetings as well as the official Team Declaration Meeting, where rosters are turned in to the League. Failure to comply with required attendance will result in a Club fine and a forfeiture of the Club's League voting privileges for a twelve (12) month period. Clubs failing to attend three or more consecutive meetings are subject to removal from the League by the Board.

3.03 Club Boundaries

All players are to be from the areas in 1.03.02 effective with 2008 season.

3.04 Registrations

Club registrations for Players shall be open to all applicants meeting League eligibility requirements and living within the Club's established boundaries. Clubs shall promote registrations for all eligible players (Grades K-6).

3.05 Conduct

The conduct of each Club's players, coaches, and spectators is the responsibility of that Club. Systems shall be established and maintained by each Club to identify and communicate the acceptable conduct of its members and guests as well as an enforcement plan to assure proper conduct. The League retains the right to impose additional sanctions as it deems appropriate in the best interest of the League. Failure to appropriately maintain proper conduct or react to unacceptable conduct will be considered a breach of membership and subject to sanctions of the Club by the Board.

3.06 Franchise Fees, Dues, and Fines

Each Club is required to pay all franchise fees, dues, and fines assessed by the League.

- 3.06.01** All specified franchise fees and dues shall be paid on or before September 1 of the current year.
- 3.06.02** All other debts and fines due must be paid within thirty days of date of invoice.
- 3.06.03** Non-payment or delayed payment of all fees, dues, and fines will result in the Club, team, or individual's suspension from League until the debt is paid. In addition, all voting rights of that organization will be suspended until the debt is paid.
- 3.06.04** Chronic non-payment of fees, dues, and fines shall prompt a League review of the Club and potential extended sanctions including permanent suspension or expulsion from the League.

3.07 Penalties

Penalties for the failure of member Clubs to follow the rules and regulations set herein shall include sanctioning of the entire Club. Specific sanctions may include fines, forfeiture of games, loss of League voting rights, suspension of teams or individuals, exclusion from League post season competition, and expulsion from the League by the Board.

4 TEAM POLICIES

4.01 Team Size

Team size shall be a minimum of 18 players weighed in and listed on a team roster. Team sizes of between 14 and 18 may be approved by the Executive Committee. No teams lower than 14 will be allowed. Teams not at the 14 player minimum by 2 days before the first game will be dissolved and their money refunded. It is recommended that in order to comply with the WRYFL player participation policy that every effort be made to insure that team rosters average 22 to 24 players.

4.02 Coaching

Club's shall strive to provide a qualified, well trained coaching staff for each Team it sponsors in the League. Coaches and support staff shall conduct themselves at all times with sportsmanship and integrity and exemplify the League values. It is the responsibility of each Club to perform limited background checks on all coaches prior to the first practice. Checks must be turned in to the Executive Committee

4.02.03.01 Age It is required that the head coach be 21 years of age or older before August 1st of the season.

4.02.03.02 Experience All Head Coaches shall attend any League sponsored coaching clinics to qualify them in the rules of the game, the League rules, coaching fundamental techniques, player safety, care of injuries, and leadership of children and young people. Any Head Coach not able to attend any League clinic shall present, through the Club Commissioner, verification of prior experience and knowledge within these fields to qualify as a Head Coach and perform accordingly. Head Coaches are also encouraged to attend other coaching clinics.

4.02.04 Assistant Coaches Each Head Coach shall establish a group of assistant coaches to aid in the training and control of the Team. Assistant coaches shall be 18 years of age or older before August 1 of the season. The Head Coach is responsible to assure each assistant is qualified and understands all League rules and regulations. All assistant coaches are encouraged to attend the League coaching clinic as well as other coaching clinics.

4.03 Recruitment

No Head Coach, assistant coach, team parent, or any other Club official shall contact, recruit or otherwise solicit Players from another Club. Evidence of such actions will be considered a breach of these rules and subject to significant sanctions by the League.

4.04 Team Rosters

Rosters of all eligible Players shall be established for each Team at the Team Declaration meeting 2 days prior to the first game. After that time, no additions may be made without the approval of 2/3 majority of the Governing Board.

4.05 Conduct

The conduct of each Team's players, coaches, and spectators is the responsibility of the Head Coach and the Club. Systems shall be established and maintained by each Team to identify and communicate acceptable conduct of its members and guests as well as an enforcement plan to assure proper conduct. Failure to appropriately maintain proper conduct or react to unacceptable conduct will be considered a breach of these rules and subject to sanctions by the League.

4.06 Penalties

Penalties for the failure of Clubs and/or Coaches to follow the rules and regulations set forth herein shall include sanctioning of either the Team or the entire Club as the infraction dictates. Specific sanctions may include fines, forfeiture of games, loss of League voting rights, suspension of teams, exclusion from League post season competition, and expulsion from the League by the Board.

5 PLAYER POLICIES

5.01 Eligibility

Only youth in grade Kindergarten through sixth may participate in the League. All youth shall play in the grade Class for which they are eligible. There shall be no waivers.

5.01.01 Grade For purpose of eligibility in the various levels, the grade as of September 1st of the current year will determine the level in which the player will participate.

5.01.02 Address - A Player's school enrollment shall establish eligibility for specific Club as defined in 1.03.02, effective with the 2008 season. Each Player must play for a team in the applicable jurisdiction in which the Player resides. Violations of residency restrictions shall incur severe sanctions of the Player, Team, and Club.

5.01.03 Club Commissioners are responsible to verify the grade and enrollment of all Players at club registration.

5.02 Physical Examinations

The WRYFL Board requires beginning with the 2008 season that all players be given a physical examination by his/her personal physician before participating in football practice and/or games. No player shall be allowed to participate in the WRYFL if non-play is recommended by a physician. It is the responsibility of parents and each respective organization to determine and monitor the health of individual players on a continuing basis.

5.02.01 Physician's Release Form Any Player with an injury requiring a cast or other such brace must provide a Physician's Release Form prior to any involvement in practices or game play. A copy of the form is provided in the Appendices.

5.03 Dual League/School Participation

No youth who is either a member or who is trying out for a school sponsored football squad may participate in League play. Exceptions as approved by Executive Committee.

5.04 Conduct

The conduct of each Player is the responsibility of the Head Coach and the Club. Systems shall be established and maintained by each Team and Club to identify and communicate acceptable conduct of its Players as well as an enforcement plan to assure proper conduct. Failure to appropriately maintain proper conduct or react to unacceptable conduct will be considered a breach of these rules and subject to sanctions by the League.

5.05 Penalties

The integrity of the League and safety of the Players on the field during practices and games rely on these Player placement rules. Penalties for not following these rules will result in game forfeitures and fines. Sanctions shall also be issued against the Club administrators, Head Coach, and assistant coaches of the Team found supporting or allowing such activities, where appropriate.

5.05.01 Over/Under Grade Player Participation The penalty for an over or under grade Player's participating

in League games, when discovered (whether protested or not) and verified through the Executive Committee will result in a minimum forfeiture of all games in which the illegal Player participated and that Player's suspension from any further league activities for the current season. An exception may be made if an issue arises with not enough players. If the opponent agrees, players may be pulled up to a higher level to fill a team to 14 players maximum. No player may play down a level to fill a team. Parent or legal guardian of a player playing up a level must sign a waiver with the Field Supervisor prior to the game.

5.05.02 Unauthorized Player Participation If a Player is found to be playing for a team other than the jurisdiction of residence, the Player will be suspended for the balance of the season, and the Team will forfeit the last game in which the Player participated. Additional penalties may be imposed on the Team, Coach or Club in flagrant cases.

6 EQUIPMENT POLICIES

6.01 Equipment Standards

Equipment used by Teams and Players shall meet the standards National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) rules unless otherwise noted herein. It is the responsibility of each Club that equipment shall be in good repair and properly fitted to each Player.

6.02 Mandatory Player Equipment

All Players must be completely uniformed to be eligible to compete in League sanctioned games.

Mandatory equipment includes:

Helmet (with approved face guard and chin strap)

Tooth and Mouth Protector (intraoral/fitted)

Shoulder Pads

Football Pants (with thigh pads & knee pads)

Hip Pads and Tail Pad

Jersey (with number front and back)

-NFHS numbering/position requirements need not be followed.

Shoes - Shoes may have either molded cleats or removable cleats.

6.02.01 Athletic Supporter (with cup insert) and other personal protection devices are strongly recommended but not required.

6.03 Illegal Player Equipment

No Player shall participate in any League practices or games with illegal equipment. This includes but is not limited to those items identified in the NFHS rules and anything deemed unsafe by the presiding officials.

6.03.01 Hard Cast Rule No athlete is permitted to participate in any League practice or game with a hard cast, splint, brace, or any other protective appliance except when padded and protected in accordance with NFHS rules. Any Player wishing to practice or play with such a device must first gain written permission from their Club's Commissioner. The approval of the padding and the Players eligibility for a League game shall be determined by the Game Official. The Player shall submit a signed written request to the Game Official prior to the game. The request must include a physician's statement indicating the Player is cleared to play. Copies of the request and physician's statement shall also be available for review by the opposing Head Coach and the Field Supervisor.

6.04 Game Uniforms

All Clubs are required to have one consistent, approved, uniform color combination scheme using their Club Colors at the beginning of each season. These uniforms shall be worn at all games, home and away, unless a conflict arises.

6.04.01 Players shall maintain the same jersey and number throughout the season unless the jersey is damaged beyond reasonable repair or lost.

6.04.02 Jersey numbers shall not be reassigned within a Team at any time during the season.

6.04.03 No jersey shall be changed during the game unless deemed necessary by the Game Officials. In the event of such a jersey change both sidelines shall be notified.

6.05 Game Balls

Official game balls meeting League standards shall be furnished by each team.

6.05.01 Ball Size: Game balls shall meet the following size specifications based upon the team. Peanut & Freshman teams will use the K2 ball. Junior Varsity will use the TDJ ball.

6.06 First Aid Kits

Each team must furnish its own First Aid Kit and maintain the kit at all games and practices. The kit shall include, as a minimum, items to stem and control bleeding of minor cuts/abrasions and reduce the possibility of infection.

6.07 Emergency Plan

Each Club and Team shall prepare an emergency plan to deal with unexpected injuries, sickness, or other issues which may arise during practices and games. The Plan shall include as a minimum information and medical releases for all Players and Coaches, emergency contact numbers for parents and/or guardians, methodology for contacting emergency services, and names and availability of emergency medical technicians (EMTs) at practice and game fields.

6.07.01 Plan shall include areas and strategies for Player protection from severe weather or other significant events.

6.08 Penalties

6.08.01 Penalties for the failure of Clubs and/or Coaches to follow the equipment rules and regulations set forth herein shall include sanctioning of either the Team or the entire Club as the infraction dictates. Specific sanctions may include fines, forfeiture of games, loss of League voting rights, suspension of teams, exclusion from League post season competition, and expulsion from the League by the Board.

6.08.02 Penalties for Players improperly equipped during a game may include warnings, unsportsmanlike conduct penalties, or ejection from the game as determined by the presiding official.

7 PRACTICE POLICIES

7.01 Commencement of Practice

No official practice or Team meetings shall commence prior to the date established by the League each year except for any spring/summer clinics or camps held for youth players.

7.01.01 No physical contact will be allowed for any Player during their first three days of practice. Each Player must have at least three practice periods of conditioning and training before engaging in any contact drills or scrimmages.

7.01.02 Only shoulder pads and helmets shall be worn by a Player during their first three practices

7.02 Location of Practice

Each Club shall assign designated practice space to each Team. The practice areas shall be kept clean, safe, and in good repair.

7.03 Duration & Frequency of Practices

Practices shall not exceed one 90 minute period per day, three days a week maximum.

7.04 Cancellations / Modified Practices

Safety of the players, coaches, and spectators is paramount. No practices shall be held if dangerous or hazardous conditions exist at the practice site. Such conditions may include, but are not limited to, extreme heat, storms, lightning, dangerous winds, soggy turf, and others. The local clubs may elect to postpone or modify practice

sessions to mitigate such conditions where possible. These may include temporary changes to scheduled times of practice, limiting contact and/or equipment during practice, increased water breaks, etc.

7.05 Safety

Each Team shall be familiar with safety procedures and emergency procedures at the practice fields. Teams and Coaches shall maintain effective communications tools to contact emergency services should the need arise.

7.05.01 Head Coaches shall be responsible for routine inspection of practice facilities, field equipment, and Player equipment to assure safety and proper fit.

7.05.02 Coaches shall not leave a game or practice area until all Players have left the site.

7.06 Scrimmages

Scrimmages are permitted. Arrangements are handled between the teams involved. Scrimmages will replace one of the 3 allowed practices per week. No scrimmages between teams of differing grade levels are allowed.

7.07 Use of Illicit Drugs, Tobacco, or Alcohol Products

There shall be no use of drugs, tobacco, or alcohol products at any WRYFL practice field by any Head Coach, assistant coach, team parent, or any other Club official. The local club is responsible for enforcing this rule. If a Head Coach, Assistant Coach, Team Parent, or any Club official and refuses to cooperate, he/she will be warned that continued failure to comply with this rule will result in disciplinary action by the Club or League. The League expects all participants and guests of the football programs to follow School Board and/or Park Authority regulations when using these facilities.

7.08 Conduct

The conduct of each Player during, before, and after practice sessions is the responsibility of the Head Coach, the coaching staff, and the Club. Systems shall be established and maintained by each Team and Club to identify and communicate acceptable conduct of its Players as well as an enforcement plan to assure proper conduct. Failure to appropriately maintain proper conduct or react to unacceptable conduct will be considered a breach of these rules and subject to sanctions by the League.

7.09 Penalties

Penalties for the failure of Clubs and/or Coaches to follow the rules and regulations set forth herein shall include sanctioning of either the Team or the entire Club as the infraction dictates. Specific sanctions may include fines, forfeiture of games, loss of League voting rights, suspension of teams, exclusion from League post season competition, and expulsion from the League by the Board. This will be decided upon by the Executive Board.

8 GAME POLICIES

8.01 Governing Rules

National High School Federation Rules (NHSF) apply to all scheduled league games unless amended by these official League Rules. Any questions not covered by the Official League Rules, official interpretation thereof, or any conflict not subject to protest shall be decided by the WRYFL Executive Committee.

8.01.01 Major League exceptions to NHSF rules:

8.01.01.01 Scoring Rules

Touchdown=6 points

Field goal=3 points

Safety=2 points

PAT-Kick=2 points

PAT-Pass=2 points

PAT-Run=1 point

8.01.01.02 Timing Rules

Game Start Times:

First Game starts no earlier than 1:00pm

Second Game starts no earlier than 2:15pm

Third Game starts no earlier than 3:30pm

Game Clock:

Peanuts:

12 Minute running clock for each quarter

10 minute halftime

3 Timeouts per team, per game, no more than 2 used in a half

Officials Discretion of clock stoppage for injuries

Freshman:

8 Minute clock with IHSAA rules for clock stoppage per quarter

10 minute halftime

3 Timeouts per team, per game, no more than 2 used per half

Officials Discretion of clock stoppage for injuries

Junior Varsity:

10 Minute clock with IHSAA rules for clock stoppage per quarter.

3 Timeouts per team, per game, no more than 2 used per half

Officials Discretion of clock stoppage for injuries

Play Clock: 40 second play clock will be in effect kept by head official on field. Official will give verbal countdown with 10 seconds left.

8.01.01.03 Other Special Rules

- 6 man maximum on the defensive line

- All defensive linemen between the tackles MUST be in a minimum 3pt stance

- No blitzing - I.E. Non-linemen on defense may not come across the line of scrimmage until the ball has been handed off, or the QB begins to run the ball.

- Weight limits for handling the football as a ball carrier or a receiver: Peanuts <= 75 pounds Freshman <=105 pounds JV <=130 pounds INELIGIBLE PLAYERS HELMETS SHOULD BE MARKED WITH A TAPE "X"

- On-Field Coaching: 2 Coaches maximum on the field during play NO COACHING once a QB goes under center or starts cadence

8.02 Schedules

Game schedules are established each season by the League based upon the number of teams in each grade level. Schedules will be provided prior to opening day of the season and will be modified throughout the season as required. A standard schedule includes six games over a six week regular season schedule. The top 4 teams will advance to the post season tournament. Games maybe be scheduled on either weekends or weekday evenings. Every effort will be made to play all games on weekends. Games lost due to weather and/or other issues will be rescheduled when possible, but such rescheduling is not guaranteed.

8.03 Game Field Requirements

All game fields shall be sponsored by a Club or other responsible body approved by the League. The Host Club shall be responsible for maintaining the field in playable conditions and providing certain minimum equipment and support.

8.03.01 Perimeter Barrier Each field shall be protected with a perimeter barrier around the field consisting of a fence or rope and stanchions to restrict non-participants from the playing field. Wherever possible the barrier shall be placed a minimum of 5 yards beyond the edge of the field. Only

commissioners, officials, players, chain crew and coaches of the participating teams will be allowed inside the barrier. Spectators shall not be allowed on the sidelines or end zones during games.

8.03.02 Field Markings Each game field shall be marked in accordance with basic NHSF guidelines. Lines in accordance with NHSF rules shall be provided at five yard intervals. Yard markers shall be provided to designate the lines at a minimum ten yard intervals. Goal lines shall be identified with NHSF approved pylons at the intersection of the goal line and sidelines. Additional pylons, if available, shall be placed according to NHSF rules.

8.03.03 Field Equipment

8.03.03.01 Goal posts shall be provided at each end of the field. The goal posts shall be kept in good repair and at the NHSF dimensions.

8.03.03.02 The Host Club shall provide the ten yard markers and down markers (chains) in good repair and checked for accuracy.

8.03.04 Field Personnel The Host Club shall provide a Field Supervisor and appropriate staff on scheduled game days to maintain order at the field and report to the League.

8.03.04.01 Field Supervisor The Field Supervisor is responsible for oversight of the field, adjoining warm up areas, spectator areas, and access areas. They are the liaison and host for the officials, visiting teams, and fans. Field Supervisor shall be responsible for assuring proper roster exchange between teams prior to each game. The Field Supervisor will station themselves on alternating sidelines each quarter.

8.03.04.02 Chain Crew The Field Supervisor or assistant shall coordinate chain crew assignments for each game with the teams involved and deliver them to the officials. The home team shall provide three (3) responsible people acceptable to the game officials, to operate the 10 yard markers and the down marker. These individuals become an extension of the officiating crew and shall devote their full attention to the game. Smoking, cameras, cell phones, and other communication devices are not allowed on the sidelines. Any behavior or activities of these individuals seen as detrimental to sportsmanship or to game play shall result in the individuals expulsion from the sidelines and game field for the remainder of the game and possible sanctions against the Club. The Club shall be responsible for replacing any such ejected individuals.

8.04 Officials

Scheduled league games will be officiated by a licensed crew contracted and assigned by the host team. Prior to their first game of the day, the Officials shall meet with the Field Supervisor or designated assistant and review the day's activities.

8.05 Rosters

8.05.01 Official League Rosters are established a minimum two days prior to the first game of the season and filed with the League. The rosters contain each eligible player's name, League age, validated playing weight, school attended, verification of physical and jersey number.

8.05.02 Game Day Rosters shall be a copy of the Official League Roster, on file with the League, with any approved additions or changes marked in ink. Such changes may include jersey number changes, strikeouts for ineligible or unavailable players, and other special considerations. Explanations shall be identified in the remarks column.

8.05.02.01 Game Day Rosters shall be distributed to the opposing team through the Field Supervisor at the start of all League games. Two copies shall be provided at all games. The second copy shall be retained by the League for record.

8.06 Game Procedures and Regulations

The Head Coach shall be responsible to organize and maintain control of their team and fans prior to, during, and after all games. The following procedures and regulations shall be followed by all teams during League sanctioned

games and events:

- 8.06.01** Each Team shall arrive at the appropriate field for all scheduled games at least 30 minutes prior to official game time.
- 8.06.02** Upon arrival the Head Coach shall meet with the Field Supervisor or designated assistant and present the Team's Game Day Roster with noted exceptions and explanations. Warm up areas will be assigned by the Field Supervisor at that time.
- 8.06.03** The Field Supervisor shall check the Rosters for proper information and format and exchange the rosters by their delivery to the opposing coaching staffs.
 - 8.06.03.01** Any required corrections identified by the Field Supervisor shall be made by the Head Coach prior to the exchange.
 - 8.06.03.02** No game shall commence until the Game Day Rosters have been exchanged between coaches.
 - 8.06.03.03** Should any Team refuse or be unable to provide an appropriate Game Day Roster, the scheduled game shall be played under official protest and reported to the League by the Field Supervisor.
- 8.06.04** All players shall be in uniform and warmed up when captains are called to the field prior to the game start or kick-off.
- 8.06.05** Teams shall not enter the playing field until directed by the Field Supervisor or Officials.
- 8.06.06** Teams arriving late shall be given a 15 minute grace period from the scheduled game start time to enter the game field and be ready for play. Teams arriving after the grace period shall forfeit the game and be subject to league penalties.
- 8.06.07** Games shall not start earlier than the official scheduled start time.
- 8.06.08** Teams are required to have twelve eligible and dressed Players available for play at kick-off. The game may proceed afterward with a minimum of ten Players if necessary. The opposing team is required to then reduce their team to 10 players on the field. No game will continue with less than 10 players on a team, and that team will then forfeit the game.
- 8.06.09** Sideline Limitations and Regulations
 - 8.06.09.01** A maximum of six coaches shall be permitted in the designated coaching area between the 25 yard lines.
 - 8.06.09.02** Coaches shall be easily recognizable by wearing appropriate apparel.
 - 8.06.09.03** Spectators must stand behind rope, fence and/or other barrier at all times during the game.
 - 8.06.09.04** Unsuited Team Players, Mascots, etc. shall remain on the bench or outside the fence during game play.
- 8.06.10** Following the game and traditional handshakes the Teams shall vacate the field and bench area quickly to allow for the succeeding game.
- 8.06.11** The Field Supervisor or designated assistant shall record the final score as reported by the Officials at the conclusion of each game.

8.07 Use of Illicit Drugs, Tobacco, or Alcohol Products

There shall be no use of drugs, tobacco, or alcohol products at any WRYFL game field by any Head Coach, assistant coach, team parent, or any other Club official. The Field Supervisor is responsible for enforcing this rule. If a Head Coach, Assistant Coach, Team Parent, or any Club official and refuses to cooperate, he/she will be warned that continued failure to comply with this rule will result in disciplinary action by the Club or League. The League expects all participants and guests of the football programs to follow School Board and/or Park Authority regulations when using these facilities.

8.08 Player Participation

All eligible, rostered Players shall participate in each game of the season except in the case of injury or absence.

- 8.08.01** The player participation policy is that each player shall participate in every game for a

significant portion of the total game time. Although a specific number of plays or time requirements are not required, it is the spirit and intent of the League that all Players participate fully.

8.08.02 The basic requirement of the policy is that for teams with numbers greater than 22, at any change of possession, 11 players from the sideline must enter the game and the other 11 must exit.

8.08.03 Full compliance with the participation rule is mandatory. Coaches found guilty of not complying with this policy will be disciplined. Specific sanctions may include forfeiture of games, suspension of coaches, exclusion from League post season competition, and expulsion from the League by the Board. Complaints shall be filed in writing through the Club Commissioner to the League.

8.09 Conduct

Field Supervisors and Head Coaches shall be responsible for the conduct of all players, members of the coaching staff and spectators. This includes the time periods before, during, and after League games. Improper conduct, in the judgment of the game officials, on the part of the players, coaches or spectators may result in penalties, expulsion, and suspension or forfeiture of the game. The local Club Commissioner and/or Field Supervisor shall have the responsibility to assist the game officials in maintaining proper conduct of players, coaching staff and spectators.

8.09.01 Player Warnings Any Player exhibiting any form of unsportsmanlike conduct may, at the discretion of the game officials, be sent off the field for a “cool down” period of a minimum of ten plays after which the Player shall be allowed to return to the field. Player warnings shall not be considered as being ejected from the game. Players shall not receive more than one “cool down” period per contest.

8.09.02 Player Ejections Flagrant unsportsmanlike conduct, at the discretion of the game officials, or a second Player Warning from the officials shall be cause for Player disqualification and ejection from the game. Any Player so disqualified by the officials, shall remain on the bench for the remainder of the game or, if deemed necessary by the officials, ejected from the permitted facility and prohibited from any further contact, direct or indirect, with the Team during the remainder of the game. For failure to comply, the officials may forfeit the game.

8.09.02.01 Any Player allowed by game officials to return to a game shall not be considered as being ejected from a game.

8.09.02.02 A Player removed from the game on the final play of the game shall be considered ejected from the game.

8.09.02.03 Game officials shall notify the Field Supervisor of any ejections at the conclusion of the contest. Player name and number shall be recorded and submitted to the League along with the game score.

8.09.02.04 Any Player disqualified in a League game shall be ineligible for a minimum of one following game.

8.09.03 Coach Ejections Flagrant unsportsmanlike conduct by the Head Coach or any member(s) of the coaching or sideline staff shall result in disqualification of those involved. Any person so disqualified by the officials, shall be ejected from the permitted facility and prohibited from any further contact, direct or indirect, with the Team during the remainder of the game. For failure to comply, the officials may forfeit the game.

8.09.03.01 Such conduct may include, but is not limited to, abusive, disrespectful, or profane language, intimidation, fighting, physical confrontations, or other unsportsmanlike acts before, during or after the game.

8.09.03.02 Any member of the Team’s coaching staff so ejected may not return to their coaching position without the permission of the Club Commissioner and League and will serve a minimum two game suspension.

8.09.04 Spectator Ejections Any spectator who uses abusive, disrespectful, or profane language or who otherwise exhibits unsportsmanlike conduct before, during or after any ball game shall be ejected

from the permitted facility and could be subject to banning and or criminal prosecution.

8.10 Penalties

Penalties for the failure of Clubs and/or Coaches to follow the rules and regulations set forth herein shall include sanctioning of either the Team or the entire Club as the infraction dictates. Specific sanctions may include fines, forfeiture of games, loss of League voting rights, suspension of teams, and expulsion from the League by the Board.

8.11 Reporting

The Host Club shall be responsible for recording of all game scores, game winners, officials and coach signatures, ejections, and other relevant information concerning each game. Information shall be reported to the Secretary\Treasurer via e-mail or phone, within twenty-four (24) hours of the last game of the session.

8.12 Game Postponement

Games will only be postponed in case of inclement weather or extenuating circumstances beyond the control of the League. The decision to postpone games will be made by an Executive Board member or his designated representative. All postponed games, including rain outs, will be rescheduled where possible.

8.13 League Championship Tournament

The top 4 teams in the standings of each division will play one game on Saturday, with the matchups being a blind draw, to be held the week prior. The winners on Saturday, will advance to the final game on Sunday.

8.14 Game Protests

The League is formed in an effort to foster all tenets of good sportsmanship, conduct, and in the best interest of the sport. Its primary function is to uphold the rules and regulations of this program and to levy fair and reasonable disciplinary action should such be necessary. Protests are an avenue for a Head Coach and Club Commissioner of an offended Team should they believe and have credible evidence that an opponent has violated those rules.

8.14.01 Commissioners from Clubs participating in a protest shall recuse themselves from the committee for that issue.

8.14.02 Committee Authority The Executive Committee shall be granted authority to convene hearings as required to respond to official protests, rule on any such protests, levy fees and fines for protests, levy forfeitures of games if a violation is found, and recommend additional disciplinary actions be taken by the League.

8.14.02.01 Committee may, in the course of investigation, require a letter of confirmation of a Player's identity, address, or other roster information from the Club Commissioner.

8.14.02.02 Committee may, at anytime during the regular season, require selected Club Commissioners to collect all exchanged rosters on a selected game day and send them to the Executive Committee for a roster check. Improper rosters discovered during this review process will be grounds for appropriate disciplinary action of Clubs and Teams.

8.14.03 Valid Game Protests Game protests are limited to specific infractions by a Team during a game with the protesting team. These include ineligible Player(s) participating in the game and/or specific roster violations.

8.14.03.01 Ineligible Player infractions include but are not limited to those Players not listed on the official roster on file with the League, over age, over weight, fraudulent addresses, or falsified records.

8.14.03.02 Roster infractions include but are not limited to fraudulent entries, unauthorized deviations from Official Team Roster, and failure to present the proper roster(s) at game time.

8.14.04 Timing Protests must be filed with the Executive Committee within 24 hours from completion of game.

8.14.05 Fees All Protests must be accompanied by a fee of \$100.00 per protested Player or Roster. If a game protest is upheld, the fee will be returned. If not upheld, fee will be forfeited into the general fund of the League.

The purpose of this is to limit excessive protests.

8.14.06 Procedures The plaintiff Club Commissioner shall submit the specific protest complaint, in writing, to the Executive Committee chairman, along with the appropriate fee within 24 hours of the original notification but not more than 48 hours from the end of the protested game. Protests will not be accepted without the fee being paid. The Executive Committee will then establish a hearing date within 7 days and notify the defendant Club Commissioner. The defendant Club Commissioner shall have the responsibility of notifying the affected team's Head Coach, involved Player(s), and the Player(s) parents or guardian(s). The hearing will be convened by the Executive Committee to hear both sides of the issue. Both the plaintiff Head Coach and the defendant Head Coach and/or Club Commissioner shall be present to answer the charges. Any Player(s) involved in the protest may be asked to appear before the Committee, but every effort will be made to resolve the protest without involving the player. In the event a Player's weight is at issue, the Committee shall weigh the Player on a league scale during the hearing. Failure of any of these parties to appear before the Committee shall be grounds for findings in the other's favor. The Committee shall make a ruling at the close of the hearing, no continuances will be allowed.

8.14.07 Game Protest Appeals Appeals on the decisions of the Executive Committee are not allowed. The Executive Committee will render a final decision in the matter of majority consent.