

Bardstown-Nelson County Youth Football



Mission Statement

In the spirit of sportsmanship and fair play, the Bardstown-Nelson County Youth Football League (BNCYFL) will strive to create an equitable playing field for all participants to learn and enjoy the game of football. The BNCYFL, as an organization, is dedicated to inspire youth regardless of race, color, creed, religion, or national origin.

The BNCYFL strives to make the game of football fun for all youth participants. Coaches and parents must keep in mind the ages of their players. The BNCYFL program stresses learning lessons of value that go far beyond the playing field, such as: self-discipline, teamwork, concentration, friendship, leadership and good sportsmanship. While preparing youth for advancement into school sport athletics, as well as other youth sporting activities in our communities.

Introduction to By-Laws and Constitution of BNCYFL

- 1.0 Name, address, purpose and definitions:
 - 1.0.1 The name of this organization shall be “Bardstown-Nelson County Youth Football League” (herein after referred to as the BNCYFL).
 - 1.0.2 The principal address of the BNCYFL shall be located in the city of Bardstown or the county of Nelson in the state of Kentucky. The current designation is BNCYFL, 130 Spalding Lane, Coxs Creek, Ky 40013.
 - 1.0.3 The purpose of the BNCYFL is to promote and govern an organized football program for the youth in the Nelson County area, for the good and benefit of all players; to encourage involvement among members, supporters and teams; and to promote team participation, sportsmanship, fair play, safety and equal opportunity to all members relative to the sport of football.
 - 1.0.4 The registered agent of the BNCYFL shall be the Executive Board.
 - 1.0.5 The fiscal year of the BNCYFL shall be from July 1 and end on June 30 of the following calendar year.
 - 1.0.6 Jurisdiction – The BNCYFL claims jurisdiction and sole governing body over, but not limited to, the game of amateur football in the Nelson County area, Kentucky, as played under these by-laws, rules, regulations, policies and procedures. The BNCYFL reserves the right to expand beyond this jurisdictional area should the law and circumstances allow.
 - 1.1.1 The term, Executive Board as used in these By-Laws, refer to the Executive Board of the BNCYFL.
 - 1.1.2 The term League is the BNCYFL organization in its entirety.
 - 1.1.3 The term District is used to define a geographical area or boundary belonging to the BNCYFL organization.
 - 1.1.4 The term Region is a group of districts, placed together for purposes of scheduling and organizing the League.
 - 1.1.5 The term Division is a grouping of teams based on the same ages.

Organization

2.0.0 The BNCYFL consists of the following (volunteer members):

The Executive Board will consist of:

Registrar/Officials	Donny Hudson
Equipment/Scheduling	Tom Roby
Treasurer	Jason Allender
Coaching Representative	Tim Cecil
At-Large Member	Ray Pinerioia

The Executive Board will also preside over the four divisions in the following manner:

Flag Football Division:	Tim Cecil
PeeWee Division:	Tom Roby
Junior Division:	Jason Allender
Senior Division:	Donny Hudson

2.1.0 The Executive Board will meet to discuss and research different topics and to report findings for informational purposes throughout the year.

2.2.0 The Executive Board will render decisions on interpretation of football rules when formal protests appear, to warrant committee action.

2.3.0 The Executive Board will oversee all League officials and League actions. To investigate any improprieties, including but not limited to coaches, parents and children.

2.4.0 The Executive Board will make all recommendations for By-Law and rule changes for the upcoming season. Recommendations will be based upon input from coaches, parents and situations that may transpire during the season. All changes and amendments shall go through the Executive Board.

2.5.0 The Executive Board will work with and train officials. "Officials" refer to working/officiating games of the BNCYFL.

2.6.0 The Executive Board will work to create and administer education and training for all coaches that participate in the BNCYFL. It will further promote certification requirements as set forth in the policies and procedures (13.1.4)

Rules of the Organization

3.0.0 ELECTIONS: The Executive Board members are elected individually in opposite years in April by the members of the League.

3.1.0 VACANCIES: : If an Executive Board position is vacated during the term of that position, the Executive Board reserves the right to appoint a qualified person for the remainder of that Calendar Year or the next election whichever comes first.

3.1.2 RESIGNATION: Any Executive Board member may resign or withdraw his/her position, but such resignation will not be accepted until that vacancy has been filled.

3.1.3 VOTING: At any Executive Board meeting, in which a vote is required, the proposal will be discussed, amended, if necessary, and voted on before the proposal is brought on the floor for the members to vote on.

Meetings

3.2.0 The Executive Board will meet one time per month from April-November. These meetings will be held without other notice than this Bylaw.

3.2.1 Divisional Commissioner meetings will be conducted at their preference, by each commissioner and attended by other coaches within that Division.

3.2.2 General Membership meetings will be held for voting and informational purposes. A meeting must be scheduled with at least 1 week notice.

3.3.0 AMENDMENTS IN BY-LAWS: Rules committee will be formed to make recommendations and possible changes to the existing By-Laws.

3.3.1 AMENDMENTS IN BY-LAWS: Any amendments in the by-laws are to be ratified by majority vote of the Executive Board present. No changes or proposed changes will be made to the By-Laws after June.

3.4.0 MEMBERSHIP: There are no membership costs to be an Executive Board member or coach of the BNCYFL.

Duties of the Executive Board

4.0.0 To take initiative in determining the Policies of the League. To establish, adopt and enforce the Agreements, Bylaws, Rules, Regulations, Policies, Procedures and Decisions of the League.

4.1.0 To accept and /or reject any and all applicants for membership in the League and to determine boundaries and terms set forth in each District.

4.2.0 To actuate the Bylaws, Rules, Regulations, Policies and Procedures.

4.3.0 To have jurisdiction over the action of any individual participant of the League.

4.4.0 To sit in review as a Board of Appeals on determinations regarding interpretation of the Bylaws, protests and discipline. The decision of the Board is the final determination and not subject to further review.

4.5.0 To establish regulations not having the status of by-laws or rules for the conduct operation and direction of the League.

4.6.0 To make recommendations as to penalties for alleged violations or infractions.

4.7.0 To undertake an investigation with respect to infractions and violations and call for conduct hearings with those involved. These hearings will be done as quickly as possible and the person or person(s) involved will be given an opportunity to be present at these hearings, and to present their position and evidence.

4.8.0 To analyze and evaluate the evidence, statements and investigation material, to determine the appropriate sanction, probation, or suspension. The decision of the Board of Directors shall be final.

4.8.1 The basis and/or grounds for investigation by the Executive Board shall include, but are not limited to one or more of the following elements:

1. An alleged violation of Bylaws, Rules or Regulations
2. Competing under an assumed name
3. Any unsportsmanlike act not related to football
4. Striking any head or assistant coach, official, player or spectator or any other person involved with the league activity.

- 5. Using profane, obscene or abusive language, whether on the field of play or as a spectator.
 - 6. Falsifying residency or any other league required documentation
 - 7. Practicing or playing an illegal player
- 4.9.0 CONFLICT OF RESOLUTION: It is expected and normal that in athletic competition, there will be disagreements. These disagreements have the potential to escalate to conflicts. It is the prime directive of the BNCYFL that adults are responsible for the welfare of ALL of our children.

Duties of the Division Commissioner

- 5.0.0 To preside at Board and general membership meetings and to serve as an officer of the BNCYFL with voting privileges.
- 5.1.0 To distribute information from the Executive Board to their Division.
- 5.2.0 To oversee on behalf of the League, all teams within his/her division to ensure the orderly conduct of the program.
- 5.3.0 To receive any written protests that may arise.

Officials

- 6.0.0 Officials will be trained and briefed before they can officiate a game.
- 6.1.0 The following is the number of officials required at each division:
 Flag Football – Two officials
 PeeWee Tackle – Three officials (certified)
 Junior Tackle – Three officials (certified)
 Senior Tackle - Three officials (certified)

Registration

- 7.0.0 Player registration will include (1) birth certification by state or federal papers or church record, (2) signed parental or guardian permission, (3) proof of residency (if necessary). The BNCYFL greatly stresses parents to have adequate accident and health insurance on their child(ren).

Practice

- 8.0.0 Practice can begin approximately 4 weeks prior to the first game of the season (as determined by the Board of Directors). It is required that at the first 2 practices take place in helmets only or no equipment. That a period before the first full practice that a “Conditioning and Fundamentals” practice be ran. During the “Conditioning and Fundamentals” practice, it is required that these practices be ran without full equipment. Full equipment is meant as: helmet and shoulder pads. Because of heat during the summer, ensure your team is adequately hydrated by taking several “water breaks” as a team, at least every 15 minutes and will follow further KHSAA guidelines for heat guidelines..
- 8.1.0 During full contact practices, all players participating must wear full safety equipment as explained and required in the Bylaws. Coaches are responsible for prevention of abuse of practice times and children. An organized practice is

defined as a coach getting his/her team together with intentions of teaching the game of football. This practice can be with or without safety equipment. Although the BNCYFL does not set a limit on practices or length of a practice, coaches should be aware of several factors, such as heat, exhaustion, hydration, school work, etc... If practices are believed to be excessive, the BNCYFL Board of Directors will investigate and if necessary, limit the number and time of practices.

Residency

9.0.0 Association Boundaries: A player must play within the Association boundaries (referred to as the district) in which he/she resides.

9.1.0 Residency is defined as being enrolled in a Nelson County School or being a resident of Nelson County, Ky. Bu mailing address and domicile.

9.2.0 A player whose parents are divorced with joint physical custody, or legally separated at the time of registration, whose parents live in separate districts will be considered to reside with the parent who resides in the same area that the child attends school.

9.3.0 Any dispute regarding the residency of a player will be resolved by the Board of Directors on a case by case scenario. All Board of Directors decisions are final.

9.4.0 AREA TEAMS

1. New Haven
2. Samuels
3. Bloomfield

These three localities have direct permission to conduct registrations for there respective community and to field a youth football team to play in the BNCYFL. They are to follow all guidelines as set forth by the BNCYFL.

Player Movement

10.0.0 Players are organized into four divisions based upon grades (There will not be any players allowed to move-up a division, they will participate in the division based on grade/age only); however the player moves up a division if the player turns the following age before May 1 of the playing year:

- K-1 Flag (7)
- 2-3 Pee Wee (9)
- 4-5 Junior (11)
- 6-7 Senior (Player ineligible to participate if he turns 13 before Aug. 1)

Players will remain with their previous year's team and head coach if they are not moving into the next division due to the above criteria. The only exception allowed for a player to move from one team to another within the same division will be one of the following and approval of the Executive Board:

1. Abuse by the head coach previously. A hearing will take place with all involved the executive board, the parents/guardians, and the coach before a decision is made.
2. Player and parents move residence into new district.

3. Parent request to move child- this will require written appeal and meeting with Executive Board for approval.

Illegal Players

11.0.0 Should a player inadvertently, but innocently register in a District other than the area of residence, the player will be given an option of transferring to the District of residence and playing the remainder of the season.

11.1.0 Any coach who knowingly recruits players out of District and knowingly allows a player to participate will receive punishment from the Board of Directors once an investigation has been completed.

New Association

12.0.0 When a new District comes into the League, all residents are required to participate in the District to which they are now residents. Should a District fail to provide a team in any Division, regardless of reason, will have the option of playing in another District.

Coaching Requirements

13.0.0 Head Coach consideration for a team within BNCYFL:

1. Current head coach in that particular division in good standing with the same team.

3. Head coach last year moving up in division in good standing.

2. Assistant coach last year in that division in good standing.

4. Previously been a head coach or an assistant coach in good standing.

* Head coach will only be allowed to serve as head coach in one division, he may assist with another team if he chooses in another division. (This will be in direct proportion to the available number of coaches that want a head coaching position each year.)

ALL COACHES MUST OBTAIN CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECK PRIOR TO BEING CONSIDERED FOR A HEAD COACHING POSITION.

13.1.0 The coaching staff is in complete charge of the team whenever it is together on the practice or playing field. The coaching staff is under the direction of the Head Coach. The other members of the staff are Assistant Coaches.

13.2.0 A Head Coach must be at least 21 years of age. A rostered adult representative (21 years or older) must be present for practice, games and functions. An assistant coach must be at least 18 years of age and completed high school or received their GED.

13.3.0 A coach may reside from anywhere. A team may have a maximum of (1) head coach and (3) assistant coaches for a total of (4) coaches. Their child(ren) may play for them. The coaching personnel should be of unquestionable character with a profound interest in and knowledge of youth and the game of football. Any coach who has been suspended, decertified or placed on probation without reinstatement from another youth sports program, locally or non-locally, will not qualify to coach in the BNCYFL until his/her record has been seen and ruled upon by the Board of Directors. A coach may not change his assistant

coaches while staying in the same division if a previous assistant coach's son remains on the team. Thus, the practice of adding an assistant coach from the first to the second year to remove a player from another team will not be permitted.

13.4.0 All members of the coaching staff must be certified by the BNCYFL Executive Board and will fulfill a full criminal background check (BCI). A full BCI will be done for every coach.

13.5.0 Coaches do not make team or League policy. Rather, they are required to carry it out. However, on the practice and playing field, the coaching staff is in complete charge. The Head Coach has final responsibility for his/her actions, those of his/her assistant coaches, participants, parents and spectators.

Coaching Duties and Responsibilities

14.0.0 No Tobacco use to include smokeless and smoking in front of players during practice sessions or league games. Furthermore, the football fields/entire facility is a smoke free environment and smoking is not allowed by anyone to include but no limited to coaches, parents, and spectators.

14.1.0 Refrain using profane or abusive language in the presence of players.

14.2.0 Will not criticize players in front of spectators, but reserve constructive criticism for private, or in the presence of the team so all might benefit.

14.3.0 Accept decisions of officials on the field as being fair and called to the best ability of the officials.

14.4.0 Will not criticize the officials or the opposing team, it's coaches or fans, by word of mouth or gesture.

14.5.0 Will not permit a player to re-enter any game after he/she is badly injured.

14.6.0 Abide by doctors decisions in all matters of a player's health concerning injuries and the inability to play.

14.7.0 Coaches will not advance beyond the 20 yard lines for any reason, other than injury or timeout. They must stay in the "team box". The "team box" is defined as 1 yard from the sideline and extends an additional 3 yards towards the bleachers and is 40 yards long. Coaches and officials will strictly adhere to this rule.

14.8.0 Strive to make every football activity serve as a training ground for life.

14.9.0 All ejections, disqualifications and unsportsmanlike conduct will be handled by the Executive Board.

14.10.0 Refrain from running up the score. A lopsided score is any game in which one team is ahead of another by 28 points. Coaches ahead by 28 points in any quarter are expected to "lay off" and not attempt to add more points to their total, assuming the opposition does not score. This can be accomplished by playing the second string offense, defense or both. The head coach shall attempt to comply with the above rules, but refrain from initiating plays that are a direct insult to the weaker team, i.e. running to the sideline, running backwards for a safety, intentionally fumbling the ball or failing to fall on the ball after a snap.

Coaching Infractions

15.0.0 Fighting, intimidation or disrespect for authority shall cause for ejection from a game. Any coach ejected from any game, for cause, shall be ineligible for participation in their next game. If the infraction is more serious in nature, the following is what the coach can expect to receive:

1. Endangerment of Juveniles: Suspension for 1 year, to permanent suspension.
2. Teaching prohibited offensive & defensive techniques: Suspension for 1 year, to permanent suspension.
3. Fighting: Suspension for 1 year, to permanent suspension.
4. Threats: Suspension for 1 year, to permanent suspension.
5. Instructing a participant to intentionally harm an opponent: Suspension for 1 year, to permanent suspension.

15.1.0 Any infraction believed to be criminal, will be reported to local authorities and those accused will not be allowed at any BNCYFL function.

Player Infractions

16.0.0 Fighting, intimidation or disrespect for authority shall cause for ejection from a game. Any player ejected from any game, for cause, shall be ineligible for participation in their next game. Any second ejection during the same season shall be cause for removal from the team for the remainder of the season. The second ejection does not have to be for the same offense. Basically, two ejections and you are out.

16.1.0 Any player caught altering his/her uniform or equipment with the intention of causing harm to the opponent will be ejected from the contest and suspended for the rest of the season. Examples of altering the uniform or equipment includes, but not limited to, wearing steel cleats, intentionally removing screw backings, adding their name to a jersey, wearing "loaded" gloves, etc...

16.2.0 Any player caught participating on another organized football team or on an official school will be subject to removal from the BNCYFL. Upon investigation, if it is found that the head coach knew of the dual membership, the team will forfeit all games played to the date of the infraction and the coach will be disciplined.

Standards on Conduct

17.0.0 The standards of conduct in this section and the related penalties are designed to sustain a fair and creditable environment. There are few individuals involved with any program for which the concept of fairness and honesty are foreign.

These guidelines apply to parents, spectators and fans of the BNCYFL.

1. It is forbidden to strike or manhandle a player, official, coach, BNCYFL official or any individual.
2. It is forbidden to propose, encourage or facilitate any participant in any activity that is a violation of state or federal law.
3. It is prohibited to verbally encourage any player to inflict physical harm to another player that is not football in nature. This includes spearing, crack back

blocks, excessive clipping, etc...

4. It is prohibited to use language that is obscene or vulgar to others.
5. Penalty for the above actions will be immediate removal from the contest and possible removal from any BNCYFL function. If the action is determined to be criminal, local authorities will be contacted.
6. A 3-4 foot high barrier will be placed on the posterior aspect of the player and coach's box.

Recruiting

18.0.0 LEGAL RECRUITING: Enticing the youth of our communities to participate in our football programs is essential to our goals. Youth football provides a safe and regulated opportunity for our youth to realize athletic achievement. Recruiting efforts by coaches to introduce new youth to our program is encouraged and supported.

18.1.0 ILLEGAL RECRUITING: Illegal recruiting is a serious threat to relationships between football Districts and the League itself. Illegal recruiting is defined as the act of an adult or juvenile to influence players to sign up out of District or to play solely for their respective team. Districts or teams who encourage illegal recruiting will be subject to investigation by the Executive Board and could be placed on probation, suspension or removed from the BNCYFL.

Introduction to the Playing Rules and Regulations of Youth Football

The playing rules and regulations contained herein are required to be enforced by the BNCYFL organization. All league administrative personnel, coaches, players and parents are subject to disciplinary action for violations of these BNCYFL playing rules and regulations at any time during a stated season.

Standards of the Game:

19.0.0 An 80 yard or (300 ft. with end zone) length will be used in all classifications. All fields will be properly marked and include yard markers. The bench area will be absolutely reserved for players of the participating teams and their coaches.

19.1.0 Team ages, Districts and Divisions will be as follows:

Flag Football	Grade: K-1 (Doesn't turn 7 before May 1)	Residency
Pee-Wee Tackle	Grade 2-3 (Doesn't turn 9 before May 1)	Residency
Junior Tackle	Grade 4-5 (Doesn't turn 11 before May 1)	Residency
Senior Tackle	Grade 6-7 (Doesn't turn 13 before Aug 1)	Residency

19.2.0 No player of the BNCYFL may participate or practice on any other team, at any time, while on a roster of the BNCYFL. Only those players who are on an official roster may compete in a BNCYFL game. If a player is listed on any school football roster, he/she is prohibited from participation on a BNCYFL team.

19.3.0 No teams will play or scrimmage a team which is not in the same division. Teams found to be scrimmaging out of Division, will be subject to disciplinary action from the Board of Directors.

19.4.0 Players must not have exceeded the maximum age in each division as of May 1st for Flag, Pee-Wee, and Junior divisions, and Aug. 1 for Senior, of the

current year.

19.5.0 No cast of any kind may be worn. Soft splints are permitted, but must be approved by the Head Official. The splints must have no exposed material that would be hazardous to others and should be padded and wrapped.

19.6.0 A player with a loss of limb may participate provided that the individual has a signed statement of approval from an examining physician and that the use of a prosthetic limb is no more dangerous to others than a human limb.

19.7.0 TIMER: The BNCYFL will be responsible for clock operations. No one under the age of 15 years old will be allowed to operate the game clock. In the case in which the clock is malfunctioning, time will be kept by an official on the field of play. The official shall notify teams of time remaining at (4) four minutes, (2) two minutes, and after each play when under 1 (one) minute. The official shall also give the time remaining when asked by a coach.

19.8.0 FIRST DOWN BALL MARKERS & YARD MARKERS: 2 home team members and 1 visitor member is responsible for providing the 10 yard first down and ball markers. No one under the age of 15 years old will be allowed to operate "the chains". The chains are to be kept on the home side of the field. In the event no one is from the home team is able to operate the markers, the visiting team is authorized to operate the markers. If the visiting team operates the markers, they must do so on the home team side and refrain from using any language detrimental to the game. The "chain gang" is to take all their actions from the official. All officials will instruct the chain crew prior to the game.

19.8.1 GENERAL BALL PLACEMENT: On an 80 yard playing field, kick off shall be from the kicking team's own 30 yard line.

19.8.2 LENGTH OF QUARTERS AND HALFTIME: Quarters will be 8 minutes for all divisions. Halftime will be 10 minutes, which will consist of 7 minutes instructional time and a mandatory 3 minute warm up.

19.8.3 RUNNING CLOCK RULE "MERCY RULE: When a team is ahead in the game by 24 points the winning team must, at this point, remove as many "starters" from the line-up on both the offensive and defensive side of the ball as feasible. Game play will resume as normal with these exceptions:

- The Clock will run continuously
- Blitzing on defense by the winning team during this time period is prohibited
- The coach of the losing team will have the option of utilizing 6 downs to achieve a first down instead of the normal 4. The losing coach must inform the referees and the opposing coach of his decision when the losing team takes possession of the ball and before game play resumes.

All fumbles and interceptions can be returned by the defense for a score. If the defense does score, they can only attempt a 1 point conversion. Once the losing team has moved within 16 points of the winning team, the game resumes as normal, and the clock will return to normal operation. The mercy rule is to be used as a teaching tool for inexperienced players and teams and should be treated as such. Both coaches must ensure that it is used in this matter.

19.8.4 An injured player for whom the clock is stopped, or for whom the ready for play is delayed because of equipment malfunction or failure, shall be replaced for at least one play.

19.8.5 OVERTIME PROCEDURE: If at the end of regulation the two teams participating are tied, the National Federation of High School Associations (NFHSA) tie breaker rule will be in effect. A mandatory 3 minute timeout will be given in between periods. The Head Coach and his/her captains will meet with the Referee for the coin toss. The winner of the coin toss will have the option of Offense, Defense or Goal to Defend. There will be only one coin toss. If multiple overtimes are needed, the team that did not win the toss will decide Offense, Defense or Goal to Defend and so on, until, there is a winner. Overtime will be administered from the ten yard line and the offense will have four downs to score. If an interception or fumble is obtained by the defense, the play will be blown dead and the team that obtained the ball will be awarded offense to win the game or if the offense has already scored, the game is declared over.

19.8.6 Game officials may declare a game forfeited should any team not be ready to play ten minutes after the official game time.

19.8.7 GAME RULES: All games will be played under the rules and regulations of the Federation of High School Associations (NFHSA), with the exception of specific rules outlined in Section 21.0.0, 22.0.0 AND 23.0.0 of this By-Law.

Specific League Rules

20.0.0 The free substitution rule is always in effect.

20.1.0 All players must play a minimum of 8 plays and start the game on either offense or defense, unless the player has had an unexcused absence from practice in the week prior. The plays can be offense, defense, kick-offs, etc... The number of plays for a player can be limited because of injury, illness, or discipline from the parent only. **THESE ARE THE ONLY EXCEPTIONS!!!** Any team found to be abusing these rules will be subject to disciplinary action from the Board of Directors.

20.2.0 PROTESTS: Protests will be handled by the Executive Board. Protests on matters involving the judgment of an official will not be considered. However, the Commissioner and/or the Assistant Commissioner will observe the officials actions on the field and if necessary, will be removed from the field. Protests on matters applicable must be written and given to the Commissioner and/or the Assistant Commissioner. Upon investigation of the protest, the Board of Directors will decide on the matter. The decision by the Board of Directors will be final.

Specific Division Rules

21.0.0 **FLAG FOOTBALL DIVISION:** The flag football division is for youths with no or limited football experience and should meet the age/grade guidelines set forth in Section 19 of this By-Law.

21.0.1 All players will be required to wear mouth pieces and padded helmets. See Section 24.0.0 for equipment specifications.

- 21.0.2 Two coaches will be allowed on the field of play during the game. Coaches will be governed and directed by the officials during the game. If a coach is ejected from the game by an official, he/she must leave immediately. An assistant coach may step in and take the place of the coach that was ejected. The coach shall remain a minimum of 10 yards behind the team or as directed by the officials. Coaches are prohibited from grabbing a player and throwing him/her in the direction of the play. A regular game pace is encouraged.
- 21.0.3 There will be no kick-offs in the flag football league. The ball will be placed at the offense's 20 yard line at the beginning of the first and third quarters, and after a score.
- 21.0.4 Players scoring a touchdown or PAT will be checked by the official before points will be awarded. If the flag(s) are rigged in a way that prohibits an opponent from removing the flag, no points will be awarded and a 10 yard penalty will be assessed from the original line of scrimmage.
- 21.0.5 All penalties used by the National Federation of High School Associations (NFHSA) will be used, in addition to "flag guarding" and "belt grabbing". Flag guarding is defined as a player on offense that prohibits an opponents hands from grabbing his/her flag by moving, shoving or slapping at the opponent's hand(s). Belt grabbing is defined as a player on defense that can not make a play at an opponent's flag, but grabs the belt, shirt, pants or shorts to slow the opponent down to make a play. Offensive penalties are 10 yards from the original line of scrimmage and defensive penalties are 10 additional yards from the end of the play. If the play results in a touchdown or PAT, penalties will be assessed on the following play.
- 21.0.6 Flag football prohibits tackling of any kind.
- 21.0.7 If an offensive player has possession of the ball and his/her flag inadvertently falls off, he/she will be considered tackled or having his/her flag(s) pulled once a defensive player touches him/her with one hand.
- 21.0.8 There are no offense or defense sets, but the offense must have 7 on the line of scrimmage, with 5 downed linemen. There must be 5 downed defensive linemen. There will no blitzing in flag football.
- 21.0.9 Punts can be declared on fourth down. If a team chooses to punt, the official will signal the clock to stop and mark off 20 yards. A change of possession will be declared and the clock will start on the snap.
- 21.0.10 Extra points will be scored as follows: 1 point will be awarded from the 3 yard line and 2 points for a play from the 5 yard line.
- 21.0.11 Interceptions will be played as live while fumbles are considered down and stoppage of play will be instituted. Defensive player who intercepts the ball will be down when touched with one hand.

PeeWee Tackle Division: The PeeWee Tackle Football division is for youths that meet the age/grade guidelines set forth in Section 19 of this By-Law.

22.1.0 All players will be required to wear equipment as specified in Section 24.0.0 of these By-Laws.

22.1.1 One coach will be allowed on the field of play during the game. Coaches will be governed and directed by the officials during the game. If a coach is

ejected from the game by an official, he/she must leave immediately. An assistant coach may step in and take the place of the coach that was ejected.

22.1.2 The coach shall remain a minimum of 10 yards behind the team or as directed by the officials. Coaches are prohibited from grabbing a player and throwing him/her in the direction of the play. A regular game pace is encouraged.

22.1.3 There will be kick-offs in the Pee-Wee Tackle league. The ball will be kicked from the offense's 40 yard line at the beginning of the first and third quarters, and after a score.

22.1.4 All penalties used by the National Federation of High School Associations (NFHSA) will be enforced.

22.1.5 There are no offense or defense sets, but the offense must have 7 on the line of scrimmage, with 5 downed linemen. There must be 5 downed defensive linemen. Blitzing is not allowed and linebackers must be 3 yards off of the ball.

22.1.6 Punts can be declared on fourth down. If a team chooses to punt, the official will signal the clock to stop and the team will punt. There will be no rush on the punter. The play will be declared dead once a player from the receiving team has possession of the punted ball. Once a player has possession, the ball will be dead. There are no fake punts! A change of possession will be declared and the clock will start on the snap.

22.1.7 Extra points will be scored as follows: 1 point will be awarded from the 3 yard line and 2 points for a play from the 5 yard line.

22.2.0 Junior Tackle Division: The Junior Tackle Football division is for youths that meet the age/grade guidelines set forth in Section 19 of this By-Law.

23.2.1 All players will be required to wear equipment as specified in Section 26.0.0 of these By-Laws.

23.2.2 One coach will be allowed on the field of play during the game. Coaches will be governed and directed by the officials during the game. If a coach is ejected from the game by an official, he/she must leave immediately. An assistant coach may step in and take the place of the coach that was ejected. The coach shall remain a minimum of 10 yards behind the team or as directed by the officials. Coaches are prohibited from grabbing a player and throwing him/her in the direction of the play. A regular game pace is encouraged.

23.2.3 There will be kick-offs in the Junior Tackle league. The ball will be kicked from the offense's 30 yard line at the beginning of the first and third quarters, and after a score.

23.2.4 All penalties used by the National Federation of High School Associations (NFHSA) will be enforced.

23.2.5 There are no offense or defense sets, but the offense must have 7 on the line of scrimmage, with 5 down lineman. The defense can run various defensive schemes including, but not limited to a 4-3, 3-4, 5-2, 4-4, nickel, dime, etc... Blitzing is allowed. However, linebackers inside the tackles must be at least 3 yards off of the ball.

23.2.6 Punts can be declared on fourth down. If a team chooses to punt, the official will signal the clock to stop and the team will punt. There will be no rush

on the punter. There are no fake punts! A change of possession will be declared and the clock will start on the snap.

23.2.7 Extra points will be scored as follows: 1 point will be awarded from the 3 yard line and 2 points successful kick through the uprights. If a team elects to try for PAT by kick, there will be no rush on the kicker. 2 points for a good kick.

23.3.0 Senior Tackle Division: The Senior Tackle Football division is for youths that meet the age/grade guidelines set forth in Section 19 of this By-Law.

23.3.1 All players will be required to wear equipment as specified in Section 25.0.0 of these By-Laws.

23.3.2 No coach will be allowed on the field of play during the game. Coaches will be governed and directed by the officials during the game. If a coach is ejected from the game by an official, he/she must leave immediately. An assistant coach may step in and take the place of the coach that was ejected. A regular game pace is encouraged.

23.3.3 There will kick-offs in the Senior Tackle league. The ball will be kicked the offense's 40 yard line at the beginning of the first and third quarters, and after a score.

23.3.4 All penalties used by the National Federation of High School Associations (NFHSA) will be enforced.

23.3.5 There are no offense or defense sets, but the offense must have 7 on the line of scrimmage, with 5 down lineman. The defense can run various defensive schemes including, but not limited to a 4-3, 3-4, 5-2, 4-4, nickel, dime, etc... Blitzing is allowed. Any number can blitz and the blitz can come from any or multiple positions.

23.3.6 Punts will be handled in accordance with National Federation of High School Associations (NFHSA). There can be a rush on the punter. The ball is live at the snap and can be returned. If there is a muff or fumble, the team that recovers will have possession. Fake punts are permitted! A change of possession will be declared and the clock will start on the snap.

23.3.7 Extra points will be scored as follows: 1 point will be awarded from the 3 yard line and 2 points successful kick through the uprights. If a team elects to try for PAT by kick, there will be a rush on the kicker. 2 points for a good kick.

Team and League Requirements

24.0.0 TEAM COMPOSITION: All teams will be divided equally and when a team reaches 16-22 registered players. A new team must be created if more than 22 players are on a team with the exception of area teams. If it is found after the draft is completed that there are more than 22 players averaged per team all players will be placed back in the draft and a re-draft will occur.

If there are excess registered players, new teams will be added. Teams will be divided the following way:

1. A member of the Executive Board must be present when teams are divided.

2. Each coach is allowed to have the remaining members of last year's team as long as they have not graded or aged out.

3. The representative will randomly draw to determine who will choose first. Once the draft order has been established, draft selections will take place in an order of (1, 2, 3, 4) (4, 3, 2, 1) etc... After the 2nd round, the draft will adjust accordingly until an equal number of players are on each teams; after which the normal draft order will return.

4. The Executive Board will try every effort to group children by age and weight for draft purposes.

5. Coaches will draft the remaining players until their roster is full. 16 to 22 players per team.

6. Coaches will choose one player from each round. Sharing rides are not considered a reason as to why a player needs to be on a certain team with another player; Neither is a coach who must coach a cousin, nephew, neighbor, etc. Siblings must be drafted together, unless otherwise noted by the parent. Siblings count as two picks and the coach choosing the siblings will be skipped the next round. If there are three siblings, this will count as 3 picks and so on...

7. Players signing up late after the draft or players that are not accounted for will not be allowed to participate unless allowed by a unanimous vote of the board of directors.

NOTE: All teams will organized and split as equally as possible. Age and weight will be evenly spread across all teams.

There will be a weight limit for players to run the ball as follows:

- 145 pounds Senior Division
- 120 pounds Junior Division
- 100 pounds Pee Wee Division

The weight will be determined by a one time weigh in at the time that equipment is distributed and recorded by the league equipment manager. All coaches are to abide by this policy, and these players are not allowed to be in the offensive backfield. A coach who violates this rule will result in forfeiture for that game.

Equipment Specifications

25.0.0 All teams must be fully equipped with a complete line of quality safety equipment for every child taking part in any practice or contact session, scrimmage or game. All equipment will be professionally manufactured and not altered to decrease protection. The following equipment items are mandatory in all divisions.

FLAG FOOTBALL

25.0.1 Mouth piece (See Section 25.9.0) and soft helmet with chin strap.

ALL TACKLE DIVISIONS

25.1.0 HELMET & FACE MASK: The BNCYFL will comply with the NFHSA rules that all head gear will have passed the NOCSAE test of approval for safety and bear the official seal thereof. Each helmet must have the properly affixed

warning sticker. Face masks will be made of material designed to be non-breakable with rounded edges. The helmet will be secured by a properly fastened chin strap. Eye shields are permitted as long as the shield is clear. Tinted shields are prohibited because of safety reasons.

25.2.0 SHOULDER PADS: Shoulder pads will be of a cantilever type of corrugated molder fiber or plastic material. Adjustable elastic underarm straps will be attached for a snug fit.

25.3.0 HIP / TAIL BONE PADS: Hip/Kidney and tail bone pads will be a molded corrugated molder fiber or plastic material covered on the inside with a shock-absorbing material.

24.5.0 THIGH PADS: Thigh pads shall have any hard surface covered with material such as closed cell vinyl foam. The compression resistance of 4-8 ponds for 25% or other material and at least 1/4" thick on the outside surface with at least 3/8" thick material on the inside surface.

25.6.0 KNEE PADS: Knee pads worn over the knee and under the pants must have 3/8" – 1/2" of approved shock absorbing material.

25.7.0 JERSEYS: Game jerseys for all divisions and ages will consist of quality material and comply with the assigned colors as designated by the BNCYFL. All teams will have their players in matching uniforms when on the field of play. Players of the same team shall not participate during the same down while wearing identical numbers.

25.8.0 PANTS: Pants may be of either a shell or one piece construction.

25.9.0 TEETH PROTECTORS: Each player will be fitted with a durable made teeth and mouth protector. Each player is required to have it in their mouth during all contact sessions.

25.10.0 ATHLETIC SUPPORTERS: It is highly recommended that all boys wear an athletic supporter.

25.11.0 SHOES: Official footwear for all divisions is a molded rubber cleat shoe, sneaker, or shoe with detachable cleats. NO METAL CLEATS ARE ALLOWED!!!

BNCYFL CHAMPIONSHIP (PUMPKIN BOWL)

26.0.0 The team from each division that compiles the best win/loss record will be declared the regular season division champion and will enter the playoffs as a #1 seed. If two teams have identical records, the team that won the head to head meeting will be declared the #1 seed. If the teams split their meetings, the #1 seed will be awarded to the team that scored the most points during the season.

26.1.0 All playoff games will be played at Dean Watts Park. The team with the best record will be the home team. All games will be played until a Champion has been crowned for that season.

