

North Georgia Youth Football League, Inc.



2008 Constitution and By-Laws

Calendar of Events

February	2 nd Sunday	Association Presidents only	Election of officers, Proposal of Constitutional Amendments Applications for New Associations
March	3 rd Sunday	Association Presidents	Vote on Constitution changes and Vote on New Associations
July	Last Sunday	Commission and Coaches	Review Playing Rules
August	First Monday in week of Aug. 1	All Teams	1 st Practice - Helmets only
	4 th Practice	All Teams	Full Pad Practice
	3 rd Sunday	Commission and Coaches	Roster certification of players for Competitive League May close registration (See Constitution)
	4 th Sunday	Commission and Coaches	Roster certification of players for Instructional League May close registration (See Constitution)
	Last Saturday	Associations	1 st Regular season game
September	After 4 th week of scheduled games		5# growing weight allowed to eligible players. All registration closed
	5 th Week of scheduled games		Final day to weigh-in at all
October	15 th		\$125.00 per team operation fee due

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CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I

The organization shall be known as “North Georgia Youth Football League, Inc.”. (Hereafter referred to as “League” or “NGYFL, Inc.”)

ARTICLE II

The purpose of this League is to provide a recreational football program with major emphasis upon fun and enjoyment for children interested in playing and learning the skills of football.

The program will always promote safety-first play by encouraging only programs with strict control over age, weight, equipment and proper behavior for participants, adults, coaches, and spectators.

Major emphasis of this League is to:

1. Provide children an opportunity for fun and enjoyment through a football program.
2. Teach children football skills and techniques; and
3. Practice good sportsmanship and physical fitness.

NGYFL, Inc. assumes no responsibility for the cheerleading program. This function is a function that is to be controlled entirely by the Member Association’s Board of Directors.

ARTICLE III

NGYFL, Inc. officers, sponsors, coaches, managers, referees, or any other supervisory personnel are not responsible for injuries to persons participating; players, coaches, cheerleaders, managers, officials, parents and spectators participate at their own risk

ARTICLE IV

GOVERNMENT

(hereafter referred to as “Commission”, “League Commission”, or “Full Commission”)

A. Non-Voting Members:

1. Commission Officers:
 - a. Executive Commissioner Chairman
 - b. Executive Commissioner Vice Chairman
 - c. Executive Commission Secretary
 - d. Executive Commission Treasurer
 - e. Executive Commission Information Director
 - f. Conference Coordinators
2. Elections
 - a. Shall be held on the second Sunday in February
 - b. All nominations shall be from the floor
 - c. Vacated positions shall be filled by special meeting
 - d. Any officer may be recalled by two-thirds vote of all Association Presidents

- e. Any member running for the Chairman of the North Georgia Youth Football League, Inc. must successfully complete 1 year of service in the capacity of Commission member or Conference Coordinator, before that member may be considered for the Chairman position.

B. Voting Members:

1. Association Presidents/Representative (Each Association shall have (1) one)

C. Voting members must be present to vote or Proxy submitted. Voting Member must notify the Chairman or Vice Chairman.

DUTIES

The immediate past Chairman will serve as Ex-Officio member of the Commission. The duties of the Commission members are as follows:

A. Executive Commission:

1. Performs the duties of their elected positions of Chairman, Vice Chairman, Treasurer, Secretary and Information Director. No additional authority is implied unless where assigned within the Constitution and By-Laws.
2. The Executive Commission is responsible for all disciplinary actions from 12:01am August 1st until 11:59pm of the day following the Super Bowl except as indicated?
 - a. The Executive Commission may not suspend a program/association.
 - b. The Executive Commission may not suspend a coach, participant or spectator for more than the balance of the season.
 - c. The Executive Commission may not fine an Association, coach, participant or spectator for more than \$100.00 unless specified within the Constitution and By-Laws.
 - d. The Executive Commission may not change or modify the Constitution and By-Laws unless the Presidents vote in a 2/3's approval under the terms of an emergency. At which time the Executive Commission must vote unanimously for any changes.
 - e. The Chairman may at anytime request a Full Commission meeting for the purpose of a disciplinary meeting with 48 hour notice.
 - f. Should the Full Commission desire a meeting regarding a disciplinary issue the majority of voting members must make their request known to the Secretary or Chairman in email or fax known within 72 hours of the event.

B. Chairman:

1. Calls and acts as presiding officer at all league meetings.
2. Shall appoint special sub-committees and members thereof.
3. Responsible for inter-league communications.
4. Responsible for league publicity.
5. Accepts and investigates all applications for new membership.
6. In the event of an emergency of any nature involving actual or suspected misconduct or regarding any property or moral integrity of members, the Chairman shall have and is hereby empowered with the authority to act on his/her own initiative to secure the assistance of the local or municipal county, state and federal law enforcement agencies, including the execution of affidavits in support of criminal warrants, to protect property and moral integrity in compliance with the intents and purposes of the league in Article II hereof.
7. Furthermore, NGYFL, Inc. is hereby given the authority to designate, obtain, and retain legal counsel or other agents so as to provide a quick remedy to secure league property and ensure moral integrity.
8. Exclusive point of contact for all Media and Press related items. The Chairman may choose or permit in writing a one time alternative contact.

C. Vice Chairman:

1. Shall be responsible for Super Bowl activities.
2. To carry out any or all other duties as designated by the Chairman.
3. Responsible for establishing a committee of three (3) Commissioners, including himself, to make league game schedules.

D. Treasurer:

1. The league Treasurer shall open a checking and/or savings account at a certified bank and/or savings and loan.
2. All bills and other obligations of the league shall be paid by check.
3. Shall prepare an annual audit and make same available to the Commission.
4. The Treasurer may write checks for up to \$500.00. A second signature by the Chairman or Vice Chairman will be required for checks over \$500.00
5. Any expenditure less than or equal to \$499 shall be agreed upon by $\frac{3}{4}$ of the Commissioners. Any expenditure \$500 or more shall be approved by a majority vote of the full Commission.

E. Secretary:

1. Records all Full Commission meetings.
2. Must submit written minutes of all meetings within 1 week to the Chairman and/or Vice Chairman..
3. Assures that the annual corporate return and filing fees are filed and paid not later than April 1, of each year.
4. Secure and maintain all records and documents pertaining to the NGYFL, INC
5. Coordinate the Annual Banquet.

F. Information Director:

1. Responsible for all Website Development and Support
2. Coordinate Certification Process with the Chairman and Vice Chairman
3. Coordinate Scheduling with the Scheduling Committee
4. Communicate Scores, Ejections, Jersey Changes and Medical Removals no later than 48 hours after the scheduled event to the Association Presidents and the elected Commissioners.

G. Conference Coordinators

1. Shall be the advocate for all teams and Associations to the Commission
2. Shall be a representative of the Commission at any and all league games to ensure that the NGYFL, Inc. Constitution and By-Laws are being upheld

H. Weight Commissioners:

1. Conduct weigh-ins.
2. Notify (in writing) opposing coaches and home field President of players injured, absent, over-weight or requiring a jersey change in accordance with the Game Day Form.

I. Association Presidents:

1. Keep local Association informed of Commission and League activities.
2. Can conduct weigh-ins.
3. Notify his Association Vice President of meetings.
4. For each Saturday game, report by 7:00pm each Sunday, and for each Tuesday game report by 7:00 pm each Wednesday the scores, ejection's and temporary number changes of all home games to League Information Director (Failure to report scores as above will result in a \$50.00 fine).
5. Responsible for enforcing, at all times, the NGYFL, Inc. Constitution and By-Laws.
6. Shall provide a copy of the NGYFL, Inc. Constitution and By-Laws in the weight-in area.
7. Responsible for maintaining proper conduct of all participants (players, parents, spectators, etc.) throughout the season.
8. At any time before or during the season, the Association Presidents can by three-fourths ($\frac{3}{4}$) vote, suspend any individual from participation in any NGYFL, Inc. related activities within the league. (The reason for, and length of suspension [unless otherwise specified by the NGYFL, Inc. Constitution and By-Laws] is at the discretion of the Association Presidents).

9. The President of each Association shall submit a copy of the Associations “Liability Certificate of Insurance” and a copy of the “Heat Policy”, prior to July 31st at 23:59:59 to the League Secretary. This copy shall be dated no earlier than July 31st of the current year and may be faxed to the League Secretary. There shall be a \$50.00 (fifty) fine for starting the season without this copy on file with the League Secretary. NGYFL, Inc. shall be listed as a party to the Associations Insurance Policy.
10. Provides contractual written proof of field availability. Letters of agreement must be on the letterhead of the property rights holder. [Same as what New Members are required to bring.]

ARTICLE V

MEMBERSHIP

A. Qualification for all Association membership:

1. Shall enter one team in six (6) separate age groups in the Competitive Division for the upcoming season, or six (6) separate age groups in the Instructional Division for new programs.
2. Shall not be a member of any other youth football program.
3. All Associations are permitted to field additional teams that are heavier and older than league weights and ages. However, no child shall be permitted to play for said team that is eligible for league teams. Said teams shall not be supervised by or any funds accepted for the league. They will not participate in any league activities.
4. Shall agree to abide by all league rules and regulations.
5. Must agree to register every child and enter all teams and players into the league that meets eligibility requirements as set forth in the league by-laws.
6. Shall not be allowed to form a subsidiary Association or form another Association to avoid putting all players and teams into the NGYFL, INC
7. Shall assign players to Competitive or Instructional Division Teams based on each Individual Association’s internal rules.
8. Shall notify parents in writing as to the Association’s policy on assigning players to Competitive or Instructional Division Teams. This may be as simple as “Coaches, chosen by the Association’s Board of Directors shall determine the makeup of their teams”.
9. All Associations shall have a place to play and practice without infringing on a Member Association field recognized by the NGYFL, INC Membership split from a Member Association shall not be eligible to use Member Association field without prior approval of the league.
10. At the February meeting (or any meeting prior to May), the previous season can be reviewed.
 - a. An Association may be removed from the NGYFL, Inc. or placed on probation by a three-quarters (75%) vote of all voting members.
 - b. A coach’s suspension or dismissal may be overturned by a three-quarters (75%) vote of all voting member. Discussion of this item shall be limited to no longer than 7 minutes.
 - c. Any other review from the previous year shall require a three-quarters (75%) vote of all voting members to change a by-law or Constitution change. Discussion on these items shall be limited to 5 minutes. (Associations placed on probation will lose all voting rights for the upcoming season and will be reviewed at the regularly scheduled February Meeting for the following season.)
11. At the February meeting each Association must declare their participation for the following season. Failure for an Association to declare participation will result in a \$500.00 fine. Failing to declare participation by the March Meeting will result in immediate removal from NGYFL, Inc.
12. After May and until February, an Association may be removed from the NGYFL, Inc. only by a unanimous vote of all the other Association Presidents, except the Association being voted on at a Commission meeting.
13. At the February or March meeting, any Member Association wishing to change their mascot or name must get approval of 2/3 of the Full Commission.

B. Qualification for Team Memberships:

1. Teams must be representative of Member Association.
2. Prior to October 15th at 23:59:59 Eastern Time of each year, each Association shall deposit in the NGYFL treasury \$125.00 (seventy-five dollars) per team. Failure will cause immediate forfeiture of the Associations right to have any teams participate in the playoffs.

C. New Membership:

1. New Associations may be voted in by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Association Presidents at a regularly schedule meeting no later than the third Sunday in March.
2. A fee of \$1000 must be submitted with the application for membership. Should the application be rejected, \$750 will be refunded.
3. Application deadline for new Associations shall be the 2nd Sunday in February.
4. Shall provide the league with a copy of their Constitution and By-Laws.
5. All new members accepted into the NGYFL, Inc. will serve a one-(1) year probation period. At the end of the one-(1) year probation and at the February meeting of the NGYFL, Inc., the new members conduct will be reviewed. If no problem exists with the new member, the Commission may vote the new Association into the league.
6. If the new Member Association has caused problems during the one (1) year probation period, the Commission may at its discretion point out said Association its problems and hold said Association on probation for another one (1) year period; or, the Commission may dismiss the said Association from any further participation in the NGYFL, Inc.
7. Provide contractual written proof of field availability. Letters of agreement must be on letterhead of the property rights holder.

COACHES:

- A. At a Commission meeting prior to August 1, all Association Presidents must present to the Commission a list of their head coaches for each team for the upcoming season. Preferably this list comes from the NGYFL, Inc. database and is printed from the web site.
- B. If any coach is appointed later, or as a replacement, his name must be submitted in writing to the league officers and Association Presidents.
- C. At any time before or during the season, the Association Presidents can by three-fourths (3/4) vote; suspend any individual from having any coaching or coaching related activities within the league. ***(The reason for, and length of suspension [unless otherwise specified by the Constitution and By-Laws] is at the discretion of the Association Presidents.)***
 1. The Coach may not attend practice or games while on suspension. If the coach is the sole guardian of a player, the coach may, for emergency purposes only, remain in their automobile during practice at the practice site and not in view of the practice. During games, may be allowed to be in the teams stands, and may not have contact with the team in any manner until the suspension is over.
- D. NGYFL, Inc. recommends, but does not require, each Association have their coaches complete an accredited coaching skills class.
- E. Failure for the Head Coach or his representative to attend the meeting scheduled for the Last Sunday in July will result in a \$25.00 (twenty-five) fine
- F. No person shall coach with NGYFL, Inc. that is currently under suspension from coaching in any other league.
- G. No person shall coach with NGYFL, Inc. for ten years after that person has been removed from ever coaching in any other league.
- H. NGYFL, Inc. reserves the right to refuse a coach from coaching prior to the first scheduled game with a 3/5 vote of the Executive Commission. This decision may be overridden with a 75% vote of the Full Commission.

- I. All Coaches must have their name, address and at least one working telephone number listed in the NGYFL, Inc. database to be certified.
 - a. During the season, if it is discovered that a coach does not have a current address or working phone number in the NYGFL, Inc. database, the coach shall be suspended for one (1) game.
- J. Assistant coaches with less than three years of NGYFL, Inc coaching experiences and new head coaches in the NGYFL, Inc. will attend a NGYFL-High School Rules Clinic conducted by the League the last Sunday in July which will cover the NGYFL rules for the upcoming season, the NGYFL, Inc. Constitution and By-Laws and NFHS rules. Attendance at the Clinic is in addition to any other mandatory NGYFL, Inc. Coaches Meetings and must be completed before the coach may be certified. Associations must provide supplemental Clinics to coaches who are identified after the July meeting.

ARTICLE VI

MEETINGS

- A. 2nd Sunday in February:
 1. Attended by Commission officers and the Association Presidents for the purpose of :
 - a. Electing new officers
 - b. Presenting proposed Constitutional amendments and furnish a copy for each Association President.
 - c. Presenting changes to the By-Laws
 - d. Financial report.
 - e. Other business as may be required.
 - f. New members conduct will be reviewed. If no problem exists with the new member, the Commission may vote the new Association into the league
 - g. Accept applications for new membership
 - h. Each Association must declare their participation and colors for the following season
- B. 3rd Sunday in March:
 1. Attended by the Association Presidents for the purpose of:
 - a. Voting on previously submitted amendments and/or changes to the Constitution and By-Laws.
 1. A two-thirds (2/3) vote of the voting Association Presidents present constitutes adoption.
 2. Proposals may be adopted in full or in part.
 - b. Other business as may be required
 - c. Voting on new members and reviewing the previous season
 - d. Each Association shall present a copy of Association bylaws and Executive Board Member Contacts to league Secretary. Failure to provide this information shall result in a \$25.00 fine.
- D. Last Sunday in July:
 1. Attended by the full Commission and coaches for the purpose of:
 - a. Review Constitution and By-Laws.
 - b. Review playing rules
 - c. Other business as may be required.
 - d. All Head coaches must attend
 - i. Failure for the Head Coach or his representative (defined as certified coaches at the first certification meeting) to attend the meeting scheduled for the Last Sunday in July will result in a \$25.00 (twenty-five) fine.
- E. 3rd Sunday in August:
 1. Attended by the full Commission and coaches for the purpose of:
 - a. To certify team rosters for Competitive Division.
 - b. Declare total number of teams that will participate during the playing year.
 - c. Furnish teams age groups.

- d. Furnish team name
 - e. Furnish team colors
 - f. Coaches information
 - 1. Name, address, phone number
 - g. List of Board members including contact information
 - h. A fine of \$25.00 (twenty-five) shall be charged to any Head Coach who fails to attend.
- F. 4th Sunday in August:
- a. To certify team rosters for Instructional Division.
 - b. Declare total number of teams that will participate during the playing year.
 - c. Furnish teams age groups.
 - d. Furnish team name
 - e. Furnish team colors
 - f. Coaches information
 - g. Name, address, phone number
 - h. A fine of \$25.00 (twenty-five) shall be charged to any Head Coach who fails to attend.
- G. Super Bowl
- 1. Attended by the full Commission
- H. Any association not attending a meeting will be fined \$100.00. A \$100.00 fine will be assessed for each representative that does not attend the Super Bowl.
- I. Commission Meetings:
- 1. Commission meetings other than those prescribed by the Constitution and By-Laws shall be called by the Chairman.
 - a. If a majority of the Association Presidents desire a meeting, they must make this desire known to the Chairman on their own initiative. The Chairman is then required to schedule a meeting within the next seven- (7) days.
 - 2. Unless otherwise specified in the Constitution and By-Laws or requested by the Association Presidents or Chairman, the Association Presidents or Vice Presidents can attend all Commission meetings only.
- J. Undefined length of suspensions and other general business will be (unless otherwise specified by the Constitution and By-Laws) decided by majority vote of voting members at a duly constituted Commission meeting.
- K. ***Robert's Rules of Order*** (revised) shall govern the conduct of the business and other affairs of the Conference, except where they conflict with the Constitution and By-Laws of the NGYFL, INC

ARTICLE VII

PROBLEMS-COMPLAINTS-GRIEVANCES-PROTEST (P-C-G-P)

- A. All problems, complaints, and grievances relating to league activities shall be processed as set forth below:
- 1. Coaches, players, and parents
 - a. Coaches, players and parents shall first discuss the issue with their Association President.
 - b. Should the Association President not be able to settle the issue, he shall then present all the facts to the Chairman (& other Presidents if he so desires).
 - c. Unless the above steps are followed, this (P-C-G-P) shall be automatically disregarded.
 - 2. Commission Members
 - a. Any Commission member of the NGYFL, Inc. who receives a complaint, in writing within 72 hours of the matter in question, concerning any Association coach or any matter pertaining to misconduct by members of the NGYFL, Inc. shall immediately make this information known to the Chairman. Said Commission member shall not discuss this information with anyone other than the parties involved or a member of the Commission.

3. P-C-G-P has merit
 - a. If the Chairman or a majority of the Association Presidents deem a (P-C-G-P) has merit, a Commission meeting shall be called to determine by majority vote, if indeed, that a (P-C-G-P) has merit. If a determination of merit has been agreed, a second meeting will be scheduled within seven (7) days.
 - b. The Vice Chairman will notify any and all parties, the majority of the Commission or who the Chairman wishes to have in attendance for information and investigate purposes at this second meeting.
 - c. At this second meeting, by majority vote of the Commission or who the Chairman wishes to have in attendance for information and investigate purposes at this second meeting.
 - d. Alternately, a meeting of Association Presidents, with at least three-fourths (3/4) of the Presidents attending, may by two-thirds (2/3) vote of the residents assembled, decide to hear the (P-C-G-P) and determine by two-thirds (2/3) vote what, if any, fines, suspension or other action is deemed appropriate concerning the (P-C-G-P).
4. Once a (P-C-G-P) has been through either of processes three (3) or four (4) above, it can only be reprocessed by request to the Chairman in writing by at least two-thirds (2/3) of the Association Presidents.
5. Protests must be filed, in writing, with the Chairman within seventy-two (72) hours of the occurrence, and in turn, the parties involved in the complaint must be notified in writing within forty-eight (48) hours of the official filing of the complaint with the Chairman.
6. Protest concerning game day weigh-ins must be filed prior to game time with the opposing teams Association President. If the opposing Association's President cannot be found, then with any other Commission member at the field. Failing that, a phone call placed to the protesting coach's Association President who will immediately alert a member of the elected Commission.

ARBITRATION

1. NGYFL, Inc. shall hire an attorney to draw up an arbitration clause

ARTICLE VIII

AMENDMENTS

- A. The Constitution and By-Laws may be amended after the March meeting by a three-fourths (3/4) vote of the Association Presidents at a duly constituted meeting provided the following conditions have been met:
 1. Amendments shall be made in writing to the Chairman.
 2. The amendment shall be submitted in writing to all Association Presidents thirty-(30) days prior to voting.
- B. By-Laws can be changed or amended after the March meeting by a unanimous vote of all Association Presidents. All Presidents (or their representatives) must be present and vote affirmative for any such change to be made.
- C. The rewriting of the Constitution and bylaws to maintain integrity and eliminating duplications shall be allowed. Changes will be emailed to the Full Commission.

ARTICLE IX

FUNDS

- A. The amount in the league fund shall be provided as determined by the voting membership. These funds and any others raised through the operation of the league shall be disbursed only for the operation of the league.
- B. Other amounts necessary to maintain this fund shall be provided by Member Associations equally.
- C. Should any Association cease to be a member of the league, their amount in the league fund shall be forfeited and remain in the league fund.
- D. At the time of the league ceases to exist, any funds shall be returned in equal parts to the Member Associations participating in the previous season.

- E. Each returning Association that has committed to playing for the upcoming season by certifying teams on the Third Sunday of August, shall receive a pro-rated refund based on the number of teams registered for the previous year, from all funds over \$15,000 from the previous fiscal year.
- F. Any expenses that are not part of the normal operations of the league that are less than \$500 shall be approved by a majority vote of the executive board.
- G. At the time specified for determining Membership for the current year, any funds more than fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000) owned by NGYFL, Inc. shall be distributed to the Member Associations based on the Number of teams that were part of the league the previous year.

ARTICLE X

PENALTY FOR CONSTITUTION INFRACTION

Violation of any of the above Constitution regulations shall result in the Member Association responsible for such action being brought before the Association Presidents and if found guilty, may be suspended or fined as determined by the NGYFL, Inc. Commission.

BY-LAWS

PLAYING RULES

- A. All games shall be played under the National Federation of High School Association rules unless contrary to these By-Laws. This rule pertains to playing rules only and does not take away the authority of the Commission to schedule playoff games and championship games as described in the Constitution and By-Laws of the NGYFL, Inc.
- B. Tie-Breaker (no regular season or championship game may end in a tie)
1. A coin flip shall be used to determine initial possession (Team A)
 2. The ball shall be placed on the ten-(10) yard line and (Team A) will be given possession.
 3. (Team A) will have four (4) downs to attempt to score. Extra point attempts will be allowed if (Team A) scores
 4. After (Team A) either scores or uses their 4th down, the ball will once again be placed on the ten (10) yard line and (Team B) will be given the opportunity to score.
 5. If the score remains tied, possession shall be alternating with Team B starting on offense in Overtime periods Two and Four if they are necessary.
 6. If after four (4) attempts and exchanges by both (Team A) and (Team B), the score is still tied, then the ball shall be placed at mid-field and (Team A) will be given possession.
 7. The penetration of (Team A) shall be recorded after each play.
 8. (Team A) shall retain possession until one of the following occurs:
 - a. Scores a touchdown.
 - b. Fails to make a first down.
 - c. (Team B) recovers a fumble or intercepts a pass. (Team B) cannot advance the ball.
 9. (Team A) will be awarded its deepest point of penetration prior to losing possession.
 10. (Team B) is given possession and steps one (1) through five (5) are repeated.
 11. Either team (A or B) may get as many first downs as it can earn.
 12. Extra points will be attempted after a touchdown is scored and regular season point credit shall apply.
 13. Each Team (A and B) shall be allowed one (1) time-out per overtime period. Unused time-outs from regulation, or other overtime periods, may not be carried over to the next overtime period.
 14. The game shall end when:
 - a. (Team B) scores more points than (Team A).
 - b. (Team B) loses possession of the ball without exceeding (Team A)'s penetration or score.
 - c. (Team B) exceeds (Team A)'s penetration.
 2. If the tie is broken by use of penetration, the winning team will be awarded one (1) point.
- C. The following exceptions to National Federation of High School Association rules shall apply:
1. Time-outs - (shall be allowed four (4) per half).
 - a. 5 year olds, 6 year olds, 7 year olds and 8 year olds
 2. Mouth piece infractions:
 - a. One (1) team warning of first infraction.
 - b. Thereafter, a five-(5) yard penalty shall be assessed at the completion of the down. Whistle blown/dead ball foul/assess five (5) yard penalty before down.
 3. Switch ends of the field at half only for the following divisions:
 - a. 5 year olds, 6 year olds, 7 year olds and 8 year olds
 4. Time between plays:
 - a. 5 year olds, 6 year olds shall be allowed forty (40) seconds.
 - b. All other Competitive League and Instructional League teams shall be allowed thirty (30) seconds.

5. Face mask violations, piling on, holding, “clipping” will result in a ten (10) yard penalty for the Pee Wee (5 year olds, 6 year olds) ; assessed from point of infraction, if a touchdown is scored and penalty is a defensive penalty, it shall be assessed on kickoff:
 1. Maximum yardage for all penalties:
 - a. Eighty (80) yard field - Ten (10) yards
 - b. One-Hundred (100) yard field - Fifteen (15) yards
6. Coaches on playing field:
 - a. 5 year olds & 6 year olds shall be allowed two (2) coaches on the field.
 - b. 7 year olds & 8 year olds and all Instructional League teams shall be allowed one (1) coach on the field.
 - c. After the offensive team breaks their huddle, both coaches are to remove themselves to a point five (5) yards behind their deepest players and must refrain from any physical, or visual contact with the players on the sidelines until the play is completed. Verbal communication will be limited to the words “Run it” to start the play. This effects ages 5, 6, 7, and 8 only. (This is to keep coaches in the defensive backfield from positioning players). Penalty for infraction of this rule shall be as follows:
 1. One (1) team warning.
 2. Ten (10) yard penalty and loss of down thereafter for the offense.
 3. Ten (10) yard penalty and automatic first down if infraction is against the defense.

If the infraction occurs by the offense after the ball is snapped and a play is underway, the defense shall have the option to require the play to be run again or take the result of the play before the penalty as described above is administered. If the infraction occurs by the defense after the ball is snapped and a play is underway, the offense shall have the option to require the play to be run again or take the result of the play before the penalty is administered.
 - d. Punting rule for 5 year olds, 6 year olds, 7 year olds and 8 year olds age groups only:
 1. The offensive team may, at their discretion, turn the ball over to the defensive team after informing them of their intentions to exercise one of the following options.
 1. Providing they are inside their own territory (having ½ or more of the field to go to score a touchdown). From the line of scrimmage, the official shall mark off twenty (20) yards towards the defensive teams’ goal. The clock shall remain running.
 2. From anywhere on the field, the offensive team shall inform the official of their intention to punt, all players (offense and defense), except for the center and punter, shall move to the sideline. No runback will be allowed, nor will the defensive team be allowed to down the ball. Once the ball is snapped, the offensive team shall have ten (10) seconds to kick the ball. Any infraction of this rule will result in a ten-(10) yard penalty and a loss of down. The clock shall remain running. Only the punter and center get credit for participation on this play.
7. 5 year old only: At the start of each half, and after each successful score, the team expecting to receive the kickoff shall start their drive on their 35-yard line.

D. There shall be no more than six (6) adult personnel on the sidelines during any game and the field during any game (5 and 6 year olds may have 2 on the field and 4 on the sideline, 7 and 8 year olds and Instructional League may have 1 on the field and 5 on the sideline). The 3 stickmen or Chain Crew required by National Federation rules is not considered part of the 6 (six) adult personnel on the sideline. An individual from a Member Association or League Approved photographer is not considered part of the 6 (six) adult personnel on the sideline. An individual hired for all scheduled games that day by a Member Association or NGYFL, Inc., for security, medical purposes or photography is not considered part of the 6 (six) adult personnel on the sideline.

E. No adult over eighteen (18) years of age shall act as ball boy or water person for any team. No team shall have more than 3 persons acting as water boy and/or ball boy.

- a. In the event that no water boy or ball boy under age 18 is available to bring the players water during timeouts, only one (1) of the 6 allotted coaches may bring water to the players on the field. This applies to ages 8 and under only.

F. Extra Points:

1. One (1) point for running.
2. Two (2) points for passing.
3. Two (2) points for kicking (at parks that employ goal posts meeting high school standards).

4. Any successful try (extra point attempt) that contains a legal completed forward pass, will be counted as 2 points. This includes a legal forward pass that is caught and ruled a catch that is then fumbled and recovered by the offense and advanced into the end zone.
- G. No electronic devices of any kind may be used by any member of the coaching staff (the 6 adults allowed on the sideline) from the scheduled start of a game until the game has been completed, including time-outs and halftime. Penalty for violation of this rule is an Unsportsmanlike Conduct penalty on the Head Coach. (This rule eliminates the NSF rule concerning the use of headphones/telephones between coaches).
 - H. Only players listed on the game day form and personnel listed above may be inside the Crowd Control Barrier.
 - I. All scheduled league games will start at their time or 10 minutes after the previous game ended, whichever is later. No game may start earlier than the scheduled game time, penalty for starting a game early is \$50.00 assessed to both Associations. Referees are encouraged to start the game within two minutes after completion of the coin flip. The Referees are encouraged to not wait on teams to take the field.
 - J. No foreign objects shall be used to disguise, conceal or obstruct the football when in play.
 - K. Any coach who is legally on the field may request a time out before a play is underway. This is an exception to the rule only allowing head coaches to call time outs and to the rule limiting what a coach on the field may say.

ROSTER AND BIRTH RECORDS

- A. All players shall present an acceptable birth record which is a certified copy of birth or certificate of live birth or certification of vital record and/or certified abstract (i.e.; adoption record or passport for international births) or birth certificate (certified by issuing authority) or State of Georgia Issued Identification Card or last years certification record for the same Association The following shall not be acceptable:
 1. Xerox copy of birth certificate
 2. Hospital certificate
 3. Baptismal certificate
 4. Certificate of registration
 5. Notarized copies
 6. School letters
- B. Each Association shall submit for each team an official team roster, computer generated and arranged alphabetically and a single page (referred to as the Certification Form) for each player with the following information on the front of the form:
 - C. Full name, age and date of birth
 - D. Jersey Number
 - E. Photograph of player in assigned jersey with assigned number (**no duplicates**) and in compliance with the guidelines published by the Chairman. (Photocopies not allowed) The picture must be from the waist of the player to the top of the head. The picture must be clear and well lit.
 - F. Home phone number of player
 - G. School attending
 - H. Grade this year
 - I. A new proof of age certificate, **as shown in back of By-Laws** and, a copy of the acceptable birth record permanently attached to the back of the form.
 - J. A certified player who does not make base weight prior to the final certification date may move up one weight class. This move shall override the rules for team size and closed teams.
 - K. The official team roster shall be signed by both the Head Coach and the Association President and shall show the insurance carrier and policy number. The Association President may sign in lieu of the Head Coach.
 - L. For each team a Member Association wishes to enter in competition in the current year, the Certified Head Coach or other Certified Coach of that team shall present the computer generated official roster and Certification Forms referred to in Section B as well as a duplicate set (including original photograph) of Certification Forms to the Commission on the third Sunday in August for Competitive League or the fourth Sunday for Instructional League. No new team can be formed after the third Sunday in August for Competitive League or the fourth Sunday for Instructional League.
 - M. The Chairman or his assigned representative shall check and seal the photograph and birth records of each player against the official team roster and official draft form at the times and dates as so designated by the Chairman.

- N. A line shall be drawn through the space immediately under the last name on the roster to ensure the proper identification of players added after the third Sunday in August.
- O. The original copy of the team roster and a complete set of authenticated (with seal and signature) Certification Forms shall be filed in the office of the Chairman. The head coach is required to present the Certification Forms and the duplicate copy of the official roster to the opposing coach each game. Failure to present same will result in forfeit of the game. A twenty-five dollar (\$25.00) fee will be assessed for each official duplicate copy of the original team roster or Certification Form signed by the Chairman or his representative. A One Hundred Twenty Five dollar (\$125) fee will be charged for a complete set of Certification Forms and team roster. The request for any individual Certification Form or complete set of Certification Forms may be made once a season. The loss of a roster and Certification Form(s) a second time during the season may result in penalties (including, but not limited to: suspension, fines or game forfeiture) for the coach and/or team as determined by the Commission.
- P. To certify new players to the roster, the Association President or his assigned representative shall present to the Chairman or his assigned representative, the birth record, picture and duplicate copy of the roster on which the new player shall play. The information on the player shall be inserted on the original and duplicate. The entry shall be dated and initialed by the Chairman or his representative. This is to be done on Wednesdays preceding the last Saturday in August to the third (3rd) Saturday in September at a time and place designated by the Chairman.
- Q. At certification, the head coach shall submit a signed form stating that he has received, read, understands and will abide by the Constitution and By-Laws of the NGYFL, Inc. and comply with the rulings of the league Commission. If a team does not have a head coach at certification, the Association must, when appointing a head coach, notify the Chairman. The Chairman will then furnish to the appointed coach a copy of the Constitution and By-Laws. The coach must then sign a form stating that he has read, understands and will abide by the Constitution and By-Laws and comply with the rulings of the league Commission before he can assume the head coach responsibilities. This form may be the Coaches Certification Form.
- R. Failure to certify a complete team (minimum of 13 certified players and 1 certified coach) on certification day will result in a \$100 fine. An automatic extension is allowed to the Certified Coach to complete the certification on the Wednesday (3 days later) at 7:00pm. No further extension, without approval of the Commission as defined in these rules, shall be allowed.
- S. Each person registering a player to an NGYFL, Inc. team shall receive a League provided form, or be instructed where to find the form on the NGYFL, Inc. website, that describes the following:
 1. The Minimum Participation Rule
 2. The difference between Competitive League and Instructional League teams
 3. The P-C-G-P policy
 4. The League web site address.

TEAM COMPOSITION

- A. The maximum number of players for all teams shall be thirty-five (35) with a mandatory split at thirty-six (36). A minimum of thirteen (13) players must be certified on a team roster by the third (Div. 1) or fourth (Div. II) Sunday in August for a team to secure a place in the upcoming season. Teams may split when 26 players are on the roster. Team splits example to follow is only for the Instructional League and does not supersede the 1 team in each weight class rule for the Competitive league.

Example of split in both 7 year olds, 8 year olds, 9 year olds and 10 year olds:

When an Association reaches the required split of thirty-six (36) this split must occur as follows.

One team in each age group (i.e. 7 year olds and 8 year olds)

Or two teams in the 7-year-olds.

Or two teams in the 8-year-olds.

Or two teams with 7/8-year-old combination playing as 8 year olds.

- B. Any Association may place players on teams where the age group is older than the players' age group. This may be done because an Association cannot field, for example, a 7u team, but can field a 7 & 8u team. This rule does not supersede minimum of D-I teams per Association.

- C. A member Association may close their registration for an age group at any time after the number of registrants for a specific age group reaches a maximum for two (2) teams. At this time, written notification, as well as a list of player names must be submitted to the League Chairman of closure of that age group. No other Association, or any other age group of the Member Association, is entitled to close registration as a result of a full roster.
- D. There shall be no restrictions on how an individual Association places players on Competitive or Instructional Division teams. There shall be no equalized age restrictions on Competitive or Instructional Division teams.

PARENTAL CONSENT

- A. It shall be the responsibility of each Member Association to secure the written consent of a player’s parents or legal guardian prior to a player participating in the League competition. It shall be assumed that parental consent has been obtained on all players that an Association certifies on the official roster.
- B. Each Member Association shall have an “extent of liability” statement on the registration application form used.
- C. It is the responsibility of the individual member association to inform their parents in writing at registration of the Competitive League/Instructional League concept.
- D. Each Member Association shall encourage a medical physical for all players before the first practice.

AGES AND WEIGHTS

- A. The name, weight, age, and control date for each division of the league are as follows:

<u>Weight</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Control Date</u>
70lbs.	5 & Under	Must turn 5 before 8/1 in the year of participation. May not turn 6 prior to 8/1 of the year participating.
80lbs.	6 & Under	May not turn 7 prior to 8/1 of the year participating.
90lbs.	7 & under	May not turn 8 prior to 8/1 of the year participating.
100lbs.	8 & under	May not turn 9 prior to 8/1 of the year participating.
110lbs.	9 & under	May not turn 10 prior to 8/1 of the year participating.
120lbs.	10 & under	May not turn 11 prior to 8/1 of the year participating.
140lbs.	12 & under	May not turn 13 prior to 8/1 of the year participating.

Example: A player with a birthday of August 1, turning 8 will play with the 7 year olds. The age the player is on July 31 is the group they will play with.

- B. 1. A Competitive Division player must make base weight (by the close of weigh-ins after the 4th week of scheduled games for the current season) on the team he is certified on and in a division of participation he is qualified. A player who has never stepped on the scales for a weigh-in must make base weight no later than the end of games during the fifth week of league-scheduled games. **If a roster is lost, all players on the roster must remake base weight as prescribed in the above.** *NOTE: Above player cannot fail weigh-in on the 4th week of scheduled games for the current season (after not making base weight one of the first two (2) Saturdays) and then move to a heavier weight division. The team a player attempts to make weight with on the fourth Saturday of scheduled games is the ONLY team that player may play for.*
 - 2. Instructional Division players shall be allowed to make base weight during any week of the season.
- C. 1. Five (5) pounds will be added to each age group after the after the 4th week of scheduled games for the current season.
 - 2. After the 3rd week of scheduled games, any player that has made base weight at least once in the Instructional Division may be given the five (5) pound growth weight.
- D. At the time of certification a team must be declared as Competitive League or Instructional League and cannot be changed after the initial certification.

- E. An Association must field 1 Competitive League team in an age group before it can field an Instructional League team in that same age group.
- F. It is the responsibility of the individual member association to inform their parents in writing at registration of the Competitive League/Instructional League concept.
- G. Instructional League team season will begin 1 week after the Competitive League regular season, and will run for 10 games.
- H. Instructional League teams will be grouped by weight similar to Competitive League teams as listed above. All age groups still have the same increase provided in the 4th week of the regularly scheduled Competitive League season, given the guidelines are met.
- I. There will be a minimum of four Instructional League teams required in an age group per division to form an Instructional League schedule. If less than four teams exist than the Commission shall either
- Move the Instructional League teams in that age group to Competitive League play making those teams eligible for the playoffs. Or
 - Move the Instructional League teams up one age group in Instructional League.
- It is each member association's responsibility to inform the parents of this possibility at the time of registration.**
- J. Once a player is certified on a Competitive League or Instructional League team, that player cannot be moved down from Competitive League except for weight as described : *A certified Division I player may move after failing to make weight in one regular season Div 1 game. The player may have the option to move up a weight division to either Div. 1 or Div. II.*
- K. A player can however, be moved up to Competitive League as long as the change is made prior to the final Certification date.
- L. If an association can only field one team per age group that team must compete in Competitive League. No exceptions to this rule.
- M. Instructional League will be allowed at all age groups to have 1 coach on the field at ages 7 and above. 6u teams shall be allowed 2 coaches on the field. The rules of coaches' conduct for a coach on the field as described above shall apply.
- N. Certification will be the 3rd Sunday in August for Competitive League, and the 4th Sunday in August for Instructional League.
- O. The same rules will apply to both Divisions with changes as follows for Instructional League.
1. There is no equalization to the 11/12 year old teams. An Association may have as many 11 or 12 year olds on the team. They can be all 12 year olds if so desired by the Association.
 2. The Minimum play rule for the Instructional League will be 12 plays per player.
- R. Any Association may have as many Competitive League or Instructional League teams as they can field following the set rules of one Competitive team in each age group.
- S. Competitive League schedule will be 9 games in length.
- T. Instructional Divisions schedules shall begin 1 week after the start of the season for Competitive Division, and extend 10 weeks later. Teams will play a minimum of 9 games. Depending on the number of teams in their weight class, some games may be played on Tuesday evenings.
- U. Any and all identification for Instructional League will be identified with the (II) symbol. This means all identification for schedules and any other paperwork would have (II) on it. There will be no change in the Competitive League's identification.
- V. Any player who is certified but unable to make be at any weight-in during the first 4 scheduled weeks of League games, must make base weight during the fifth week of scheduled games or may not play during the current season. (Competitive Division only).
- W. Should the Executive Commission be required to investigate an illegal or improperly documented player the Executive Commission shall suspend the player during the course of the investigation should appropriate Original Documentation not be available. The investigation must be completed in no less than ten business days to allow for receipt of legal documents. Should the Executive Commission determine a player is illegal the player will be immediately suspended for the balance of the season, the Executive Commission will investigate to determine if the Head Coach had direct or indirect knowledge of the violation. If the Executive Commission determines the Head Coach or any member of the Coaching Staff had knowledge the Executive Commission may immediately suspend any Coaches for a period up to and

including 1 calendar year. Suspension recommendations over 1 year will be presented to the Full Commission for review.

- X. Competitive Division (D-I) teams shall be for 6 -12 year old players. Instructional Division (D-II) teams shall be for the 5 – 12 year old players.

GAME DAY WEIGH-IN

- A. Both teams must be ready for pre-game certification beginning no later than one hour prior to scheduled game time. Failure to having all paperwork completed at this time is \$25.00 (twenty-five dollars) fine.
 - a. Weigh-Ins is to be conducted by the Weight Commissioner or the President. Only one (1) coach from each team may be permitted to observe the weigh-in.
- B. Visiting team shall have the option to certify their team first unless they are not ready for pre-game certification in accordance with sub-section “A”.
- C. Players will be permitted to step on the scale for their weigh-in a maximum of three (3) times. Once a player steps on the scale, they may not leave the weigh-in area. It is the responsibility to lock or otherwise secure the scales from all players prior to the official weigh-in. The home Association or Weight Commissioner must be notified prior to game time. If the player is determined by the home Association President or Weight Commissioner to have violated this rule, the player will be ejected from the current game only. During weigh-in (with mechanical scales) the scales must not be adjusted for actual weight for players not making approved weight until all players are given the opportunity to make weight.
- D. Players shall weigh-in with their assigned jersey number. Temporary or permanent number assignments shall be made known to the opposing coach and that park Weight Commissioner. The Temporary Number Change shall be recorded on the NGYFL, Inc. Game Day Form. Temporary number assignments must also be reported to the league Secretary along with scores. Failure for the Host Association President to report Temporary Number changes is a \$50.00 (fifty dollar) fine.
- E. If a jersey number change is made permanent, the head coach must notify the Chairman, in writing, within (5) days.
- F. Number changes must be made permanent within 2 weeks. A written request for number changes must be made to the Chairman or Vice-Chairman (email is acceptable). The Head Coach must bring the original roster, players’ certification form and 2 new pictures with the revised jersey number to an assigned Commission Member to complete the change. Failure to complete a permanent jersey change within 2 weeks will result in a \$25.00 per week fine following the 2-week allowance. Any player wearing the same temporary number two weeks in a row, without a request for number change being made will have automatically started the 2-week allowance period at the conclusion of the 2nd game.
- G. All pre-game weigh-ins shall be terminated prior to fifteen (15) minutes of scheduled game time (no exceptions). The scale shall be secured at this time.
- H. Players who step on the scales and are overweight must pull off pieces of the uniform until said player is at or under the official weight. (Allowing the uniform to weigh a given amount is prohibited) When the scale is set at the prescribed weight, a player is not considered overweight unless the bar rests continuously on the top of the scale. If the scale is digital, a player is not considered overweight until the scale reads more than the prescribed weight. (Eighty and one-tenth pound on a digital scale is overweight for 80#) *NOTE: At weigh-in, prior to the third Saturday, if a player fails to make weigh-in due to being overweight, absent, or any other reason, the players name, number, team, and weight division plus actual weight, if known, is to be recorded on the Official NGYFL, Inc. Game Day Form in the Section titled WEIGHT. This is done by the weighing Weight Commissioner/President and the correct weight shall be determined until all the players are given the opportunity to make weight.*
- I. No body fluids or solids may be expelled in the weight room.
- J. No Head Coach or Assistant Coach may meet with their team, or any part of their team, for the purpose of practice, reviewing game information, reviewing plays or game assignments prior to two hours before a scheduled game.
- K. Any player who has not made weight after the third scheduled Saturday game day and does not have a game scheduled for the week of the fourth scheduled Saturday, may go to a neutral site where games are being played to attempt to make weight. A player who has a Tuesday night game during the week of the fourth scheduled Saturday and again fails to make weight on that Tuesday, may **NOT** attempt a weigh-in on the following Saturday. One official weigh-in per week will be allowed.
- L. Having failed to make weight for league scheduled games, a certified player who does not make base weight prior to the final certification date may move up one weight class. This move shall override the rules for team size and closed teams.

- M. A Section of the Game Day Form shall contain the Name of the player to be disciplined, the reason for discipline and a signature of the parent. The Head Coach and the Association President must sign the form. Each Head Coach shall present to the Weight Commissioner controlling the Game Day Weigh-In the NGYFL, Inc. Game Day Form for the day's game 1 hour prior to the scheduled start of the game. All signatures must appear on the form at this time for the form to be legal for this game. At the end of weigh in, the opposing coach and weight commissioner will sign the Game Day Form. The copy is to be kept by the opposing coach. The Association President may sign in place of a parent.
- N. A maximum of 10% (.5 - .9 of a player is rounded up) of a teams certified players may be on discipline for any game.
- O. Any NGYFL, Inc. Commission member is permitted to observe all weigh-ins. The NGYFL, Inc. Commission member may take control of the weigh-in at any time.
- P. Each coach must have their portion of the Game Day Form completed prior to the start of weigh-ins. Failure to have your form completed will result in a \$25.00 (twenty-five) fine.
- Q. Coaches will not have to fill out a game day form, unless there is a player who is absent, overweight, has a jersey change or is on discipline.
- R. Any player not eligible to play in their game shall be required to wear their game day shirt inside-out. Failure to wear the shirt inside-out while on the sideline shall result in an unsportsmanlike conduct penalty on the head coach.
- S. Prior to and during weigh-in, teams shall not be in close proximity to each other.
- T. Coaches are required to have their NGYFL, Inc Badges to be on the sideline. In the event of a lost badge, the Approved Coaching Application in the Head Coaches book will be sufficient for 1 week. The lost badge must be immediately reported to the League Secretary or Information Director. Any coach who is found to not have a badge two games in a row shall be removed from the sidelines for the current and next game.
- U. Following Week 4 weight-in, each team must copy their roster form and present it in a readable format to their Association President. The Association President must keep the copied roster on file until February of the following year.

LENGTH OF QUARTERS

- A. Length of quarters shall be ten (10) minutes, except for the 5 year olds where it shall be 8 minutes.
- B. A mandatory running clock shall be implemented any time after the first half when there is a thirty-(30) point difference. The clock shall be stopped on touchdown, charged time-outs and official's time-out. The running clock shall continue regardless of the score.
- C. Halftime shall be 10 minutes. Association needing more time for a special presentation must notify the visiting Coach, visiting Association President and the Chairman at least 72 hours prior to the game that halftime shall be extended to no more than 20 minutes.

PLAYING FIELD

- A. A regulation size high school field shall be official for the 7, 8, 9, 10, and 11 & 12 age groups. In cases where an Association cannot provide one hundred (100) yard field, an eighty (80) X forty (40) field may be employed. All teams, up to age 8 (eight) can be scheduled to play regular season games on an 80 yard field. No playoff game, resulting in the winner going to the Superbowl may be played on an 80x40 field for the 7, 8, 9, 10, and 11 & 12 age groups . The Commissioner shall designate a playoff site in the event the home team is unable to host a playoff game.
- B. The 5 & 6 age groups shall employee an eighty (80) X forty (40) yard field. When games are played on regulation size football field, eighty (80) yards shall be the maximum; however the full width of the field shall be employed.
- C. Goalposts are optional, but when used, they shall concur to high school standards.
- D. In the event a playing field does not meet these requirements, the game may still be played if both teams are aware of the field limits.
- E. The goal line and end zone shall be distinguishable from the rest of the playing field with rubber or plastic pylons.

- F. Rules for an eighty-(80) X forty (40) yard field.
 - 1. The field shall be eighty (80) yards long and not less than forty (40) yards wide.
 - 2. The game shall start with the kick-off from the thirty-(30) yard line. Should the ball go into the end zone on the kick, the ball is dead and play will resume on the offensive team's twenty (20) yard line.
 - 3. No penalties shall exceed ten (10) yards.
 - 4. Each end zone shall be ten (10) yards deep.
- G. Each Association shall have a physical barrier at least ten (10) feet parallel to each sideline and end line to enforce crowd control. In the event a 10-foot barrier is physically impossible, the Member Association will create a barrier as close to 10-feet as physically possible.
- H. The League Chairman or his designate shall visit each Association member field(s) the Association plans to use for Home Games at least 1 week prior to the Associations first home game. The field will be inspected for working scoreboard timer, field size, crowd control barrier and other issues to ensure compliance with NGYFL, Inc. and Federation rules. Failure to have a field visit prior to the Associations first home game will result in a \$250 (two hundred fifty dollar) fine and the game(s) scheduled for the unapproved field will be taken away or forfeited.
- I. Any Association failing to comply with the rules for a playing field during the season may have their home games suspended for the rest of the season or until the violation is fixed.

UNIFORM AND EQUIPMENT

- A. Each player shall have a full uniform including the following:
 - 1. Helmet (with warning sticker displayed in conjunction with Federation Rules)
 - 2. Pants
 - 3. Numbered team jersey
 - 4. Shoulder pads
 - 5. Thigh pads
 - 6. Rubber molded cleat shoes (cleats may be detachable. However, no metal parts may be used to fasten cleats on the shoe unless the metal portion is on the detachable cleat. Metal tipped plastic or any exposed metal portion of the cleat will not be allowed.)
 - 7. Mouth pieces must be affixed to a face mask with a strap that is a color other than clear or white.
 - 8. Hip pads
 - 9. If a name is to appear on the jersey then it shall be the players First Name on Birth Certificate or Last name (of either parent) on Birth Certificate. No Nicknames or full names shall be allowed.
 - 10. It is the responsibility of each Association to maintain and replace equipment in accordance with their manufacturers' requirements.
 - 11. Plastic snaps (female) shall be used to attach the chinstrap to the Helmet.
- B. It is recommended that Associations adopt one (1) color jersey for all their teams while all new Associations shall be assigned a color. Following is a list of Member Associations and their colors:

ACWORTH	Orange, Blue & White
BLACKWELL	Silver, Red & Black
DOUGLASVILLE	Navy, White
DUE WEST	White, Green
EAST COBB	White, Purple
EAST PAULDING	Black, Silver & White
FAIR OAKS	White, Maroon
HILLGROVE	White
HIRAM	Purple, Silver & White
KENNESAW	Black, Green & Silver
MARIETTA	Navy, Silver & White
McEACHERN	Blue, Gold & White

MILFORD	Purple, Gold & White
NEW HOPE	Maroon, Gold & White
SMYRNA	White, Royal Blue & Black
SOUTH CHEROKEE	Maroon, Gold & White
SOUTH PAULDING	Red
SOUTHWEST	Red, White & Black
WALLACE PARK	Cardinal, Gold, Black & White

****BOLDED** colors represent the jersey color usually worn by each Association**

- C. All league members must register team jersey colors with the NGYFL, Inc. at the February meeting. The Full Commission shall approve all color changes. These colors are to be printed into the By-Laws of the NGYFL, Inc.

OFFICIAL BALLS

- A. The Baden F-50 mini-star, Tachikara SF2R or any ball marked “Pee-Wee” football shall be used in the 5 year olds, 6 year olds.
- B. Junior, K-2, or Rawlings R-5-PW leather footballs or official junior size rubber or composite football shall be used in the 7 year old and 8 year olds.
- C. Official junior, junior or intermediate size ball shall be utilized by all other age groups (leather, rubber or composite).
- D. Teams shall have the option of playing with the home’s team ball or their own.
- E. Where applicable, the ball must state “Pee Wee”, “Official Junior”, “Official Intermediate”, “Junior”, or “Intermediate” on the surface.
- F. The Head Official for any game will ensure that the ball used by either team is the one that is listed in Sections A thru E.

PLAYER ELIGIBILITY AND CONDUCT

- A. Any participant who is on any other team shall be ineligible to play in the NGYF league. Penalty: Players found guilty of this rule shall cause their team to forfeit all games in which they participate.
- B. Players who drop out of any conference other than the NGYFL, Inc. prior to the Wednesday preceding the 4th week of scheduled games for the current season will be eligible to play with any NGYFL, Inc. team.
- C. New Players:
1. No player shall be certified to a roster after the Wednesday preceding the 4th week of scheduled games for the current season.
 2. Players not making a team base weight at least once by the close of weigh-ins the after the 4th week of scheduled games for the current season will be ineligible to play within the league. (Associations must make player and guardian aware of these rules so as to allow option of moving player to a heavier weight division prior to losing eligibility. Move must be made prior to failing fourth game weigh-in. (SEE “AGES and WEIGHTS” section C; Note). Players who have never stepped on a scale for an official weigh-in must weigh in at the base weight prior to completion of the 5th week of league scheduled games.
- D. An NGYFL, Inc. Association member shall use only eligible players (that is, players who, where approved by the Commission, were certified by the Wednesday before the after the 4th week of scheduled games for the current season, who weigh-in successfully in accordance with these By-Laws and are listed on the Head Coaches roster form), for any team found to have used an ineligible player shall automatically forfeit all games in which such ineligible player participated. Second and subsequent offenses shall be dealt with under the penalty for By-Law infractions set forth in these By-Laws.
- E. Player transfers:
1. A player registered in a league Member Association shall not be permitted to move to another Member Association after the first scheduled conference game each season unless their official residence has changed.

2. Once a team has been drafted and a player placed on a roster, said player is eligible to play only on one team and in one Association during the season, except with the consent of the Commission, provided said player has a written release from the appropriate head coach and Association President. In the event the head coach refuses a player, the Association President or the Commission may override the head coach's decision and release said player.
 3. If player has returned all property belonging to releasing Association, the release of said player must be given to the Association President to who the said player wishes to be released to. The President of the Association receiving the release will place said player on a team in accordance with the NGYFL, Inc. Constitution & By-Laws.
 4. After the annual certification of teams has taken place, Member Associations may close registration for any team, even though such team may not have a full roster players (thirty-five [35]) registered. Member Associations may not close registration for any weight division prior to the annual certification of teams, unless such weight division has achieved a full roster (thirty-five [35]) of registered players. Member Associations must advise the Chairman in writing of any action to close registration within forty-eight (48) hours of such decision. Once registration has been closed, it may not be re-opened without a two-thirds (2/3) majority of the Commission approving such action.
- F. Any player, coach, Association President or Association found to have misrepresented or attempted to misrepresent, any records and is found guilty of such misconduct before the Commission shall be suspended from the league for no less than one (1) year and may be fined by the Commission.
- G. Unsportsmanlike Conduct: Any player who displays unsportsmanlike conduct may be put out of the game **and will not be allowed to play in his next scheduled game during the current NGYFL, Inc. Season ending with the Superbowl.**
1. It will be the duty of the head coach to report to the Association President within forty-eight (48) hours of any player and/or coach thrown out of the game. It will then be the duty of the Association President to notify the Chairman of the player and/or coach put out of the game. The President of the Association must furnish to the Chairman the name of the coach or the player and his jersey number.
 2. If the same player and/or coach are removed from a second game because of misconduct, he shall be dismissed from any further participation in the NGYFL, Inc. and will be suspended from having any other association with the team.
- H. Under no circumstance will a player not certified on a roster be allowed to play in a scheduled league game.
- I. Any player heard using profanity at an NGYFL, Inc sanctioned event by a NGYFL, Inc Commission Member or an Official will be immediately ejected from the game and must be removed from the park. In the event a parent or guardian is not available to remove the player from the park an Association Board Member will be assigned to remain with the player away from the field of play until a parent or guardian removes the player from the park.
- J. Any player suspended by the league shall be allowed to participate with the team during practice sessions. On game day the player must stay behind the crowd control barrier at all times.

MINIMUM PARTICIPATION

- A. Each football player on a roster who has not missed any practice during the prior week and is not injured or under discipline by the head coach or Association President shall play a minimum of eight (8) plays for a Competitive League game or twelve (12) plays for an Instructional League game. Each Association shall inform their membership of this provision, in writing, upon registration of players. **Each coach must also report at weigh-in, prior to said game, any player that will not meet minimum play requirements due to the above mentioned circumstances.**
- B. The Commission may investigate violations of this provision at any time based on personal knowledge of a violation or from a complaint filed with the Chairman within seventy-two (72) hours. The Commission may at anytime assign persons to individual games to ensure that the Minimum Participation rules are met for any given league scheduled game. Individuals assigned to games shall make their presence and purpose known to the Home Association President and Head Coach of the team assigned to count. The Individual is not responsible for informing a Head Coach of their counts during a game. Head Coaches or other assistant may ask the individual for updates during the game.
- C. If an Association is found guilty of violating this rule, said Association shall forfeit the game and said Association shall be fined One-hundred (\$100) dollars. The coach shall be suspended for no less than one (1) game nor any more than three (3) games.

- D. For Competitive League and Instructional League:
Any play from scrimmage, including kickoffs, extra points and punts will be considered a play in the 9 year old, 10 year old or 11 & 12 year old age groups. Any play from scrimmage, including kickoffs and extra points will be considered a play in the 5 year olds, 6 year olds, 7 year olds, 8 year old age groups. In the 5 year olds, 6 year olds, 7 year olds, 8 year old age groups only the center and punter will receive credit for plays on punts. Any play blown dead by the referee for a DEAD BALL FOUL (i.e. delay of game) will not be considered a play.
- E. NGYFL, Inc. will furnish each Association with "Minimum Participation rules" signs to be displayed at the host association's playing field. The fine for not prominently displaying the sign shall be \$100 per week. Each Association is responsible for replacing lost or damaged signs.
- F. Each Head Coach shall have at weigh-in the NGYFL, Inc. Game Day Form for the day's game. Coaches must have their portion of the Game Day Form completed prior to the start of weigh-ins. Failure to have your form completed will result in a \$25.00 (twenty-five) fine. A section of this form will contain the Name of the player to be disciplined, the reason for discipline and a signature of the parent. The Head Coach and the Association President must sign the form. At the end of weigh in, the opposing coach and weight commissioner will sign the form and a copy will be kept.
- G. Any member of the Commission may, at their own discretion, show up for individual games to ensure that the Minimum Participation rules are met for any league-scheduled game.
- H. During the NGYFL, Inc. sponsored Superbowl, personnel shall be assigned to each sideline to ensure that the Minimum Participation rules are met for the game. These individuals are exempt from any and all sideline criteria found within the Constitution and By-Laws.
- I. Each Head Coach shall be required to retain their completed 8-play sheet with their Game Day Form for each game. Failure to retain their sheet or failure to provide a copy during a game shall result in a \$25.00 (twenty-five dollar) fine.
- J. 65 lbs. (sixty-five pounds) shall have a minimum of 8 plays per game.

INJURED PLAYERS

- A. When a player is injured and an official time out is required to check the injury, said player shall be removed from the game for at least one play.
- B. Any player who is knocked unconscious or when, in the judgment of the referee, a player's health or safety is in jeopardy, said player shall be taken out of the game and shall not be allowed to return to practice without a doctor's approval. Under no circumstances will the player who was knocked unconscious, or removed from the field by medical personnel, be allowed to participate in any practice or game until the Chairman has received the doctor's approval of the players condition stating that said player is fully recovered and that he can participate in the football program.
- C. Any Coach or Association violating this rule shall be fined \$100.00 per offense and will also resort in a forfeit of any games the player has participated. If the violation is considered flagrant the penalty may include suspension up to a lifetime ban.

CONDUCT OF SPECTATORS - INCLUDING PARENTS

- A. All persons other than players, coaches, or (adults as provided in playing rule D) shall remain behind the crowd-restraining barrier.
- B. Should spectators, including parents, and persons using a public address system to the game, display conduct unbecoming or detrimental to the NGYFL, Inc., the head official shall have the responsibility of giving the head coach a first warning that, should this conduct continue, the team whose spectator's conduct is in question will be penalized by forfeiture of the game. An official time-out shall be called for the affected coach to discuss this ruling with his team's spectator(s). Should such spectator(s) not be associated with the team in question, the affected head coach should notify the head official. The head official shall request from the home and/or host Association officials to have such spectator(s) removed from the premises, by the local police authorities if necessary. Additional warning by the official of spectator(s) misconduct may result in forfeiture of the game. All such conduct must be reported by the home Association President to the Chairman, within forty-eight (48) hours.
- C. Any Parent heard using profanity at an NGYFL, Inc sanctioned event by a NGYFL, Inc Commission Member or an Official will be immediately ejected from the game and must be removed from the park. NGYFL, Inc reserves the right to consider further disciplinary action up to and including permanent removal from NGYFL, Inc.

COACHES CONDUCT

- A. Should coaches display conduct unbecoming or detrimental to the NGYFL, Inc., the head official shall first warn the head coach that should this conduct continue, the game will be forfeited. Should the coach's conduct continue to be unbecoming or detrimental to the NGYFL, Inc., the head official shall forfeit the game.
- B. Any coach who is removed from a game shall immediately leave the sight of the playing field, and shall be suspended from the next regular season game. Said coach will not be allowed to participate in any practices during his suspension. If the same coach is removed a second time because of misconduct at a game said coach shall be suspended from further participation in the NGYFL, INC
- C. Any coach who is involved in a physical confrontation with any other person at a game will be suspended for one (1) calendar year.
- D. A head coach has the right to question an official's interpretation of the rules, provided he/she does it immediately and before the next official play. The coach can call time-out to question said officials. If the coach is correct in that the official has misinterpreted the rule, the time-out shall be charged as an official's time-out. When the questioned interpretation is brought to the attention of the official, it is mandatory that he/she confer with the other officials. If they conclude that the decision was correct, the game continues. The decision made at the time is final and cannot later be contested.
- E. Any Coach who is removed from a game that is the coach's last game of the season (Regular Season, Play Off, Superbowl) may not participate with any NGYFL, Inc. team until the completion of the first Saturday of League Scheduled games for the upcoming season.
- F. Prior to and during weigh-in, teams shall not be in close proximity to each other
- G. No coach, player or parent shall act in an unsportsmanlike manner (including, but not limited to taunting, intimidation and threats), at any time while at any location hosting an NGYFL, Inc. game.
- H. Any Coach heard using profanity at an NGYFL, Inc sanctioned event by a NGYFL, Inc Commission Member or an Official will be immediately ejected from the game and must be removed from the park. NGYFL, Inc reserves the right to consider further disciplinary action up to and including permanent removal from NGYFL, Inc.
- I. After a show of good sportsmanship by shaking hands at the completion of a game, each team shall leave the field of play immediately and move to a point behind the 10 foot physical barrier and not in close proximity to any other team. The penalty for failure to move to a point behind the physical barrier or at least 10 feet from the playing field shall be fifty-dollars (\$50) assessed against the offending teams head coach.
- J. At the discretion of NGYFL, Inc. any Coach may be removed or suspended at anytime for any behavior that does not meet the ethical standards of fair play including Article II of the Constitution and By-Laws.

OFFICIALS

- A. No game shall start or end without at least three (3) officials. Four (4) officials will be used for all Competitive League games when possible. Two (2) officials may be used for Instructional League games, Associations may request more.
- B. Chain crews are part of the officials and shall conduct themselves accordingly.
- C. Officials must inform the NGYFL, Inc. Chairman when anyone is removed from a game.
- D. Paid officials will be used on the clock for Competitive League games, Associations may request a paid clock operator for Instructional League games.
- E. The Competitive League clock operator must be an official, Associations may request an official clock operator for Instructional League games.
- F. All ejections by an Official may not be protested/changed by NGYFL, Inc. All ejections are final.

Practices

- A. The first day of organized practice shall be the first Monday of the week of August 1st. Each individual may only wear the helmet for the first three (3) days of scheduled practice.
- B. No team shall start body-to-body contact until the fourth day of scheduled practice. Prior to the Third Sunday in August, teams shall be allowed to attend a maximum of only five (5) practice days per week with a limit of two (2) hours per day.

Practice games are considered practice sessions and are included in the above. Film sessions, not held at the park, are considered practice sessions.

- C. After the third Sunday in August, a team shall be allowed to attend only three (3) practices per week. All non-league scheduled games or bowl games played Monday through Friday shall be considered a practice, and may not last more than 2 hours. A Saturday Jamboree or Saturday Practice Game does not count against a weekday practice prior to the start of the teams season (first week bye counts as the start of the season).
- D. Curfew for practice sessions shall be 9:00pm on a night preceding a school day. All other nights shall be 10:00pm.
- E. All teams must practice within the confines of their home park. The only exception would be pre-approved by either the Chairman or the Vice Chairman with the exception of a scrimmage against another Association. Exceptions will only be granted in emergency situations
- F. Scouting a team during its normal practice time by a coach or anyone from a conference Member Association shall not be allowed.
- G. At the time of registration a person becomes an NGYFL, Inc. participant. No NGYFL, Inc. participant may practice with any person who is or becomes an NGYFL, Inc. Approved Coach prior to the first day of organized practice. Advertised Camps open to any participants are excluded.
- H. Violation of any of the above rules will result in a fine of \$100.00 per incident. In addition, disciplinary action may be taken against the Head coach.
- I. From the time school ends until the scheduled start of practice for the current season, no player certified by NGYFL, Inc. for a previous season, or player going to be certified for an upcoming season, may participate in any practice or gathering with any football equipment (such as, but not limited to: shoulder pads, hip pad, thigh pad, knee pad, tail pad) while being coached or watched by any current or future NGYFL, Inc. certified coach. No Association may sponsor a camp or clinic where equipment will be worn. The ONLY exception is a camp or clinic sponsored, advertised and run by a High School Varsity Head Coach or by a City or County recreation department.
- J. Coaches and players, whose seasons have ended prior to the NGYFL, Inc. Superbowl, may continue to hold practice sessions. These players and coaches may join other teams whose seasons have ended for practice sessions. Once a team has completed their season and are not eligible for anymore sanctioned NGYFL, Inc. games, the players and coaches are no longer under NGYFL, Inc. jurisdiction unless they are at NGYFL, Inc. sponsored events.

HOME ASSOCIATION – HOST ASSOCIATION

- A. The home Association shall act as host of all games and shall be responsible for the following:
 - 1. Preparing and marking the field.
 - 2. Providing field marking and other officiating equipment (line markers must be soft pliable plastic).
 - 3. Providing balance type scales in a secured and enclosed area.
 - 4. Each Association shall have a sticker affixed to their scale showing the date their scale was certified prior to their first home game. The sticker must include company contact information and be signed or initialed by the certifying company's representative.
 - 5. Providing other necessary arrangements for the convenience of the game, including restroom facilities.
 - 6. The President of the host association shall determine whether a game shall be postponed due to weather conditions. The host association president shall contact both head coaches, the Chairman (or his representative) and officials, if possible, two (2) hours prior to the game time should the game be postponed due to weather conditions.
 - 7. The host association must provide a stopwatch.
 - 8. The President of the host Association for each Saturday game must report by 7:00 pm each Sunday, and for each Tuesday game report by 7:00 pm each Wednesday the scores, ejection's, temporary number changes and Injuries (as defined in INJURED PLAYERS Section B) for all home games to the League Secretary. (Failure to report as above will result in a fifty (\$50) dollar fine)
 - 9. Collect any gate donations.
 - 10. Unless other arrangements are made, paying the referees.
- B. The home team has the choice of jersey color, provided the home team contacts the visiting team one (1) week prior to the game. After this time the visitor has the choice.

1. The head referee may require the home team to wear mesh practice vests if they determine that the two teams are wearing the same jersey color and the home team failed to contact the visitors at least one week prior to the game.
- C. Chain crews:
1. Wear bright vests to distinguish them from other personnel on the sidelines.
 2. Chains will be kept on the home team sidelines.
- D. Each Home Team where the Host Association has an available Public Address system shall make the following announcement prior to the start of each game: "Today's NGYFL, Inc. football game is for the entertainment and enjoyment of all spectators and athletic participants. Spectators and players will be expected to observe rules of good sportsmanship and common courtesy. Verbal taunting, inappropriate gestures and use of profanity will not be tolerated. Thank you for your cooperation, and we hope you enjoy the game." The Penalty for failure to make the announcement shall be fifty-dollars (\$50) per game.
- E. A Member Association must notify NGYFL, Inc. within 24 hours of any Coach, Player, Parent or Spectator removed from their Park.
- F. If the Host Association desires, it may charge a two-dollar (\$2) per adult admission at regular season games, and a three-dollar (\$3) admission for playoff games.
- G. Any Association that takes any action against a parent, player, coach or spectator that results in legally barring the parent, player, coach or spectator from a particular Association, will have the effect of barring the parent, player, coach or spectator from all Associations and any venue the League is using for an NGYFL, Inc. function. The parent, player, coach or spectator may appeal the barring through methods prescribed by the Federal, State, County, City or Municipality the Association used in the barring of the parent, player, coach or spectator.
- H. All Music or mix cds must be approved by the Host Association President or the representative prior to being played over the public address system

LEAGUE SCHEDULE

- A. The first regular season game for Competitive League teams shall be the last Saturday in August.
- B. Should games be scheduled on nights prior to school days, they shall begin no later than 7:30pm.
- C. There will be no games played after the last Saturday in November.
- D. Any age group having more than seven (7) teams will be broken into two (2) conferences.
 1. Associations will be put in north/south/east/west by their geographic location of their playing fields
- E. There will be three (3) Saturday playoff games before the Super Bowl.
- F. All age groups with twelve (12) teams or more will have two (2) Conferences and two (2) Regions. FOR EXAMPLE:

NORTH		SOUTH	
East	West	East	West
1.	1.	1.	1.
2.	2.	2.	2.
3.	3.	3.	3.
4.	4.	4.	4.

- G. At Certification, all Association Presidents must present to the Commission a list of their head coaches, home address and contact information for each team for the upcoming season. Preferably this list comes from the NGYFL, Inc. database and is printed from the web site.
- H. If there are not enough teams in a division for a full schedule without playing the same team twice, cross conference scheduling will fill out the rest of the schedule. All regular games will count toward the final standings.

- I. Each Competitive Division team shall play all the teams in the conference, at least once during the season. If there are not enough games to make a complete schedule from the conference a crossover game may occur. Crossover games shall be scheduled each year so that Associations should see all the teams on the other conference before playing the same team again. In addition, Associations whose teams had a majority of Competitive Division team's home for 5 games shall not have a majority of them home next year. The Schedule committee shall do its best to rotate the 5 home games each year between different Associations.
- J. If for any reason it is deemed appropriate by the Commission, any game played or scheduled can be canceled or considered as a "bye".
 - 1. The above will require a three-fourths (3/4) vote of the Commission.
 - 2. Canceled games will either be rescheduled or considered as a "bye" as determined by the Commission.
- K. The NGYFL, Inc. will make every effort to ensure that teams from the same weight division of a single Association will not play each other during the regular season. This effort includes an additional crossover game to the other division as long as playoff standings are based on a total overall record.
- L. The NYGFL, Inc. will schedule all teams in the league at least four home games at their home facility and ensure that each association has at least one (1) Saturday with all teams at home to accommodate homecoming. In the event that an association has more teams than can be played at home on one day, the league will schedule all teams at home over two consecutive weekends to accommodate homecoming.
- M. After the Chairman releases the schedule, no changes shall be made to the starting time of any scheduled league game without approval of:
 - 1. The Home and Host Association President
 - 2. The Home Team Head Coach
 - 3. The Visiting Association President
 - 4. The Visiting team Head Coach
 - 5. The Head of the Referees
 - 6. The Chairman with advice from the Head of the Schedule Committee.

Any of the persons listed in A-F may, without fear of retribution, not agree with the schedule change. Requests must come from an Association President, and the contacting of the people on the list A-F must come from the Association wishing to make the change. No request for change shall be completed after 8:00 PM Tuesday the week of the game.
- N. After the Chairman releases the schedule and the head of the Scheduling Committee notices obvious errors in the schedule, or errors are brought to the attention of either the Chairman or the Scheduling Committee, these error may be fixed and:
 - 1. If the change is 14 days or more prior to the game, an email will be sent to the affected Association Presidents and Coaches. Any written appeal of the change must be made to the Chairman within 72 hours of the email.
 - 2. If the change is less than 14 days from the game, email and a phone call shall be made to the Association President and the Head Coaches.

Failure to have an accurate email or phone number within the NGYFL, Inc. system may not be used to appeal the change.

PLAYOFFS

- A. Tie-Breakers to determine seedings in the playoffs are as follows:
 - 1. Best Winning Percentage, regardless of "BYES", counting all regular season games
 - 2. Head-to-Head results
 - 3. Conference winning percentage
 - 4. Coin toss

Tie-Breakers to determine whether a team participates in the Competitive League playoffs or in the Instructional League Championship will be determined consistent with Georgia High School rules with a mini-game play-off on the first Tuesday evening after the regular season.
- B. During the playoffs, the team with the best win-loss record will have home field advantage. If there are less than eight (8) teams in a division/conference, the highest placed team or teams get a "bye" in the 1st round.
- C. If the Host Association desires, it may charge a three (\$3) dollar "donation" gate for playoff games.

- D. An Association that is unable, by rule, to host the Conference Championship game shall have their choice of approved fields to host the game.

Conference Championship Game

By the third Wednesday in September the Associations Presidents, by majority vote, shall approve a single location for the Competitive League Conference Championship Games. The location shall be able to provide two fields in close proximity to each other so that spectators may easily see both games. The host Association shall be responsible for providing a refreshment stand, including two free meals (lunch and dinner) as defined in the bid presentation to each member of the Commission. Food for the referees will be at the option of the Host Association.

NGYFL, Inc. will collect a gate of \$3 per adult and \$1 per child for the event. NGYFL, Inc. will pay for the referees; the chain gang will be the responsibility of the Home Team. The Home team at each game may provide their own announcer and music if a Public Address system is available.

The Host Association will be responsible for the fields and providing a proper weight room. The Home Association for each game shall provide a Weight Commissioner; the Executive Commission may oversee weight-ins.

Any money that is left after paying the officials, NGYFL, Inc.'s only expense for the day, shall be returned to the Associations on the following basis:

50% of the money shall be split evenly with each team's association getting an equal share (with 7 age groups that would be 1.78% per team).

The remaining 50% shall be divided amongst the remaining Associations not on probation at the time of the game.

LEAGUE AWARDS

The NGYFL, Inc. shall provide to players and cheerleaders, individual trophies for the champion and runner-up in each division.

There will be a seven (\$7) dollar charge for adults, one (\$1) dollar charge for children under twelve (12) and free to children under six (6) years old for the Super Bowl.

POST-SEASON BOWL GAMES

The NGYFL, Inc. shall not be held liable for any participation of any Association in post Super Bowl games. No team is authorized to represent the league.

FEEES

- A. The booking fee (cost of booking the officials) must be paid within thirty (30) days of notification each year, or by the Superbowl. If all booking fees are not paid by the end of the Superbowl Meeting, the League will pay the booking fee and will assess the Association a \$500 fine, plus booking fees. Repayment of the fees and fine to the League must be completed prior to the start of the February meeting, and the Association will be on probation for the upcoming season. Failure of repayment is automatic removal from the League.

- B. An Association having a team forfeit a game must pay a forfeiture fee by the following Thursday night and may be given to the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary, or Treasurer. The Chairman and treasurer will assure that the Association having to pay the officials will be reimbursed. The forfeiture fee shall be computed as follows: Fee for the 4 on-field referees plus Fee for the Clock Operator plus Booking Fees for the 5 crew members plus a fine of \$25.00.
- C. If for a legitimate reason (determined by the Commission) a team cannot make a game, the Association President shall notify the Chairman seventy-two (72) hours before the game time. Failure to do so will cost the forfeiting team a forfeit fee, as mentioned in item B above.
- D. No Member Association will be allowed to certify teams in the upcoming season if any forfeit, booking, or any other league fees or moneys are past due. Such Association is automatically removed from the NGYFL, Inc. if all fees are not paid by the third Sunday in August.
- E. Unless approved by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Commission, no admission fee may be charged for regular season games. (Donations may be asked for without Commission approval).
- F. Each Member Association shall establish a minimum advertised football registration of one-hundred (\$100) dollars, Associations may create any registration fee structure they desire provided it is presented to the Chairman two weeks prior to the first registration of the new season.
 - 1. No member Association shall raise their registration fees after the Chairman has been notified prior to first registration of that season.
- G. All league fines must be paid to the League Treasurer prior to 11:59pm on the Wednesday before playoff games start.
- H. All League fees must be paid to the League Treasurer prior to 11:59 PM on October 15
- I. If an Association fails to pay fees or fines, it must forfeit its next game and the next team will be in the playoffs if the regular season is over.

FORFEITS

- A. Where forfeits are acknowledged by both teams prior to the game in situation such as failure to have a roster, not enough players, etc. the game must not be played. The team that forfeits will take a loss and the other team will get a win unless both coaches, both Association Presidents and the Chairman agree to replay the game at a later date. The forfeit fee, as defined above, must still be paid in the event the game is to be replayed.
- B. Any team forfeiting over three (3) games will be terminated
- C. The forfeit fee shall only apply if the game is not played. Any game that has completed and forfeited (such as for Minimum Participation violation) will not be subject to the forfeiture fee.

DEFINITIONS

- A. All references to "one year", unless otherwise specified, are considered one (1) calendar year.
- B. The week starts at 12:01am on Sunday.
- C. Suspension:
 - 1. Coach:
Said coach will not be allowed to participate in any practices during his suspension.
- D. Weight Commissioner
 - 1. Any person designated by the Host Association to conduct the weight-in for a given game.

SAFETY

- A. The league prohibits the sweating down of players by any method and places the responsibility on the Member Association to see that this dangerous practice does not occur. Anyone who witnesses any violation of this rule is expected to bring it to the attention of the players Head Coach and Association President. The player shall be suspended from the next game (whether it is that day or not). If it is determined by a P-G-P from a parent that the Head Coach had knowledge of this violation prior to its investigation by the Association President shall result in action being brought before the Commission.

- B. The league discourages the transporting of teams, players or cheerleaders to or from any league activities in open motorized vehicles.
- C. Insurance - it shall be the responsibility of each Member Association to offer insurance to cover accidents and injuries to their players and cheerleaders while playing games, practicing, or traveling. Any parent not desiring said insurance must sign a waiver.
- D. It is required that each Association obtains parental release against liability for local Associations and the NGYFL, INC Proof of the release must be presented for final approval to the Commission prior to opening registration.
- E. Pyrotechnics, smoke bombs, and other incendiary devices that are illegal in the State of Georgia, or the county or city an Association is playing their game, shall not be used with out proper legal permits as defined by the State or local governing authority.
- F. Each Association will publish a formal policy dealing with practicing in extreme heat conditions. The policy must be provided to the Conference with the Association's insurance policy and approved by the Executive Commission. The policy must be provided in writing to all participants at the time of registration.
- G. Each Association will install and maintain a thermometer which shows the current air temperature at the field. Each Association will also use a device to measure the **heat index** (i.e. heat and humidity) at all outdoor events which the Association hosts.

BOUNDARIES

There shall be no team boundaries from which teams shall draw players. It is recommended, however, that Associations use players from local communities in order to create community spirit and at that time prevent hardship on parents in transporting players a long distance.

REGISTRATION

- A. Associations must notify the League Secretary, in writing, of registration dates, times, places, and amount of registration, two (2) weeks prior to registration. Each association shall also provide the League Secretary with a blank updated and blank registration form. Associations may create any registration fee structure they desire provided it is presented to the League Secretary two weeks prior to the first registration of the new season. Failure to provide this information may result in a \$100.00 fine.
- B. The League Secretary (or designate) shall post on the Official League Web Site the Registration dates, prices and locations for each Association.

BACKGROUND CHECKS

- A. NGYFL, Inc. requires a background check of all coaches. A coach is defined as any adult over the age of eighteen (18) on the sidelines during an NGYFL, Inc. sanctioned game that is not a member of the officiating crew and not a member of the "chain crew" or "stickmen". A person on the sidelines considered a coach and must require a background check may include, but not limited to, persons calling himself or herself Trainer, Team Mom, Team Dad and/or Play Counter.
- B. Each Association shall complete a criminal background history for each coach. This background check shall include, but not be limited to, convictions for the following, within the last 10 years:
 - a. Any crimes against children.
 - b. Any Felony Conviction involving violence.
 - c. Felony Drug Convictions
 - d. Felony Assault Convictions
 - e. Felony Battery Convictions
 - f. Pending charges described in "a" through "e"

- C. Each Association shall certify to the Chairman by the 3rd Sunday in August all head coaches from the Association. The following items are required for the coaches certification:
 - a. Completed NGYFL, Inc. Volunteer Youth Coach Application
 - b. Written proof of the criminal background check meeting the criteria in section "B".
- D. Each Association shall certify to the Chairman by the final Certification Date all coaches from the Association.
 - a. Completed NGYFL, Inc. Volunteer Youth Coaches Application
 - b. Written proof of the criminal background check meeting the criteria in section "B".
- E. No coach shall be allowed on the field or sideline for any league games (including regular season, playoffs and Super Bowl) without being certified as listed above. The penalty for each flagrant infraction is a \$250 personal fine, removal from the sidelines for the game by the uncertified coach and a 1 game suspension of the Head Coach for the next scheduled game (including the start of the next season).
- F. Each team shall be allowed 6 (six) adults on their sidelines/on-field provided these adults have passed the required background check and are wearing an NGYFL, Inc. picture ID (a.k.a. badge). In the event a coach does not have their badge, they may be required to prove that they belong on the sideline/on-field by having their Coaches Certification form in the Head Coaches weight-in notebook. These adults may be called, but not limited to: Coaches, Team Mom, Team Dad, Trainer, Medical Staff, Bench Coach and/or 8-play counter.
- G. Each field or sideline coach shall have completed and on file with the Chairman, by the final Certification Date, a NGYFL, Inc. Volunteer Youth Coach Application accompanied by a photograph (photocopy not allowed). The penalty for each flagrant infraction is removal from the field or sidelines for the game by the uncertified coach and a 1 game suspension of the Head Coach for the next scheduled game (including the start of the next season).
- H. In the event a Coaching Applicant feels a mistake has been reported in their Criminal History. It is the applicant's responsibility to contact the reporting authority/agency to resolve any issues. NGYFL, Inc. and its members are not responsible for errors or omissions that may be reported.
- I. All background checks for returning coaches shall be performed every two (2) years. All new coaches shall have background checks before being allowed to coach in NGYFL, INC
- J. Each Association President must provide a sealed envelope containing the proof of Background checks for each Coach. This must be provided prior to the first game the Coach participates. These envelopes may only be opened by the Executive Commission in the event of a possible dispute in the background of a Coach. Should a violation be found, the Coach shall immediately be suspended. If it is determined the Association was negligent, the Association shall be placed on probation for no less than 2 seasons (including the current season) and the Association must immediately resubmit ALL Coaches for new background checks. The Association must then present proof of each background check to the NGYFL, Inc during this period.

SUPERBOWL

- A. President and three to help with the Super Bowl
- B. Super Bowl committee comprised of Vice Chairman and three (3) Association Presidents of his/her choice.
- C. Super Bowl committee shall present any written proposals submitted to the Vice Chairman as soon as the last meeting in July and no later than at least sixty (60) days prior to Super Bowl, to a vote of all Association Presidents for Acceptance of a submitted proposal.
- D. Written proposals must include a proposal site of games, facilities available at proposed site and any cost that will be the responsibility of the Conference to cover.
- E. A proposal must be accepted by two-thirds (2/3) of all Association Presidents
- F. There will be a seven (\$7) dollar charge for adults, one (\$1) dollar charge for children under twelve (12) and free to children under (6) years old for the Super Bowl.
- G. Awards presented at the Super Bowl:
 - a. A trophy to each player who weighs-in
 - b. A trophy for up to 5 certified coaches for each team
 - c. A trophy for the listed Head Coach of each team
 - d. A medallion for each cheerleader present for each team and up to 2 coaches medallions
 - e. A banner for each winning team, presented at the Post Season Banquet.

- H. Each Association must fax or email a copy of their Cheerleading Rosters to the Chairman or his designate by 10/15; this will be used as the official Cheerleading roster for teams that make it to the Super Bowl.
- I. All Coaches must turn in their books for review no later than 15 minutes prior to scheduled weight-in. The book must contain:
- Game-Day Weigh-in Sheet (roster)
 - All Players Certification forms
 - Game Day Forms (as necessary)
 - Minimum Participation form for each game
 - Coaches Certification Sheets
- J. Proposals may include moving any teams that play on 80 yard fields to alternate fields on Super Bowl day, and may include having teams that play on 80 yard fields play on an alternate day.

INSTRUCTIONAL Division Championship

A. Instructional League age groups will be organized and games scheduled as follows. Game schedules for weeks 2 through 9 shall be released at the same time. Game schedules for week ten shall be released by the no later than Monday night before the final game.

1) If there are **10 teams or less** certified for an age group, the teams shall be **organized in one Conference**. All teams **shall play each other** during the regular season, except that teams from the same Association will not be required to play against each other. **No team shall play the same opponent in back to back games**, except for week ten games. In week ten, **the team with the best won-loss record will play the team with the 4th best won-loss record, the team with the 2nd best won-loss record will play the 3rd best won-loss records. The winning teams shall play in the Instructional League Championship.**

Teams with the 5th through 10th won-loss records shall play each other in week 10 as follows: 5 plays 6, 7 plays 8 and 9 plays 10. No additional games will be played by the teams winning these games. If an odd number of teams are certified to play in an age group the team with the lowest won-loss record will not play in week ten.

2) If there are **11 or more teams** certified for an age group, **two Conferences will be formed**. *The teams shall be divided into two Conferences of equal size while attempting to align consistent with the Competitive League assignments.* Should an **Association have multiple teams** in an age group they shall be **placed in different Conferences**. All teams shall **play each team in their Conference** with the remainder of their regular season schedule being filled with teams from the other Conference. In week ten, **the team in each Conference with the best won-loss record will play the team with the 2nd best won-loss record in their respective Conference. The winning teams shall play in the Instructional League Championship.**

Teams with the 3rd through 10th won-loss records shall play each other in week 10 as follows: 3 plays 3, 5 plays 6, 7 plays 8 and 9 plays 10. No additional games will be played by the teams winning these games. If an odd number of teams are certified in an age group, the teams will cross Conferences to play their final game. If not possible, the last team with the lowest won-loss record will not play in week ten.

3) If there are **21 or more teams** certified for an age group, each **Conference shall be subdivided into two Regions**. *The teams shall be assigned into 4 Regions with an equal number of participants while attempting to align consistent with Competitive League assignments.* Should an Association have multiple teams in an age group they shall be placed in different Conferences. **All teams shall play each team in their Region with the remainder of their regular season schedule being filled with teams from within their Conference.** In week 10 the **winner of each Region will play** the other Regional winner from their Conference. The winning teams shall play in the Instructional League Championship.

Teams not winning their Region shall play the team which finished in the same position (ie 2 plays 2, 3 plays 3) in the other region of their respective Conference. If an odd number of teams are certified in an age group, the teams will cross Conferences to play their final game. If not possible, the last team with the lowest won-loss record will not play.

- B. The site of the Instructional League Championship will be decided by the Voting Members no later than the 4th Wednesday in September. Any certified field may place a bid to host the games. NGYFL Associations will receive preference over other venues. Bidding organizations must include participation trophies or monogrammed tee shirts for all players.
- C. All players in the Instructional League Championship shall receive a participation trophy or tee shirt as identified in the host organizations bid. Team trophies will not be presented nor will coaches receive a participation trophy or tee shirt.

PENALTY FOR BY-LAW INFRACTION

- A. Violation for any of the above By-Laws will result in the Member Association responsible for such action being brought before the Commission, and if found guilty, may be suspended for one (1) year and may be fined as determined by the Commission.
- B. When an organization or coach is fined, NGYFL, Inc., will notify all organizations by e-mail only, of the circumstances surrounding the fine, and the section of the by-laws that have been violated. The accused organization or coach has 48 hours to respond by e-mail to all organizations any rebuttal or extenuating circumstances that may have caused the fine. All presidents will vote within 96 hours by e-mail to the Secretary of NGYFL, Inc. as to whether the fine should be imposed or not. Failure of a President to vote will signify a yes vote in favor of the fine being imposed. All fines must receive a 2/3 majority approval of the voting members in order to be assessed. The secretary will in turn notify the Treasurer of the voting results.
- C. The Chairman, with majority approval of the Executive Board, for any violation that does not have a specific and defined penalty, institute a fine not to exceed \$100 and/or suspension not exceed 1 game against any person in violation of the NGYFL Constitution and By-Laws. This may be appealed as described in this section.
- D. Any Adult suspended from participation in the league for violation of any Safety or Sportsmanship By-Laws may be required, by determination of the Executive Commission, to complete a Coaching Principles course. This course may include the Georgia High School Association Coaches Education Training and Testing Program required by GHSA for Lay (community) Coaches, or any other similar Coaching Principles course. The Adult shall be responsible for all costs incurred in taking the course.