

# Wasatch Front Football League, Inc. By-Laws, Rules, Policies, and Procedures

2024 - *PROPOSED* 

# Contents

Mission	Statement	3
1.0.0	GENERAL	3
1.1.0	DEFINITION OF TERMS	3
2.0.0	ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANIZATION	3
3.0.0	DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD	4
3.1.0	PRESIDENT	5
3.2.0	VICE PRESIDENT	5
3.3.0	SECRETARY	6
3.4.0	TREASURER	6
3.5.0	COMMISSIONER	6
3.6.0	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR & SUPERVISORS OF OFFICIALS	6
3.7.0	EXECUTIVE ADVISOR/INTERNET	7
3.8.0	EXECUTIVE ADVISOR/LEGAL	7
4.0.0	DUTIES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS	7
5.0.0	DUTIES OF ASSOCIATION DIRECTORS	7
6.0.0	ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES	8
6.1.0	VOTING	9
6.2.0	REMOVAL OF BOARD MEMBERS	9
6.3.0	VACANCIES	10
6.4.0	AMENDMENTS TO BY- LAWS	10
6.5.0	INTERPRETATION OF BY-LAWS	10
7.0.0	ASSOCIATION VIOLATIONS	10
8.0.0	ALLEGATIONS, APPEALS AND PROTESTS	11
8.1.0	APPEALS	11
8.2.0	GAME PROTESTS	11
9.0.0	FINANCES, FEES AND FINES	12
9.1.0	FEES	12

9.2.0 FINES	12			
10.0.0 ASSOCIATIONS	12			
11.0.0 TEAM ORGANIZATION	13			
11.1.0 COACHES	13			
11.2.0 COACHES DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES	14			
11.3.0 COACH CONDUCT	14			
11.4.0 Participation Form	15			
11.5.0. BUSINESS MANAGER	15			
11.6.0 IDENTIFICATION BADGES	15			
12.0.0 PLAYER DIVISIONS AND WEIGHT REQUIREMENTS	16			
13.0.0 FORMING OF TEAMS AND PARTICIPATION RESTRICTIONS	16			
13.1.0 PLAYER REGISTRATION	16			
13.2.0 RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS	17			
13.3.0 ONE-SEASON TRANSFERS	18			
13.4.0 RESIDENCY VIOLATIONS	18			
13.5.0 RECRUITING	18			
14.0.0 DIVIDING OF TEAMS	19			
15.0.0 DIVIDING OF A TEAMS	19			
16.0.0 DIVIDING OF TEAMS (TRADITIONAL DRAFT)	19			
17.0.0 REGISTERING (DECLARING) TEAMS	20			
18.0.0 PRACTICE SESSIONS AND SCRIMMAGES	21			
19.0.0 LEAGUE GAME SCHEDULES	22			
20.0.0 SEASON OFFICIAL WEIGH-IN	22			
20.1.0 REGULAR SEASON WEIGH-IN PROCEDURES	22			
20.2.0 PLAY OFF GAME DAY WEIGH-IN PROCEDURE	22			
21.0.0 GAME DAY PROCEDURE	24			
22.1.0  GAME DAY PLAYER PARTICIPATION  /  MINIMUM PLAY RULE (MPR)	24			
23.0.0 OFFICIALS	25			
24.0.0 RULES OF THE GAME	25			
25.0.0 MINI BOWL QUALIFICATION	28			
26.0.0 STANDARDS OF CONDUCT	29			
27.0.0 MEDICAL OVERSIGHT	30			
ADDENDUM A:	31			
ADDENDUM B:				
ADDENDUM C:	33			
ADDENDUM D:	34			

# Wasatch Front Football League, Inc.

By-Laws, Rules, Policies, and Procedures
April 2023

#### **Mission Statement**

The Wasatch Front Football League, Inc. (WFFL) is a recreational youth football program with the ultimate desire to teach the area youth the game of football, good sportsmanship and to provide playing opportunities for all of our participants. The purpose of the WFFL is to provide positive growth experiences via athletic competition. Ideally, the benefits of these experiences will last far beyond the playing field. The WFFL program is a vehicle by which participants, both youth and adult, may learn lessons of life that strengthen both body and character with emphasis on developing skills such as self-discipline, teamwork, concentration, health and fitness, agility, leadership, and good sportsmanship.

# 1.0.0 GENERAL

- 1.0.1 The name of this organization shall be "Wasatch Front Football League, Inc." (herein after referred to as WFFL) and shall maintain its tax exemption status under Section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Service, as may be amended.
- 1.0.2 Jurisdiction. The WFFL claims jurisdiction and sole governing body over, but not limited to, the game of amateur football for youth in the State of Utah from the City of Kaysville and county of Davis northward.
- 1.0.3 The principal address of the WFFL shall be located in the State of Utah at such locations as determined from time to time by the Board of Directors. The current legal address is: WFFL, 4045 Bona Villa Drive, Ogden, UT 84403. All correspondence pertaining to treasury and finances should be directed to this address.
- 1.0.4 The registered agent of the WFFL shall be the Secretary or in their absence, the league President.
- 1.0.5 The Fiscal Year of the WFFL shall begin on August 1 and end on July 31 of the following year.

# 1.1.0 DEFINITION OF TERMS

- 1.1.1 "League" is the WFFL organization in its entirety.
- 1.1.2 "Region" is a geographical area consisting of a group of districts (see Addendum A).
- 1.1.3 "District" is the geographical boundaries of an association (see Addendum B).
- 1.1.4 "Association" is an organization that sponsors and administers to the affairs of one or more teams within a district.
- 1.1.5 "Division" is a grouping of teams of the same grade and weight.
- 1.1.6 "Player" is a youth participant that is listed on an official team roster. NOTE: this definition is different than that found in the NFHS Football Rules Book.

#### 2.0.0 ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANIZATION

2.0.1 The **EXECUTIVE BOARD** consists of a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Four Executive Advisors (Officials, Legal, and Internet and Non-Contact), and a Commissioner from each Region. The President shall be elected by written ballot on April of a voting year, for a four

year term, by the Board of Directors. The Secretary and Treasurer shall be elected by written ballot in April for a four-year term by the Board of Directors. Commissioners are appointed by the Executive Board for an indefinite term. All other members of this board are appointed by the President for an indefinite period.

- 2.0.2 All members of the Executive Board/Board of Directors have voting privileges except the Executive Advisors, and Supervisors of Officials. Any Executive Board/Board of Director member who is currently on a WFFL coaching staff will have limited voting privileges
- 2.0.3 A Commissioner is the head of a region.
- 2.0.4 There are 2 Supervisors of Officials, one for Regions 1, 2, and 3 (South), one for Region 4 (North)
- 2.0.5 League Officers are the members of the Executive Board.
- 2.0.6 The BOARD OF DIRECTORS consists of one Director from each Association. The Board of Directors enacts, amends, repeals, and adopts the league articles of incorporation, by-laws, rules, policies and procedures.
- 2.0.7 A Director is the head of an association.
- 2.0.8 Committees may be appointed from time to time by the President to inform and/or advise the Executive Board on specific issues. No member of an association on probation shall be permitted to serve on any committee. *Examples* of possible committees follow.
- 2.0.9 Oversight: oversees the actions of all League Officers and Directors, and investigates all alleged violations committed by a league member. This committee also investigates potential league and/or association liabilities by working directly with the league Executive Advisor/Legal.
- 2.0.10 Fundraising: The Executive Board and Board of Directors (under special circumstances) will work with the community and the Executive Advisor/Internet to assist in raising funds to be used for league activities.
- 2.0.11 Academics and Awards: assists in organizing the presentation of post-season awards in conjunction with the Mini Bowl; provides a program to honor the student-athlete in the area of academic achievement; establishes academic requirements of eligibility for the Academic All-Division program.

# 3.0.0 DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

- 3.0.1 Interprets and enforces all policies and procedures of the league. The Board functions as a body and all final acts must be completed with a vote by a majority of the Board members.
- 3.0.2 Individually and jointly enforces league articles of incorporation, agreements, by-laws, rules, policies and procedures including but not limited to, the removal of coaches, players or spectators for violations of these policies, rules or by-laws. A majority vote of the executive board may also make recommendations to the Board of Directors to enact, amend, repeal and adopt changes to the league policies, documents and structure.
- 3.0.3 Approves or rejects applications for association memberships, then forwards approved application to the Board of Directors for ratification.
- 3.0.4 Determines district geographical boundaries and forwards boundary dispute resolutions to the Board of Directors for ratification
- 3.0.5 Investigates and rules on allegations of violations of League By-laws, Rules, Policies and Procedures, and assesses penalties to parties found guilty of league violation).
- 3.0.6 Reviews and rules on submitted appeals.
- 3.0.7 Approves each Director's appointment of Weight Master.

- 3.0.8 Supervises league finances.
- 3.0.9 Conflict of interest. Any WFFL voting board member, elected or appointed, shall disclose to the full WFFL executive board, in writing, any possible conflict of interest on an annual basis. Conflicts can be either financially based or based on personal matters.
  - A.) In matters concerning financial conflict, if the dollar amount exceeds five hundred dollars (\$500) in a fiscal year, a majority vote of the disinterested board members of the WFFL is required to determine if the conflict warrants further action.
  - B.) Extension of 2.0.2
  - C.) At any time a matter comes before the WFFL board in such a way as to create a conflict of interest, the affected board member shall withdraw from any discussion, meetings, or votes on the topic.
  - D). If it is found that a board member is in a conflict of interest situation and refuses to step down upon request, the board can remove them from the board with a simple majority of votes as long as there is a quorum.

#### 3.1.0 PRESIDENT

- 3.1.1 Oversees and conducts the over-all league operations and affairs.
- 3.1.2 Presides over Executive Board meetings.
- 3.1.3 Keeps the Board of Directors informed of Executive Board actions.
- 3.1.4 Presides over Board of Directors meetings but only votes to break a tie vote.
- 3.1.5 Interprets league by-laws, rules, regulations, policy, and procedures.
- 3.1.6 Oversees the scheduling of games and designates an individual to determine the details of the playing schedule, i.e., dates, times, sites, opponents, and home teams.
- 3.1.7 Establishes annual league budget.
- 3.1.8 Organizes league-wide activities.
- 3.1.9 Appoints and oversees advisory committees from time to time.

# 3.2.0 VICE PRESIDENT

- 3.2.1 Acts on behalf of the President if he/she is unavailable or is not present.
- 3.2.2 Presides over Rules Committee
- 3.2.3 Maintains the current by-laws, up-dates changes, and distributes them to the Executive Board, Board of Directors, head coaches, and other interested parties.
- 3.2.4 Assists with league budgeting and oversees Treasurer, as needed.
- 3.2.5 Manages the league non-profit 501 (c)(3) status.
- 3.2.6 Oversees and assists the Executive Advisor, as needed.
- 3.2.7 Carries out assignments as directed by the President or Executive Board.

# 3.3.0 SECRETARY

- 3.3.1 Receives and keeps on file all team and coach registration forms submitted by the Directors.
- 3.3.2 Receives and keeps on file Board of Director contact information.
- 3.3.3 Maintains the official League division standings and informs the Executive Advisor/Internet.
- 3.3.4 Forwards scores to the Executive Advisor/Internet by 7 pm Monday if not completed by the Association Directors.
- 3.3.5 Video/Audio records Executive Board and Board of Director meetings. Meetings shall be available for at least one year after each meeting.
- 3.3.6 Maintains record of Executive Board and Board of Director Attendance at meetings. Reports to Executive Treasure absentee members.
- 3.3.7 Assists the Executive Advisor, as needed.
- 3.3.8 Carries out assignments as directed by the President or Executive Board.

#### 3.4.0 TREASURER

- 3.4.1 Receives, maintains, disburses and accounts for league funds and prepares a monthly and/or annual League financial report
- 3.4.2 Create and send invoices to Board of Directors.
- 3.4.3 Acts as collection agent if needed.
- 3.4.4 Carries out assignments as directed by the President or Executive Board.

# 3.5.0 COMMISSIONER

- 3.5.1 Acts as a liaison between the Executive Board and his/her region Directors.
- 3.5.2 Conducts region meetings.
- 3.5.3 Reviews each of his/her association's team registration materials and coach certifications to ensure that they are in compliance with these by-laws.
- 3.5.4 Hears allegations of violations of these By-laws within the region and rules or forwards recommendations to the Executive Board.
- 3.5.5 Presides over and/or serves on committees as directed by the President.
- 3.5.6 Represents the Executive Board during League activities if there is no higher authority League Officer present.
- 3.5.7 Communicate with directors who have failed to post scores for their and forwards them to the Executive Advisor/Internet by 7:00 p.m. each Sunday if not completed by the region Directors.
- 3.5.8 Is available to his/her region Directors on game days or playing times or makes arrangements with another Commissioner for coverage in case of his/her unavailability.

# 3.6.0 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR & SUPERVISORS OF OFFICIALS

3.6.1 One supervisor shall be responsible for officials in Regions 1, 2, and 3 (South); the other

- supervisor shall be responsible for Region 4 (North) (see Addendum A).
- 3.6.2 Recruits, organizes, and trains officials.
- 3.6.3 Prior to the beginning of each season, participates in/conducts all rules orientation meetings for coaches, Directors, and other interested parties.
- 3.6.4 Interprets and clarifies playing rules (especially League changes to high school rules).
- 3.6.5 Assigns an Arbiter/Evaluator to post officiating assignments and evaluate the performance of officials.
- 3.6.6 Resolves official-related problems in consultation with the Executive Board and President.
- 3.6.7 Executive Director of Officials serves in an advisory capacity within the Executive Board.

#### 3.7.0 EXECUTIVE ADVISOR/INTERNET

- 3.7.1 Maintains the League official website including, but not limited to, current "By-laws, Rules, Policies and Procedures", key dates, scores and division standings.
- 3.7.2 Manages all internet advertising and promotion of League activities.
- 3.7.3 Informs news media of scores, division standings and other League activities such as the Mini Bowl, banquets, scholarships, clinics, etc.
- 3.7.4 Carries out assignments as directed by the President.

#### 3.8.0 EXECUTIVE ADVISOR/LEGAL

- 3.8.1 Acts as an advisor to the Executive Board on all legal matters.
- 3.8.2 Carries out assignments as directed by the President.

# 4.0.0 DUTIES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- 4.0.1 Elects the League, President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer.
- 4.0.2 Ratifies approved amendments or other changes to this and other league documents as initiated or as submitted by the Executive Board.
- 4.0.3 Ratifies Executive Board approval of new association applications for membership in the league.
- 4.0.4 Ratifies decisions by the Executive Board regarding district boundary disputes.
- 4.0.5 Requests League Officers to undertake specific actions as may be required from time to time.

### **5.0.0 DUTIES OF ASSOCIATION DIRECTORS**

- 5.0.1 Strictly enforces League By-laws, Rules, Policies and Procedures. All association officers, coaches, teams, and players (and players' parents/guardians) are subject to disciplinary action for violations of the sections contained herein.
- 5.0.2 Presides over the operation, administration and finances of an association.
- 5.0.3 Ensures that the association is represented at Board of Director meetings.

- 5.0.4 Appoints and supervises coaches and certifies that each coach within the Association completes required training.
- 5.0.5 Appoints Weight Masters.
- 5.0.6 Acquires and maintains the proper equipment for Association teams.
- 5.0.7 Arranges for practice areas, home game fields and equipment (clock, chains, etc.).
- 5.0.8 Ensures that a physician or other person trained in emergency first-aid is present at every home game or that there is immediate access to trained emergency medical personnel.
- 5.0.9 Provides for the orderly conducting of home games with emphasis on spectator behavior. Directors may require any disorderly or unsportsmanlike coach, player or spectator to leave the premises of the game or practice field.
- 5.0.10 Home field Director ensures that game officials are paid promptly.
- 5.0.11 Conducts player registration and keeps on file all documentation concerning the registration of each player.
- 5.0.12 Verifies that residency requirements of each player are adhered to and ensures that all players are eligible to participate according to the League By-laws, Rules, Policies, and Procedures.
- 5.0.13 Home field Director notifies the Executive Advisor/Internet or league Secretary of game scores no later than each Sunday at 7:00 p.m.
- 5.0.14 DIRECTORS SHIRTS/BADGES: Because Directors need to be readily identified at games, all Directors should wear identifying shirts or jackets. Directors' badges should also be worn and be clearly visible.

# **6.0.0 ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES**

# 6.0.1 MEETINGS

Meetings may be convened and conducted electronically, if feasible and the means to do so are available. All meetings will be recorded.

# 6.0.2 ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Call to order:

6. Report of Officers/committees

2. Roll Call:

7. Unfinished Business

3. Presentation of the minutes

8. New Business

4. Financial Report

9. Open forum

5. Opening Statement

10. Adjournment

# 6.0.3 PARLIAMENTARY RULES

- 1. The President may save time in deciding certain questions by asking if there are any objections. If none are offered, he shall declare the action adopted.
- 2. The President shall not allow any member to speak more than once on the same subject until all members desiring the floor have been heard, and not more than twice and not more than five (5) minutes at any one time, except those making reports.
- 3. When members desire that all talk or debate be stopped and a vote taken, they may call for a "Previous Question", when this done, it shall be put to a vote at once. If this is carried by a majority vote, then the main question shall immediately be put to a vote without further debates.
- 4. A motion can be amended only twice.
- 5. If a motion has been amended, the amendment must be voted on first. If it has been amended twice, the vote shall be first on each amendment, then on the main question.
- 6. An action can be reconsidered at the same meeting, a majority vote being sufficient to decide. If

reconsidered at the next meeting, a three-fourths vote is required. A motion to reconsider must be made and seconded by members who voted with the majority.

7. Except as provided above, generally understood principles of parliamentary procedure shall govern.

#### 6.0.4 GENERAL RULES

- 1. The general associated members may bring up issues, ideas or suggestions at any monthly meeting during an open forum for discussion, but may not request a vote until there has been adequate time to research, review the facts or debate the issue. The issue can be voted on at the next general meeting. It is suggested that any member wanting to discuss an issue, contact the President or a board member and ask to be put on the next agenda.
- 2. The exceptions to rule 6.0.4 subsection 1, are:
- a) that if it is a simple request with obvious solutions, then the president may, with discretion, call for a vote on the matter; or
- b) if the general body, with a majority vote of those present, may waive the application of this rule.
- 3. Electronic meeting attendance is allowed if the means and facilities can accommodate a request to participate electronically.

# 6.0.5 EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETINGS

Meetings shall be held no less than monthly as directed by the President unless waived by a majority vote of the board. Special meetings may be called by any member of the Executive Board but the member who calls a special meeting shall designate the place and time for this meeting with at least 48 hours advance notice be given for special meetings involving the Executive Board.

# 6.0.6 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS

Meetings shall be held monthly from March through November of each year. Scheduling of these meetings, including date, time and location, shall be determined at the April meeting and posted on the official league website. Unless excused by an Executive Board member, it is mandatory that each association be represented. A fine shall be imposed on the association for each unexcused absence. The President may call an emergency meeting of the Board of Directors for any reason with at least 48 hours advance notice.

# 6.0.7 OUORUM

A majority of the voting board members present shall constitute a quorum for the transacting of business at any meeting of the Executive Board or Board of Directors.

# 6.0.8 REGION MEETINGS

Meetings may be called from time to time by a commissioner to conduct region business.

#### **6.1.0 VOTING**

Votes may be taken by electronic means if time and/or convenience for a convened meeting are not an option because of a special situation.

- 6.1.1 Each Executive Board voting member is entitled to one vote and may, in his/her absence, submit an absentee vote signed and dated prior to the meeting. A person who is an Executive Board voting member and a Director shall only have one vote when in joint session.
- 6.1.2 Each Director (or appointed designee) is entitled to one vote. An association on probation may lose its voting privileges for violations of these by-laws, as determined by the Executive Board. In a Board of Directors meeting, the President only votes to break a tie vote.
- 6.1.3 Unless otherwise stated in these by-laws, approval of proposed actions requires a majority vote of the Board members present. For Executive Board voting, an absentee ballot counts as a member present.

# 6.2.0 REMOVAL OF BOARD MEMBERS

Members of either board may be removed by the respective board for failure to discharge duties in

a satisfactory manner or violation of these League By-laws. Removal is mandatory for missing three consecutive regular meetings unless the absence has been approved by the respective Board, prior to the meeting.

# 6.3.0 VACANCIES

Any vacancy occurring on the Executive Board shall be filled for the un-expired term by the remaining members of the Executive Board.

#### 6.4.0 AMENDMENTS TO BY- LAWS

The Bylaws of the League shall be amended only by the Board of Directors and changes to the amendments requires a majority vote of the Board of Directors members present. Proposed amendments to this document shall first be submitted to the Executive Board for review and clarification. With a positive recommendation it shall then be forwarded to the Board of Directors for a vote. No amendments for the current year shall be considered or approved after June 30 unless said changes receive a majority vote of those present from the Board of Directors to consider said change. Amendments enacted under this provision may be effective immediately and applied prospectively, and such changes shall have no retroactive application.

AMENDMENTS TO THESE BY BY-LAWS AND ALL LEAGUE RULES SHALL FIRST AND FOREMOST BE DESIGNED TO PROTECT THE HEALTH, SAFETY AND ENJOYMENT OF THE PARTICIPANTS AND PLAYERS OF THE WFFL.

# 6.5.0 INTERPRETATION OF BY-LAWS

The President, after conferring with the Executive Board, shall have the responsibility for interpretation of these By-laws, Rules, Policies and Procedures. However, any decision so made by the President may be appealed to the remainder of the Executive Board (excluding the President) for final ruling. However, the decision of the President shall be over-turned only if found to be clearly erroneous, arbitrary or capricious.

# 7.0.0 ASSOCIATION VIOLATIONS

- 7.0.1 Alleged violations shall be submitted in writing to the appropriate association Director for resolution. If the Director feels the allegation warrants further review, the Director shall forward it to the Commissioner, along with all supporting information, who shall bring it before the Executive Board for investigation and recommendations.
- 7.0.2 The Executive Board may hold hearings as part of their investigation of alleged violations. Such hearings shall be conducted after proper notice has been given to the association, coach, parent, spectator or player under investigation. The association, coach, parent, spectator or player shall be given an opportunity to be present at such hearing and present their position and evidence concerning the allegations.
- 7.0.3 The President and/or Executive Board shall analyze and evaluate the evidence, statements, investigation results and recommendations prior to determining if a violation has occurred and the action(s) to be taken. Upon the determination by the President that a violation has occurred, the Executive Board shall find the facts specifically, determine a penalty if necessary, and serve a written copy thereof on the association director involved. The decision of the Executive Board shall be final.
- 7.0.4 The association shall have seven days from the receipt of such notice to resolve the violation or infraction. If the association cannot resolve the violation/infraction within seven days, the association shall request an extension from the Executive Board. The association shall promptly take all reasonable steps to resolve the violation/ infraction and notify the Executive Board in writing as to the exact steps that will be taken and the projected completion date.

# 8.0.0 ALLEGATIONS, APPEALS AND PROTESTS

# 8.0.1 CONFLICT RESOLUTION

It is expected and normal that in athletic competition there shall be disagreements. These disagreements have the potential to escalate to conflicts. Inherent with their position, Directors and League Officers have the authority and responsibility to resolve disputes. As much as is reasonable, opposing parties are expected to view the issues from a neutral perspective. If there were to be a prime directive applied to the WFFL it would be that adult administrators are responsible for the welfare of ALL of the participants and the integrity of the program.

- 8.0.2 Only allegations concerning the violation of these league By-laws, Rules, Policies and Procedures shall be heard by the League. The League shall in no way be involved in matters within or between associations except when the matter concerns an alleged violation of section(s) of this document.
- 8.0.3 All allegations concerning the violation of these By-laws, Rules, Policies and Procedures shall be sponsored by a Director or League Officer. Parties shall first take the allegation/complaint to the appropriate head coach, then the association Director. If the allegation remains unresolved, the Director shall forward the allegation to his/her Commissioner. Parent or coach input shall be presented only by a Director or Commissioner. If the Director or Commissioner is unable or unwilling to appropriately resolve the matter or fails to respond in writing within a reasonable time, then the league President may, but is not required to, review the matter in an effort to resolve the dispute, take no further action or submit it to the full Executive Board. If the complaint/allegation involves any one of the positions listed in the chain of command, then the complainant may bypass that step and move to the next.
- 8.0.4 The Commissioner and/or President shall fully investigate the matter and make a ruling and forward his/her findings and recommendations to the Executive Board. A League Officer may initiate an investigation anytime that he/she has received credible information that a violation of these league By-laws, Rules, Policies or Procedures has occurred but shall notify the Association Director of the investigation.
- 8.0.5 The Executive Board shall have full and final authority in resolving all allegations, complaints suspensions, appeals and protests. The Executive Board and individual Board members have the authority and responsibility to take charge of any situation deemed necessary to protect the good name and reputation of the WFFL.
- 8.0.6 At any point while a matter is being investigated, if the President decides that any individual commissioner has a conflict of interest, or an appearance of the same, the President may, but is not required to, substitute another Commissioner, or himself, to make an unbiased and fair decision to all involved parties.

# 8.1.0 APPEALS

- 8.1.1 Appeals regarding decisions of a Director, President or a Commissioner shall be filed on a WFFL APPEAL FORM within 48 business hours of the decision to the Director, President or Commissioner. If unresolved by the Director it shall be forwarded to the Commissioner, then to the Executive Board. Appeals of decisions by the President or a single Commissioner shall be submitted directly to the full Executive Board within 48 business hours of the decision. The Board's decision shall be final.
- 8.1.2 APPEAL FORM must be filled out completely and signed by the association Director, or the Commissioner if it involves the Director, acknowledging receipt of the Appeal. Appeals must be received within 48 hours of the alleged infraction or ruling and include all applicable fees.

#### 8.2.0 GAME PROTESTS

8.2.1 shall be received only with regard to violations of these By-laws. Protests/Appeals involving the judgment of a game official will not be considered unless there is clear and convincing ("incontrovertible") evidence to the contrary. All protests/Appeals shall be submitted on a WFFL

GAME PROTEST FORM along with a filing fee.

8.2.2 The burden of proof shall be upon the party requesting the action. Unless stated otherwise herein, all decisions made by a Commissioner or full Executive board shall stand unless, based upon clear and convincing proof, the decision was erroneous.

# 9.0.0 FINANCES, FEES AND FINES

- 9.0.1 Checks issued by the League shall require signatures of the President and an Executive Board member. Disbursements of more than \$1,000 shall be approved by the Executive Board. Disbursements of more than \$3,000 shall be approved by the Board of Directors.
- 9.0.2 When a contemplated expenditure exceeds \$1,000, the Executive Board shall obtain price or cost quotations from at least 3 responsible vendors or bidders in the business of supplying such services or bids and select the one most beneficial to the league. If the Executive Board finds that it is impractical or impossible to obtain 3 bids for the proposed transaction, the Board may procure the goods or services in any manner deemed to be in the best interest of the league.
- 9.0.3 The League shall provide a fiscal report to the Board of Directors monthly or no later than once per quarter while in season.
- 9.0.4 Each Director shall be responsible for his/her association finances. The League shall in no way be responsible or held liable for any financial costs regarding any dispute that may arise involving financial matters between associations.
- 9.0.5 Home team associations are responsible for paying game officials for both regular and post-season play. The league has responsibility for paying officials for post-season games played at a neutral site or when asked to host by the league. These payments should be made to the officials at the conclusion of the game assignments unless prohibited by city or other policy.

# 9.1.0 FEES

- 9.1.1 Annual association fee \$100 per team (\$50 Jr Mite). This fee is non-refundable.
- 9.1.2 Appeals of Director, Commissioner or President rulings \$50. Failure to pay this will result in any appeal hearings being cancelled and/or suspension from league participation until paid in full.

#### 9.2.0 FINES

- 9.2.1 Association not represented at Board of Directors meeting \$50
- 9.2.2 Illegal recruiting \$100 per player
- 9.2.3 Other. As determined by the Executive Board taking into consideration the seriousness of offense, frequency, intent, remorse and/or any other factors the Board considers relevant.

#### **10.0.0 ASSOCIATIONS**

# 10.0.1 LICENSE AGREEMENT

Sponsors desiring to affiliate with the League shall be subject to all provisions of this document and any future amendments thereto and must agree in writing (via License Agreement) to be bound thereby. No Association shall receive a License until all League financial obligations (e.g., fines, fees) are met. License Agreements shall be signed by the Director and be on file with the League Secretary and Treasurer prior to the first League game.

# 10.0.2 RESIGNATION OF ASSOCIATIONS

Any association may resign or withdraw its teams by filing a written resignation or withdrawal with the Secretary-Treasurer. Such resignation or withdrawal shall not relieve the association of the obligation to pay any fees, assessments or other charges accrued and unpaid.

# 10.0.3 REINSTATEMENT OF FORMER ASSOCIATIONS

Upon written request and a License Agreement signed by the Director and submitted to the Secretary-Treasurer, the Executive Board may reinstate a former association to membership upon such terms as the Executive Board may deem appropriate.

# 10.0.4 ACCOUNTABILITY

Each association is accountable for every association-affiliated individual and each association team. Misconduct, even if only the result of the actions of one individual or one team, may result in the entire association being penalized. The association shall notify the Executive Board in writing of the expulsion, suspension or probation of any coach, player, spectator or parent/guardian by that association or a game official. Each association shall also notify the Executive Board of any injury to property, player, coach or spectator.

# 10.0.5 COLORS

Game jerseys shall comply with assigned association colors specified in Addendum D. Any updates to Addendum D must be submitted to the Vice President by June 1st. The Executive Board shall approve the selection/changes of colors. All associations shall keep an extra set of white, or other contrasting-colored jerseys, available in case a visiting team has the same or similar colored jersey. The home team will wear the white or contrasting colored jersey.

# 11.0.0 TEAM ORGANIZATION

- 11.0.1 Teams shall be organized by divisions
- 11.0.2 A team for divisions Mitey Mite Bantam shall be limited to a Head Coach, up to five assistant coaches, with one of those five being your statistician,, and up to 35 players. A team for division Jr Mite shall be limited to a Head Coach, up to three assistant coaches, with one of those 3 being your statistician, and up to 16 players. A team may also have one (1) coach-trainee. A coach trainee is NOT an excuse for another coach, parent or other active participant on the sideline but rather someone, under the age of 18, sincerely interested in learning the game of football and coaching, with the intention of one day becoming a coach. THIS POSITION MUST BE APPROVED BY THE DIRECTOR and have a coach's badge.

# **11.1.0 COACHES**

11.1.1 All coaching personnel shall be of *unquestionable character* and have a profound interest in, and knowledge of, youth and the game of football and good sportsmanship. A person who is currently under disciplinary action by any football organization during the last season in which he/she coached, or who fails to disclose previous disciplinary action at the time of registration shall disqualify that person from participation in the WFFL, in any capacity, until approval is granted by the Executive Board. A full criminal background investigation (BCI) must be conducted on every coach (this shall include a national criminal background check). Grounds for disqualification of an individual for a coaching position within the WFFL shall include at least the following: 1) Any criminal offense against a minor, 2) Any conviction involving violence, 3) Any sexual offense, or as outlined by any applicable city, county or association policy.

This BCI remains valid for as long as the coach is a member of the coaching staff. If he/she resigns, a new BCI must be conducted prior to reinstatement. It is recommended that local checks be done yearly.

11.1.2 League Officer/Director serving on a coaching staff will have limited voting privileges.

### 11.1.3 AGE

A head coach must be at least 21 years of age. An assistant coach must be at least 18 years of age or a high school graduate. It is strongly encouraged that at least one assistant coach be at least 21 years old. A coach-trainee shall be at least 16 years of age.

# 11.1.4 RESIDENCY

A coach has no residency requirements, but if his/her children are members of a team, they must meet residency requirements.

# 11.1.5 CERTIFICATION

All members of a coaching staff must be certified by their respective Association Director as having completed training sanctioned by the Executive Board. This certification is done on the *WFFL COACHES ROSTER*, which is submitted to the League at the time of team registration.

#### 11.1.6 FIRST AID

In the absence of a specialized, trained person affiliated with the team in the medical area (e.g., physician, paramedic, nurse, specially trained volunteer), it is recommended at least one coach per team should be the holder of a current Red Cross certificate in community CPR and first-aid, or its equivalent.

# 11.1.7 ADULT LEADER

An adult member of the coaching staff shall be present at all team practices, games and functions. No member of the coaching staff who is under 21 years of age shall transport any players to or from practices or games under any circumstances.

#### 11.2.0 COACHES DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- 11.2.1 Coaches are, first and foremost, teachers and shall model appropriate behavior, conduct and good sportsmanship at all times.
- 11.2.2 The head coach is in complete charge of the team whenever it is together on the practice field, playing a game, or for any team function, such as clinics or banquets. Head coaches are also fully responsible for all assistant coaches, parents, fans, spectators and sideline. Failure to control any of the aforementioned could result in discipline being taken against the coach, team or association, separately or jointly.
- 11.2.3 Coaches do not make team or league policy; they carry it out. All coaches are expected to read and understand these by-laws. The coaching staff shall not be interfered with, except in cases of by-laws or rules violations or other conduct deemed by higher authority to be contrary to the welfare of youth participants. The head coach has final responsibility for his/her actions, those of the team, players, assistant coaches and, during a game, the parents and spectators.
  - All coaches shall timely, fully and truthfully, cooperate with any Director or League Official who is conducting an investigation concerning any rule, by-law, association or other violation or allegation. Failure to do so could result in suspension.
- 11.2.4 All coaches shall abide by a doctor's or medical personnel recommendations concerning injuries. Use discretion in allowing a player to re-enter a game after becoming injured. If in doubt, do not allow the child to play.
- 11.2.5 Do not permit "sweating down" tactics so that a player meets weight requirements.
- 11.2.6 Any play, drill, act or procedure that may be hazardous to the health of the players shall not be tolerated.
- 11.2.7 Refrain from "running up" the score of a lopsided game. During the second half, coaches of a team that is ahead by more than 24 points shall not attempt to add any more points to their score.

# 11.3.0 COACH CONDUCT

The following behaviors shall be adhered to at all times

- 11.3.1 Do not use tobacco of any kind (includes E cigarettes) while participating in any WFFL activity.
- 11.3.2 Do not use profane or abusive language or gestures while participating in any WFFL activity.

2022 WFFL Divisions- Grade, X-man Weight				
Division Grade		X-manDry Weight (No Pads)	X-man Game Day Weight (with pads)	
Jr. Mite	2nd/3rd Grade	85 lbs	92 lbs	
Mitey Mite	4th Grade	95 lbs	102 lbs	
Jr. Peewee	5th Grade	108 lbs	116 lbs	
Peewee	6th Grade	123 lbs	131 lbs	
Sr. Peewee	7th Grade	140 lbs	149 lbs	
Jr. Bantam	8th Grade	160 lbs	169 lbs	
Bantam	9th Grade	Unlimited	Unlimited	

<sup>\*\*\*</sup>Players can play up one grade with director approval

- 11.3.3 Do not criticize or demean players at any time; positive, constructive instruction should be done in private or, preferably, in the presence of the team so that all may benefit.
- 11.3.4 Accept decisions of game officials, in an attitude of good sportsmanship.
- 11.3.5 Do not demean, confront or taunt officials, the opposing team, its coaches, fans or personnel, or league officials, either verbally or by gesture. Only the head coach is to talk to an official concerning an issue during a game and only if the official finds it is warranted and only when the official can safely and timely accommodate it.

# 11.4.0 Participation Form

The number of plays in which a team member participates shall be recorded on a *WFFL 10-PLAY PARTICIPATION FORM* by stat an assistant coach <u>as the play occurs</u>. This form shall be turned in to the team's Director after the game. All players in Jr Mite will receive a minimum of 8.

# 11.5.0. BUSINESS MANAGER

Each team may appoint a business manager to aid the coaching staff with such matters as team transportation, publicity, fund-raising, and administrative assistance. The business manager shall not be allowed in the team box during games.

# 11.6.0 IDENTIFICATION BADGES

11.6.1 All certified coaches shall receive a photo identification badge. These badges shall contain the individual's name, title or position held, association name, and a yearly WFFL issued sticker. These badges identify individuals authorized on fields and in the team box during games and shall be worn so as to be readily visible at all times. All badges are the sole property of the League. At the end of the season, all badges should be surrendered to and retained by the association Director until the next season. Any coach ejected from a game by a game official, Director or League Official shall immediately surrender his/her ID badge to the field director or a League Official and must meet with the Executive Board. Failure to surrender the card to the proper authority when requested shall render the coach/statistician on probation with the possibility of suspension for the remainder of the season.

#### 11.6.2 TEMPORARY BADGES

Coaches who have lost, forgotten or misplaced badges may obtain a temporary badge from an association Director with their director verification. Temporary badges shall be returned at the end of the game. Lost badges must be replaced promptly.

<sup>\*\*\*</sup>OBL variance with director/commissioner approval

# 12.0.0 PLAYER DIVISIONS AND WEIGHT REQUIREMENTS

12.0.1 Players shall be classified by divisions as follows:

\*\*\*\*\* On rare occasions, the league may grant a disability waiver to any of the above weights, ages and limits in cases involving extreme size differential, capacity, and understanding, so as to not place any player at risk of injury. Such situations are not automatic and shall be discouraged, thoroughly investigated by the Board and granted by the Board only in the most extreme cases.

12.0.2 A 2nd grader may participate as a Mitey Mite only if there is no Jr. Mites team formed

# 12.0.3 X-Men

An X-PLAYER is a player that exceeds the maximum weight allowed but may still participate By definition, X-player rules do not apply to the Bantam division.

# 12.0.4 OLDER-BUT-LIGHTER (OBL)

OBL players are discouraged and will be determined on a case-by-case. Must be approved by your association director/region commissioner. OBL players shall meet certification weight ranges.

2022 Proposed WFFL Divisions- Grade, X-man Weight, OBL						
Division	Grade	X-manDry Weight (No Pads)	X-man Game Day Weight (with pads)	OBL Grade	OBL Dry Weight (No Pads)	OBL Game Day Weight (with pads)
Jr. Mite	2nd/3rd Grade	85 lbs.	92 lbs.	N/A	N/A	N/A
Mitey Mite	4th Grade	95 lbs.	102 lbs.	5th Grade	65 lbs.	72
Jr. Peewee	5th Grade	108 lbs.	116 lbs.	6th Grade	73 lbs.	81
Peewee	6th Grade	123 lbs.	131 lbs.	7th Grade	88 lbs.	96
Sr. Peewee	7th Grade	140 lbs.	149 lbs.	8th Grade	100 lbs.	109
Jr. Bantam	8th Grade	160 lbs.	169 lbs.	9th grade	120 lbs.	129
Bantam	9th Grade	Unlimited	Unlimited	N/A	N/A	N/A

<sup>\*\*\*</sup>Players can play up one grade with director approval

12.0.5 Weight is an important factor as far as safety is concerned; therefore, players must be in compliance with grade and weight requirements in order to be certified. Directors shall certify minimum weight at time of registration or prior to the first league game.

#### 13.0.0 FORMING OF TEAMS AND PARTICIPATION RESTRICTIONS

- 13.0.1 Teams shall not participate in any other organized youth football or similar programs, except for camps, clinics and tournaments as approved by the Executive Board. Team or organized practices of any kind, meetings, scrimmages or other like events or competitions are strictly prohibited prior to the first eligible day of practice.
- 13.0.2 Players shall not participate or practice with another football team outside of the WFFL organization while on a WFFL team roster or play with or practice with a playoff team once the player's team is eliminated. He/she may tryout for school teams but shall be removed from the WFFL roster when placed on an official school football roster.
- 13.0.3 Any person attending 10<sup>th</sup> grade or higher is not eligible to participate as a player.
- 13.0.4 All registration documents shall be on file with the Director before any player is permitted to participate in any games or other league activities

# 13.1.0 PLAYER REGISTRATION

13.1.1 Each association shall establish their respective period of time when players may register. League wide registration end date is June 15<sup>th</sup>. Associations may take late registration but must follow all team declaration guidelines and division split and bylaws (see 14.0.0).

<sup>\*\*\*</sup>OBL variance with director/commissioner approval

- 13.1.2 The following documents are required for each player: (1) school report card or official documentation showing grade (2) signed parental/guardian permission to participate, (3) physical examination record signed by a physician, dated within one year from the first game (4) proof of residency (any <u>current</u> (dated within previous 60 days) record of any of the following: utility bill, municipal record, homeowner/tenant record or any other document recognized by the local Director) and (5) either proof of or waiver of health insurance signed by parent/guardian. An association may require additional forms.
- 13.1.3 These documents shall be retained by the Director.

# 13.2.0 RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS

- 13.2.1 A player shall participate on a team within the district in which he/she resides (see Addendum B). When new district boundaries are designated or a new association enters the league, all players residing within the new boundaries are required to participate on a team in the new district in which they are residents.
- 13.2.2 A player is eligible to participate on a team within the association in which he/she resides as of the date the player is registered with that association. The player's association-of-residence is the area in which the player's parent or legal guardian resides or the association in which the player resides while in the custody, or under the supervision, of a Utah state agency, or while under the supervision of a private or public agency which is authorized by the state to provide child placement services. A player whose custodial parent or legal guardian does not reside in Utah is considered to be a resident of the association in which the player resides if the requirement of UTAH CODE ANN. 53a-2-202 has been satisfied and a copy of the designation of guardianship issued by the player's school district is kept with the player's registration.
- For purposes of these By-laws, Rules, Policies and Procedures, "residence," "reside" and 13.2.3 "residing" refers to a place of continuous habitation with a lawful guardian. A place of residence once established shall not be considered changed unless the parents, parent or guardian makes a permanent change of residence. Moving into an area temporarily for the purpose of establishing residency does not satisfy those requirements. Unless the contrary is shown by competent evidence, the residence or domicile of a player shall be determined in accordance with the following standards: (a) the residence of a player is where the player resides or normally lives with a lawful quardian. This is normally the residence of the player's parents; (b) if both parents are dead, residence is that of the duly appointed guardian; (c) if the parents are divorced, except as provided in 13.3.2, a player's area of residence is the area of residence of either parent; (d) a player whose parent/ quardian moves into a another district to establish permanent residence is eligible to register in that district; (e) a player properly listed on an official team roster will not become ineligible to play the remainder of the current football season merely because the parents/quardian subsequently remove their legal residence from the area unless the parents or guardian originally moved into the area as a pretext to gain residence for the player to play football for the association; and (f) If the custody of a player has been legally granted to any person or by legal foster placement agency with a resident family within a district boundary, the residency of the person to whom custody was awarded constitutes the residency of the player.
- 13.2.4 A player whose parents are never married, legally separated, or divorced at the time of registration, and live in separate associations, the player may choose to claim residency with either parent .
- 13.2.5 If the player's residence changes during the season, the player may complete the season in the association in which he/she was eligible to register as of the date he/she registered with that association.
- 13.2.6 A player who inadvertently and innocently registers with an association other than the association of residence, shall be required to transfer to the association of residence, immediately upon discovery, in order to continue to play the remainder of the season. This transfer must occur before B team declaration. The association of residence shall accept the transfer before June 15 and place the player on an appropriate team. After June 15<sup>th</sup> the association is not required to take the additional player.

# 13.3.0 ONE-SEASON TRANSFERS

- 13.3.1 If the association in which a participant is a legal resident does not have a team in his/her division, a one-season transfer may be granted by the Executive Board; however, no association is required to accept a transfer. This transfer allows a player to play on an adjacent association team, as determined by the Board, for one season only; the player shall return to his/her resident association the following season, consistent with these bylaws. A player must be legally registered in his/her resident association by the deadline date, and all forms and fees shall be on file with the resident association. The primary criteria used by the Board to determine which adjacent association the player(s) shall be assigned to shall be: 1) Need of a receiving association; 2) proximity; 3) any other factor(s) the Board finds that benefits the league.
- 13.3.2 Transferring a player does not alleviate the transferring association of financial responsibility. Any subsidiary cost to the host (receiving) association over and above the registration fee must be compensated for by the resident association requesting the transfer. Association Directors shall determine among themselves what these costs will be prior to the transfer. These costs should be in writing and in invoice form for financial convenience between associations

#### 13.4.0 RESIDENCY VIOLATIONS

- 13.4.1 A player who knowingly registers in an association other than his/her correct one shall be banned from participating on any team in the league for the remainder of the season.
- 13.4.2 Regardless of whether the original registration in the wrong district was inadvertent or intentional, if a player attempts to cover up his/her true residency by falsifying the home address or by providing other false or misleading information to either the League or association, he/she shall be banned for the remainder of the season and also the season following. For purposes of the penalty set forth in this subsection, the conduct of a player's parents or legal guardian shall be attributed and chargeable to the player.
- 13.4.3 In addition to the WFFL sanctions against any player who does not live in the district and has not satisfied the requirements of these by-laws for residency, intentionally or unintentionally, may include forfeiture of all games in which such ineligible player was listed on a team roster.
- 13.4.4 Any coach who knowingly recruits players who do not satisfy the residency requirement for that coach's team, or who knowingly allows a player who does not meet the residency requirement to play or continue to play on his/her team shall, upon detection, be ineligible to coach the remainder of the current season and the following season in any capacity. If a coach has attempted to cover up the residency deception by providing false or misleading information to any association or League Official, the ban from coaching shall be extended by at least one additional year. In an extreme case, the penalty may be a lifetime ban from coaching in the league.
- 13.4.5 If association officers knowingly participate in concealing a residency violation, the association may be subject to sanctions as determined by the Executive Board including, but not limited to, probation or suspension and the disqualification of some or all of the association's teams from post-season play and/or league.
- 13.4.6 Disputes regarding the residency of a player shall be resolved by the Executive Board.

### 13.5.0 RECRUITING

13.5.1 Enticing and encouraging the youth of our community to participate in the league football program is essential to our mission. Youth tackle football provides a safe and regulated opportunity for youth to realize athletic and character-building achievement. Recruiting efforts by all league members and associates to introduce new participants to this program is encouraged.

13.5.2 ILLEGAL RECRUITING is divisive and a serious threat to relationships between associations and the league in general. Illegal recruiting is defined as any act by an adult or juvenile so as to influence persons to register out of the appropriate district. Associations who aid and abet illegal recruitment shall be fined for each player so recruited, shall be placed on probation or suspended indefinitely, and shall be disqualified from post-season play.

# **14.0.0 DIVIDING OF TEAMS**

- 14.0.1 When the total number of players registered on any one team reaches 36 (-17 Jr Mite), that team shall be divided as hereinafter directed.
- 14.0.2 Divided teams Pee Wee Jr Bantam shall provide one A team and one or more C team(s) if number of registered players reach 36. If the split occurs when number of registered players reach 35 or less, the traditional draft system is used, see 16.0.0.
- 14.0.3 Associations with one team per division are to play in the B division.
- 14.0.4 A teams may not play in a lower division. B and/or C teams may choose to play in an upper division.
- 14.0.4 Jr Mite, Mitey Mite, Jr Pee Wee, Sr Pee Wee Divisions will split evenly using the traditional draft system (16.0.0.)

# **15.0.0 DIVIDING OF A TEAMS**

- 15.0.1 A Team Coaches must be finalized by July 1st.
- 15.0.2 A Team Coaches must hold at least one but no more than three tryouts between July 1<sup>st</sup> July 20<sup>th.</sup> Registered participants who are interested in trying out for the A team must be given the opportunity to do so. Tryouts will be non-contact, no equipment.
- 15.0.3 Associations must receive parental consent for their child to participate on the A team.
- 15.0.4 X-men/Older But Lighters do not need to be distributed evenly amongst A teams.
- 15.0.5 A Team declaration is on July 1st. Any participants who register after July 1st must be placed on a B team.
- 15.0.6 Once a player is drafted or otherwise placed on a team (sign-up, designated, or declared), a player may not go up or down or to any other team without a specific waiver granted from the WFFL and will only be granted in the most extreme situations and for good cause.
- 15.0.7 Must follow current practice/conditioning rules. Practices begin the first week of August.
- 15.0.8 All other playing rules and bylaws apply to the A Divisions.

# **16.0.0 DIVIDING OF TEAMS (TRADITIONAL DRAFT)**

- 16.0.1 The traditional draft system will be used under the following circumstances (a) to draft remaining players for associations with more than two teams per division the first team being A, the second, third, fourth teams drafted for the B/C divisions (b) divisions lacking enough teams to compile sufficient amount of teams to split A-B-C.
- 16.0.2 A member of the Executive Board shall conduct the process.
- 16.0.3 TEAMS SHALL BE DIVIDED AS EQUALLY AS POSSIBLE, NOTWITHSTANDING OTHER PROVISIONS IN

- 16.0.4 Each team is allowed to protect up to 6 players-the children of all coaches shall be included in that protection. A coin flip shall determine who will choose first. Once the draft order has been determined, the draft selections shall take place in an ascending then descending order. (Examples: two teams: 1-2, 2-1; 1-2, 2-1; three teams: 1-2-3, 3-2-1; 1-2-3, 3-2-1; four teams: 1-2-3-4, 4-3-2-1; 1-2-3-4, 4-3-2-1). A protected player who is not a coach's child must have the written approval of the parent/guardian to be considered to be one of the 6 protected players (4 for Jr. Mite). Encouraging a player or parent to not sign an agreement, or any other like behavior or act, done in an effort to avoid a particular team or coach is considered unsportsmanlike and will result in penalties being assessed against the involved parties. Letters from parents requesting a particular coach/team or refusing a particular team/coach shall only be recognized in the most extreme situations and must be approved by the Board.
- 16.0.5 The Director shall determine separately how many Older-But-Lighter players and how many X-players shall be allowed on each team. These players must be divided equitably and separately between the teams unless the un-equal number is a result of an odd total number of OBL's, X's or a result of keeping siblings together. One team is not allowed to protect a greater number of X's or a greater number of OBL's simply because they are "protected." If this is the case, then the coaching staff will have to be divided between the teams to make the numbers of OBL's and X's equal.
- 16.0.6 All protected players shall be taken in Rounds 1-6 (1-4Jr Mite). If a team has less than 6 (4 Jr Mite) protects, then the team with less than 6 (4 for Jr. Mite) protects may pick from the general pool in any round that a protected player is not chosen for that round. After the sixth (forth Jr Mite) round all remaining players become eligible to be drafted.
- 16.0.7 Teams will choose one player each round. Siblings must draft together, unless otherwise approved by the parent. Siblings count as two picks and the team choosing siblings shall be skipped in the next round. Three siblings count as 3 picks, followed by skipping the next two rounds. One sibling cannot be taken in round six in an effort to obtain any additional protects in round seven, or round eight if 3 siblings are involved, of the other remaining sibling(s).
- 16.0.8 Participants registering late shall be made available to the team that should receive the next pick. The team that would receive the next pick would be the next in draft order, next because of the loss of a player, or next because of the necessity to keep the balance of Older-But-Lighter and X-players.
- 16.0.9 No drafts may occur prior to one week before the first day of conditioning practice. Absolutely no type of practices, scrimmages or team "get togethers" of any kind are allowed prior to the first day of conditioning practice, except for A team tryouts.
- 16.0.10 Once a player is drafted or otherwise placed on a team (sign-up, designated, or declared), a player may not go up or down or to any other team without a specific waiver granted from the WFFL and will only be granted in the most extreme situations and for good cause.

# 17.0.0 REGISTERING (DECLARING) TEAMS

- 17.0.1 A Teams must be declared using the online system by July 1<sup>st</sup>. B and C Teams must be declared using the online system by July 20<sup>th</sup> or the first Monday following July 20th. The Executive Board will have the ability to modify this date, after consultation with Board of Director's.
- 17.0.2 Each association shall complete a WFFL TEAM ROSTER FORM and WFFL COACHES ROSTER FORM for each team in their district, a compliance (checklist) form signed by the Director. All information shall be printed legibly.
- 17.0.3 The Commissioner shall review the registration materials for compliance, sign the compliance form and forward it to the League. Registration fees shall also be submitted at this time.

- 17.0.4 Team roster forms shall be on file with the League Secretary at least two days before the first game.
- 17.0.5 Additions to the team roster must be submitted to the league Secretary or Commissioner at least five days prior to participating in league games. No players may be added to any roster after the 3<sup>rd</sup> game (practice or league) without approval of the Executive Board.
- 17.0.6 Any additional documentation requested by the league must be submitted by the association within 24 hours of the request or the team/player in question shall be considered ineligible to participate.

# **18.0.0 PRACTICE SESSIONS AND SCRIMMAGES**

# 18.0.1 PRIOR TO THE FIRST GAME OF THE SEASON

Practice sessions shall begin no earlier than three weeks prior to the first game of the season (as determined by the Executive Committee). For the first five (5) days of practice (conditioning and fundamentals period), full contact of any degree shall be prohibited. All players shall fully participate during this conditioning period before they may participate in contact activities. During the conditioning & fundamentals period, each participant shall have at least 225 minutes (5-45 min. sessions) of conditioning before they are allowed to have live contact. Even if a player joins the team after the start of the season, this requirement must be met. Football equipment such as footballs, blocking dummies, helmets, jerseys, shorts, shoes, socks etc. may be used/worn during this period. All other football equipment-shoulder pads, football pants w/ pads, etc. are prohibited. Conditioning and fundamentals practice sessions shall not exceed 90 minutes (45 minutes of physical training/conditioning and 45 minutes of fundamentals/expanded participation). Only one practice session per day with a maximum of five (5) days, per week is permitted.

#### 18.0.2 AFTER THE FIRST GAME

Only one practice session is allowed per day and no more than four (3 Jr Mite) practices per week. Additionally, total practice time shall not exceed six (6) (3 /Jr Mite) hours per week. No practice session shall exceed one and a half (1.5) hours or 2 hours per day for Mitey Mite-Jr. Bantam if team practices 3 days per week. No more than two practice days per week can be described as full contact practices with players participating in full uniforms. A minimum of two practices per week can be described as non-contact practices, with players participating with helmets only or 3 total hours for teams practicing 3 days/2 hours per day. Jr Mite may participate in 45 minutes of contact practice each of the two practice sessions. Please refer to 16.1.0 Highlighted Area for specific requirements on non-contact practice days. Team gatherings (once the draft has occurred) where a coach is present (for any reason) is considered a practice session. Team gatherings where a coach is not present is considered a practice if football is a substantial element of the gathering (discussed, played, reviewed, drills, film, conditioning, etc.) No practices of any kind shall be held without an invitation being made to every player and every coach. Fewer or shorter practice sessions are allowed.

# 18.0.3 CAMPS/CLINICS

Teams may attend a camp or clinic if they so choose provided: (1) it is not mandatory, (2) the camp or clinic is endorsed by the WFFL (3) the camp or clinic is not designed to allow for early starts, team or age specific divisions.

Associations may sponsor and conduct a no-contact / no-pad camp or clinic prior to the first day of practice so long as: 1) there are no organized or divided teams; 2) they are not run or conducted by WFFL coaches; 3) water and bathroom facilities are provided; 4) water breaks are taken no less than every 45 minutes; 5) it is open to any participant but NOT mandatory; 6) the Camp/Clinic has been approved by the Executive Board.

Note: Attending an approved camp or clinic, hosted by an outside party during the season will not count as a practice against regular practice days and times.

Any University Clinic night is a No-practice Day for associations as follows: Weber State functions-Regions 1, 2 and 3; Utah State functions-Region 4. Any additional WFFL-sponsored clinic or camps that are designated No-practice Days by the League will appear on the "Key Dates" distributed to the Directors and will be posted on the official web site.

- 18.0.4 No teams will play or scrimmage other teams which are not in the same grade and weight classification, or teams outside of the WFFL team organization Teams who are found scrimmaging out of their weight and age classification or outside the WFFL will be subject to suspension or removal of all coaches involved.
- 18.0.5 SCOUTING of an opponent's practice sessions are strictly forbidden

#### 19.0.0 LEAGUE GAME SCHEDULES

- 19.0.1 Each association shall be provided a complete official schedule of league games no later than three days prior to the first league game.
- 19.0.2 All teams must honor their entire schedule or be subject to expulsion from the League. In the event a schedule is not honored, the Executive Board shall determine the standing of the team and/or Association.
- 19.0.3 SCHEDULE CHANGES shall require the approval of the President. The home team Director shall notify the opposing team Director not later than the Wednesday preceding the next Saturday game of any changes to the official schedule.

#### 20.0.0 SEASON OFFICIAL WEIGH-IN

20.0.1 Weight Masters shall be appointed by each Association Director and accompanied by a member of the Executive Board or another Association Director to witness the weigh in. The Weight Master is a representative of the League, not the individual association. No Director shall serve as Weight Master unless no other League Officer is present

# 20.1.0 REGULAR SEASON WEIGH-IN PROCEDURES

- 20.1.1 The association Weight Master, accompanied by a member of the Executive Board or another association director shall conduct pre-season weigh-ins. Weigh-ins shall be completed no sooner than one week prior to conditioning week and must be completed by the end of conditioning week. Any participant who misses official weigh in must attend a neighboring association official weighin.
- 20.1.2 A zero-balance scale or digital scale shall be used at all weigh-ins. Each scale must have a 25 lbs. certified weight to prove accuracy at any time of the weigh-in. A visible certification stamp from WFFL weights & measures or a NIST tractable certificate dated no earlier than April 1 of the previous season shall be attached to the scale. Calibration shall be done every two years or sooner. When using a digital scale, maximum weight is determined by pounds only. For example, if weight limit is 110 lbs., digital reading must read 110.0 or less. 110.1 or higher is deemed over the weight limit.
- 20.1.3 Participants will be weighed in at their dry weight. Dry weight consists of participant wearing shoes, pants (short or long), and shirt.
- 20.1.4 The official weigh-in will determine final placement of each player as well as designation. The official weigh in will determine X and OBL players for season play.

# 20.2.0 PLAY OFF GAME DAY WEIGH-IN PROCEDURE

- 20.2.1 Weight Masters shall be appointed by each association Director and be approved by the Executive Board. The Weight Master is a representative of the League, not the individual association.
- 20.2.2 The home field Weight Master shall conduct pre-game weigh-ins. Weigh-ins shall begin no later than thirty minutes before scheduled game time. If the Weight Master is not present, weigh-ins shall be conducted by another League Officer. No Director shall serve as Weight Master unless

no other League Officer is present.

- 20.2.3 A zero-balance scale or digital scale shall be used at all weigh-ins. Each scale must have a 25 lbs. certified weight to prove accuracy at any time of the weigh-in. A visible certification stamp from WFFL weights & measures or a NIST tractable certificate dated no earlier than April 1 of the previous season shall be attached to the scale. Calibration shall be done every two years or sooner. When using a digital scale, maximum weight is determined by pounds only. For example, if weight limit is 110 lbs., digital reading must read 110.0 or less. 110.1 or higher is deemed over the weight limit.
- 20.2.4 The home team shall be weighed first. Weigh-ins may be witnessed by only one coach of each team. The Weight Master's decision is final and is not to be discussed with anyone except a League Officer.
- 20.2.5 Prior to weigh-in the head coach shall provide the Weight Master with a <u>fully completed</u>, printed WFFL 10-PLAY PARTICIPATION FORM/JR MITE 16-PLAY PARTICIPATION signed by the Director <u>that week</u>. The Weight Master shall use this form to certify that players have met weight requirements. If the participation form is not filled out correctly (i.e., DATED, SIGNED by the Association Director, and includes, at a minimum: the player name, grade, disciplinary action or other Code if applicable for that week, weight and player number. No section may be blank at the time of weigh-ins except the "weight" section. Participation sheets must include all coaching staff names. Anyone arriving at weigh-in with an incomplete form shall be in violation of this rule. **Penalty for this violation shall be that the opponent of that team shall be awarded eight (8) points at the start of the game**. Codes and jersey numbers may be handwritten.
- 20.2.6 Any player who fails to make weight during the only "Official Weigh-in" 30 minutes prior to game, shall not participate in that game. The player shall be instructed to remove shoulder pads and helmet and place them under the team's bench. The player may stay on the sidelines with the team and wear his/her jersey. Every effort shall be made not to embarrass or ostracize the player. "Official Weigh-in" is defined as one (1) attempt at standing on the scale to make weight, while in the team order, consistent with the official WFFL 10-PLAY PARTICIPATION FORM.
- 20.2.7 X and OBL players must present their helmets to the Weight Master or League Official at the time of weigh-in to verify status and visibility of X"s/Z"s. Players must play in what they are wearing at the time of the weigh in. Players are required to weigh in with the minimum of shoulder pads, football pants with all required pads, undershirt, underwear, socks, shoes and team Jersey. Players caught attempting to weigh in or play with illegal equipment or without their required equipment shall be immediately suspended for that game and remain suspended for the remainder of the season unless appealed and the Executive Board finds for a different punishment. Protective gear is optional but must be worn at weigh in. Protective gear includes, but is not limited to, rib protectors, neck roll, cowboy collar, arm pads. Only cold weather gear like additional socks, undershirts, underwear, handwarmers, and cold weather gloves may be worn after weigh-in. Any player discovered changing or adding shoulder or pant pads or shoes or any other item not considered cold weather gear, after weigh-in, will be ejected from the game and suspended for the remainder of the season. These items may only be replaced if broken or torn during play.
- 20.2.8 Any player arriving after the game has started must wait until half time to be checked-in (regular season)/weighed-in (playoffs). Players arriving after the second half begins shall not participate in that game. Players may not play until they have been checked-in/weighed-in.
- 20.2.9 It is the responsibility of the Weight Master to forward any problems with overweight players to the Commissioner as soon as possible so that follow up action can take place quickly.
- 20.2.10 The Weight Master shall monitor the overweight player during the game to ensure he does not try to enter the game. If an overweight player enters the game, by the coach's order or of his own accord, that team will forfeit the game and the coach shall appear before the Executive Board.
- 20.2.11 The Weight Master shall monitor coach badges. All coaches, shall report to the Weight Master/site director and show his/her WFFL badge 30 minutes prior to the start of the game. The WFFL badges shall be worn so as to be clearly visible during the game. Weight Masters, Directors or League

officers shall also monitor the 10-play participation forms during the game to be sure they are being kept properly.

20.2.12 ADMINISTRATIVE VARIANCE: The Executive Board may make decisions on Classifications and Associations of players in special hardship cases. This is not limited in scope but broad in efforts to allowing Associations to field teams while maintaining basic structure of Player Divisions and Weight Requirements. Appeals for an administrative variance may be made to the Commissioner or Director for forwarding to the Executive Board.

#### 21.0.0 GAME DAY PROCEDURE

- 21.0.1 Prior to weigh-in (playoff)/game time (regular season) the head coach shall provide the Weight Master/site supervisor with a <u>fully completed</u>, printed *WFFL 10-PLAY PARTICIPATION FORM/JR MITE 16-PLAY PARTICIPATION* signed by the Director <u>that week</u>. The Weight Master/site supervisor shall use this form to certify that players have met weight requirements. If the participation form is not filled out correctly (i.e., DATED, SIGNED by the Association Director, and includes, at a minimum: the player name, grade, disciplinary action or other Code if applicable for that week, weight and player number. No section may be blank at the time of weigh-ins except the "weight" section. Participation sheets must include all coaching staff names. Anyone arriving at game time with an incomplete form shall be in violation of this rule. **Penalty for this violation shall be that the opponent of that team shall be awarded eight (8) points at the start of the game**. Codes and jersey numbers may be handwritten.
- 21.0.2 X and OBL players must present their helmets to the Weight Master or League Official at the time of weigh-in (playoff)/game time (regular season) to verify status and visibility of X"s/Z"s.

# 22.1.0 GAME DAY PLAYER PARTICIPATION / MINIMUM PLAY RULE (MPR)

- 22.1.1 Under normal circumstances, all players shall participate in a minimum of five plays per half (8 for Jr. Mite) for a total of ten plays (16 plays for Jr. Mite) per game. However, there are situations for which this requirement may be waived. A player who is designated as "injured" by the coach AND Director shall not participate in the game. Players who are designated as "disciplined", "sick" or "other", by the coach AND Director may play at the coach's discretion (except under when arriving in the first half) and are not required to receive the minimum 10 plays (16 plays for Jr. Mite).
- 22.1.2 A player who does not receive his 5 plays in the first half (8 plays for Jr. Mite) will be immediately inserted into the game upon discovery and remain in the game until his full 10 plays (16 plays for Jr. Mite).
- 22.1.3 A player arriving late may be considered under discipline and the coach does NOT have to give the player his/her full 10 plays. A discipline sheet is not required but may still be in effect.
- 22.1.4 The MPR rules apply to all regular season, playoffs and mini bowl games within the WFFL. Only an approved WFFL MPR form may be used and filled out as the play occurs.
- 22.1.5 At the **check in (season play)** / weigh-in **(play-off)** a <u>fully completed</u> *WFFL PLAYER ELIGIBILITY FORM* signed and dated <u>that week</u> by the Director shall be submitted for each player designated as injured, disciplined, sick or otherwise unable to fully participate. A player designated as "Disciplined" must have parental/guardian or Director approval. Players without this form must receive the minimum 10 plays required. Exception: If the player is obviously sick or becomes injured, or a parent so indicates, or arrives late the minimum play requirement is waived or modified per 18.6.3. Enforcement will be self-regulated by each association but may also come from the league and all parents shall receive written notification of this section. Violation of this section could result in forfeiture of games, but if the association fails to resolve the problem, disciplinary action by the Executive Board will be necessary.

# 23.0.0 OFFICIALS

- 23.0.1 All officials shall be certified as either "WFFL" or "UHSAA and above". All officials shall have a working knowledge of the current NFHS and WFFL rules.
- 23.0.2 Officials shall be assigned by the Arbiter. A minimum of two officials shall be assigned to Jr. Mite Mite Rookie Tackle games. No less than three officials shall be assigned for all other divisions. A minimum of four (4) officials shall be assigned to all post-season games.
- 23.0.3 Association Directors should attempt to complete scheduled games even if officials do not show up. In this case if both head coaches and the Director agree, non-certified people may be recruited to officiate, and the game may be played.
- 23.0.4 Officials who are "UHSAA Varsity" certified shall receive \$75.00 per game; "UHSAA Sub-Varsity" certified shall receive \$70.00 per game and WFFL only officials shall receive \$60.00 per game. \$45/Varsity-\$35/Sub-Varsity-Jr. Mite.Varsity and Sub-varsity officials must be certified by registering with the UHSAA and passing its background check.

#### 24.0.0 RULES OF THE GAME

24.0.1 All Mitey Mite-Jr. Bantam games shall be played in accordance with the current National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) rules with the following League additions, deletions, and changes. Jr Mite games shall be played under the USA Football Rookie Tackle Rules with the league additions, deletions, and changes made directly to the USA Tackle Rules.

# 24.0.2 RULE 1: The Game, Field, Players, and Equipment

- 1. Field directors shall not overrule the official's decisions except in the case of the misinterpretation of League by-laws. In these situations the field director has final decision.
- 2. The playing field shall be roped off from end line to end line on both sides of the field and at least 7 yards from the side lines (if the playing field is bordered by a track, this requirement is waived). Spectators shall be restricted from crossing the rope or the outer edge of the track. Only badged coaches and players (for that game and that team), field and league officials will be permitted anywhere along the sidelines or on the players' benches. No parents or unaffiliated personnel or persons may enter the playing field (including track perimeter) or practice field, at any time, for any reason other than to attend to an injured player which the parent or guardian is directly related to or have guardianship for (does not apply to verified trainers, medical personnel performing duties or attending to players).
- 3. The home team should provide benches within the team box for each team and they should be used.
- 4. The following game balls or equivalent shall be used: Jr. Mites/Mighty Mites-K2; Jr. Pee Wee/Pee Wee-TDJ; Sr. Pee Wee/Jr. Bantam-TDY or TD.
- 5. The chains and down marker shall be provided by the home team and operated on the home side of the field. One representative from the visiting team may assist in the operation of the chains.
- 6. Barring any unforeseen loss or malfunction, the scoreboard clock shall be placed so as to be easily visible to the officials and both teams. The visiting team is encouraged to provide an observer timekeeper who shall be provided seating space at the timekeeper's table. The field director shall ensure that only approved personnel are allowed to be in close proximity to the timer's table so as to not distract the timer. In cases of a malfunctioning scoreboard or visible clock, the Director shall assign a scorekeeper to keep handheld time and use whatever means are available to keep both the officials and teams aware of the time situation.
- 7. X-players shall wear a clearly marked X on the back and centered on both sides of the helmet. If the helmet has a team emblem, the X must be distinguishable from the emblem.
  OBL players shall wear a clearly marked Z on the back and centered on both sides of the helmet. If the helmet has a team emblem, the Z must be distinguishable from the emblem.
  Z's and X's must be at least 4" in height and 4" in width.
- 8. A person 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 players than the corresponding human limb, and does not place an opponent at a disadvantage.
- 9. Optional equipment such as stockings, jackets, etc. may be worn if approved by the Director. It is recommended that every team be prepared with some sort of foul weather gear.
- 10. Casts, splints and braces are permissible under NFHS rules. Must be padded and have a valid physicians note approving participation.
- 11. No electronic communication devices of any type shall be used during a game.

# 24.0.3 RULE 2: Definitions

- 1. An "X-player" is a player that exceeds the maximum division weight allowed. By definition, X-player rules do not apply to the Bantam division. An "OBL" player is a player than exceeds the age division requirement but is allowed to participate with younger players as long as OBL weight requirements are met.
- 2. X-players: Positions at the snap: (1) all X-players shall be on their line of scrimmage and can be in any stance; 2, 3 or 4 point; (2) defensive X players shall not be outside of the tight end or the tackle on the wide receiver side of the field, but may "shade" to the outside of these two players ("shade" is defined as the Defensive player's inside shoulder can be no wider than the outside shoulder of the widest Offensive lineman; (3) offensive X-players shall not be more than three positions from the snapper (i.e., must line up as a center, guard, tackle or tight end); (4) a tight end shall be within one yard of the adjacent interior lineman. (5) JR. BANTAM division EXCEPTIONS (a) on defense one X-player may play any position and is not required to be in a particular stance. (b) On offense no more than ONE X-player may line up in a pass-eligible position.

# 24.0.4 RULE 3: Periods, Time Factors and Substitutions

real and final score totals recorded by the scorekeeper.

- 1. and Table 3-1: Length of quarters shall be 10 minutes for all divisions. Halftime shall be 10 minutes; after 7 minutes the timer shall sound the horn to indicate the beginning of the mandatory 3-minute warm up period.
- 2. During the second half, should the difference of scores reach 24 points, the "running clock rule" shall come into effect and remain in effect until the score difference is less than 24 points. When this rule is in effect the clock shall run continually during the quarter except: (1) during charged or officials' time-outs, or (2) all scoring plays by either team-in this case the clock shall stop after the score and restart on the officials ready whistle.

  Each field may display scores on the scoreboard on blow-out games however the Director chooses. Final scores shall be reported to and posted on the web site as usual, using the actual,
- 3. The clock shall start with the ready-for-play signal after *any* change of possession (team B is awarded a new series of downs) or when either team is awarded a new series of downs following a legal kick. EXCEPTION: during the last two minutes of the second half the timing rules shall revert to the NFHS rules.
- 24.0.5 RULE 4: Weather delay. The WFFL follows the guidelines of the NFHS regarding lightning and delay / suspension of games. That means that if lightning is seen nearby the game must be delayed and teams removed from the field of play to safety. The game cannot be resumed until 30 minutes after the last flash of lightning is seen. Based upon schedules, field conditions and the weather conditions once a game has been delayed, the Director, League Staff and Game Officials will make the decision if and when a game is suspended for the day. Once suspended for the day, the game may either be rescheduled or called a game complete at the point it was suspended. Any game rescheduled will need to be played on a mutually agreed upon day between the Directors and League Officials. A game that is suspended part way through and rescheduled, will resume at the same point in the game at which it was suspended.

# 24.0.6 RULE 5: Game play and Rescheduling.

1. If a team cannot provide enough players to start (9) or continue (8) a game, the opposing team will be awarded a forfeit win. The score will be reported as it stands at the time of the forfeit if the opposing team is winning or 2-0 if there is no score at the time of forfeit or if the opposing team is

losing. Any team that forfeits due to lack of players is responsible for referee fees for that game regardless of which team is the home team. Forfeits for lack of players are strongly discouraged and the forfeiting team is subject to further penalties at the discretion of the Executive Board.

2. Rescheduling of games is discouraged but may be re-scheduled for a different time than originally scheduled if approved by the Executive Board for good cause. Coaches and Directors are strongly encouraged to accommodate another team's conflict.

# 24.0.8 RULE 8: Running and Passing extra points

1. Running and Passing extra points

A successful running or passing extra point try from the three-yard line shall score one point or from the five-yard line shall score two points. After a touchdown is scored a member of the coaching staff of the scoring team shall notify the referee that the try will be made for one or two points. Once made, the choice cannot be changed. If the point spread is greater than 24 points, a two-point try shall not be allowed by the team ahead. Prior to a try the down marker shall indicate "1" or "2" to show the scorekeeper that the try is for 1 or 2 points, and it should be turned so that it is clearly visible to the scorekeeper.

# 24.0.9 RULE 9: Conduct of Players and Others

- 1. an X-player or OBL player wearing an improperly marked helmet; this foul shall be ruled flagrant and the player shall be ejected.
- 2. X-players shall not participate in a free-kick down.
- 3. Each team may have a maximum of five X-players *and* five OBL players participate during a down. X-players are restricted to certain positions. OBL players may play any position.
- 4. violation of any of the provisions of this Rule 9 shall be considered flagrant and result in ejection.
- 24.0.10 OVERTIME PROCEDURE: If the score is tied at the end of the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter, the tie shall be resolved by the NFHS (not UHSAA) tie-breaker rules, using the following: Overtime will be administered from the ten (10) yard line. During regular season games, only 2 possessions per team shall be allowed after which if the score is tied the game shall be declared a tie. For post-season play the game shall continue until a winner is declared.

A short abbreviation of the NFHS rule is included below:

Coin toss – winner has option of going offense or defense first.

Offense gets ball, first and goal at the 10 yard line (unless a carry-over penalty is in place) and four downs to score.

Defense then becomes "offense" and has four downs to score.

Repeat if score remains tied.

Extra point rule same as regular league rule.

A defensive "stop" (4 downs with no score, fumble recovery, pass interception, etc), ball is dead, ends the offenses' series of plays and ball goes over. Same end of field used for both teams. Two minute intermission after each team has had a series of plays. Subsequent coin tosses alternate the winner.

#### 24.0.11 X-player rule interpretations:

- 1. Up to five X-players from each team may participate in any down except free kicks (kick-offs or kicks following a safety).
- 2. Formations with two X-player tight ends are NOT permissible (but only five of the linemen may be X-players). (Only 1 eligible receiver x-man allowed on the line of scrimmage). Violations are considered an illegal formation and penalized accordingly.
- 3. In unbalanced line formations X-players may be no more than three positions from the snapper.
- 4. X-player tight ends are eligible pass receivers.
- 5. X-player tight ends are prohibited from directly receiving a hand-off or backwards toss/pitch. X-player tight ends are also prohibited from receiving a shovel pass behind the line of scrimmage. X-player tight ends are eligible to receive forward passes that are completed

- beyond the line of scrimmage.
- 6. Any X-player may advance any ball that he legally possesses (e.g., pass reception, interception, fumble recovery, punt reception).
- 7. Jr. Bantam Division Only: only one X-player may line up as a tight end, and only if there are no X-players in the backfield. One X-player may line up in the backfield provided that neither tight end is an X-player.
- 8. X-players: Positions at the snap: (1) all X-players shall be on their line of scrimmage and can be in any stance; 2, 3 or 4 point; (2) defensive X players shall not be outside of the tight end or the tackle on the wide receiver side of the field, but may "shade" to the outside of these two players ("shade" is defined as the Defensive player's inside shoulder can be no wider than the outside shoulder of the widest Offensive lineman; (3) offensive X-players shall not be more than three positions from the snapper (i.e., must line up as a center, guard, tackle or tight end); (4) a tight end shall be within one yard of the adjacent interior lineman. (5) JR. BANTAM division EXCEPTIONS (a) on defense one X-player may play any position and is not required to be in a particular stance. (b) On offense no more than ONE X-player may line up in a passeligible position.
- 24.0.12 ON-FIELD COACHES: Jr Mite teams shall be allowed to have one coach per team on the field during the game to provide personal instruction for the players. Jr Mite coaches will be allowed on the field all season, so long as there is no unsportsmanlike conduct. All other coaches must remain in coaching box during games. On-field coaches shall not interfere with players and shall not give instruction during a play. If the Referee directs the coach to leave the field (e.g., for inappropriate behavior, failure to follow instructions, etc.), the coach can be replaced by another coach.
- 24.0.13 EJECTIONS: All ejections shall be administered in accordance with the Utah High School Athletic Association guidelines. The player ejection shall be noted on the 10-Play Participation Form and that name shall be red lined for the suspended game. The Director over that team shall notify the Commissioner within 2 days for appropriate follow up. A coach or player ejected from a game shall be ineligible to participate in the next game. A second ejection during the same season shall result in the coach or player being removed from the team for the remainder of that season. An ejected coach, fan or spectator shall leave the field area, as determined by the official, league official or field Director. An ejected player may attend practice for that week and may participate.

# 25.0.0 MINI BOWL QUALIFICATION

25.0.1 Except for the Jr. Mite divisions, four teams from each region in each division (excl. Bantams) shall advance to the post-season playoffs (unless there are 8 divisions and then 2 from each division shall advance). For each division, the team compiling the best win-loss record in region competition\* shall be declared region champion and enter the playoffs as the region # 1 seed. If the two top teams have identical records, the winner of the head to head competition shall be the # 1 seed and the loser shall be the #2 seed. If there was no head to head game, a playoff format will be determined by the Executive Board. If three or more top teams have the same record, and head to head competition is tied, playoff format shall be determined by the Executive Board. If the first place team is seed #1 uncontested, and two or more second-place teams are tied for the #2 seed, the same format as above shall be used. Mid-week and play-in games will only be used to determine playoff eligibility and will never be used to determine seeding if all participating teams have already qualified for the playoffs. Changes in this format, based on ties or anomalies shall be decided by the Executive Board. \*NOTE: Only region games count toward playoff determination. No team shall be penalized when determining won-loss records because of unequally scheduled region games (e.g., byes or cancelled games that are unable to be made up). Every effort shall be made to complete cancelled games that have an effect on post-season qualification.

A and Be leagues will have their own minibowls

25.0.2 MINI BOWL PLAYOFF PROCEDURES: The Mini-Bowl playoffs shall proceed as per the brackets in Addendum C. First and second round of games shall be played at the site of the highest seed. Semi-finals shall be played at sites as best determined by the Executive Board based upon location and field availability. The highest seeded team shall be the home team. If both teams are seeded

the same, home team shall be determined by the North/South rotation as indicated in Addendum D. The Mini-Bowl championship game for each division shall be held at a site determined by the Executive Board. League Officers shall administer the games. An admission charge shall be imposed to offset bowl game expenses.

- 25.0.3 Minimum plays (10 play) rules apply in the Mini Bowl and playoff games. Failure to comply with said rule may result in the coach suspension for a future year, team/game forfeiture, association penalties or any other penalty deemed proper by the Executive Board.
- 25.0.4 AWARDS: The Bowl champions and runner-up teams will be awarded individual trophies/plaques from the League. Other awards may be given at the discretion of the individual Directors or the Executive Board.

### **26.0.0 STANDARDS OF CONDUCT**

- 26.0.1 The standards of conduct in these rules and the related penalties are designed to maintain a fair and equitable environment. There are a few individuals involved with any program for which the concept of fairness and honesty are foreign. These standards apply to everyone involved in the WFFL: players, coaches, parents, spectators, and fans.
- 26.0.2 Any infraction of the by-laws, rules, policies and procedures of the WFFL or as contained in this document may be cause for forfeiture of game or games, probation and/or suspension of players, coaches, teams, or Directors, a combination of the above or any such other punishment as the Board deems appropriate under the situation.
- 26.0.3 Any team, coach, player, or other member of the League participating in any capacity may be placed on probation, suspended, or expelled for a period of time as determined by the Executive Board if they are found to have committed any type of unsportsmanlike act.
- 26.0.4 SCOUTING in any manner, including video recording, of an opponent's practice session is strictly prohibited. Persons violating this section who are in any way affiliated with any other team may subject that other team, coach or player to serious punitive action. Scouting and video recording of league games is permissible including film exchange among coaches.

# 26.0.5 No WFFL-affiliated person:

- a. shall strike or make inappropriate contact with another individual.
- b. shall allow or encourage an ineligible, suspended, uncertified or otherwise unqualified individual to participate in league activities.
- c. shall verbally encourage any player to intentionally inflict physical harm on another player, use profane or abusive language, or use gestures that are derogatory to other teams or associations.
- d. shall conduct themselves in an unsportsmanlike or disorderly manner.

#### 26.0.6 COACH'S OFFENSES:

- 1. Running-up the score probation at a minimum; suspension if the conduct is found to have been intentional; and dismissal in the case of a repetitive pattern (malice).
- 2. Endangerment of Juveniles suspension for 1 year up to permanent suspension
- 3. Teaching prohibited or illegal techniques suspension for 1 year up to permanent suspension.
- 4. Fighting suspension for 1 day up to permanent suspension.
- 5. Cheating suspension for 1 year; second offense up to permanent suspension.
- 6. Threats suspension for 1 year; second offense up to permanent suspension.
- 7. Lack of cooperation/obstruction suspension until compliance is achieved, with probation for the remainder of the season.

Note: A player who is denied the required minimum number of plays shall start the next game and play a minimum of 20 plays (32-plays for Jr. Mite) in that game. The failure of a convicted coach to comply with this provision will be deemed a second or third violation.

If the violation occurs during a playoff or mini bowl game, the coach, team and/or association risk

sanctions, up to and including game forfeiture and future sanctions against the coach.

8. Recruiting out of district or having illegal players on a team (either during practices or games), falsifying a player participation form or residency to add illegal players, whether the illegal players have actually played in a game or not, these actions shall constitute having illegal players on a team.

Penalty - a minimum suspension of one year; the convicted coach shall remain on probation the following year and shall not be a head coach while on probationary status.

- 9. Practicing on a designated "No-Practice-Night" (USU / Weber State Nights)- forfeiture of the game that follows the day that the illegal practice occurred. This is different than an "illegal practice," which is subject to penalties.
- 26.0.7 Drones (Unmanned Aerial Vehicles) may be allowed to film games/practices so long as:
  - 1- the head official finds that it is not disruptive to the game; and
  - 2- it does not fly directly above, or pose a danger to, any player or spectator; and
  - 3- the operator of the drone is of legal age.
  - 4- and the operation of drones is allowed in that city, county or jurisdiction.
- 26.0.8 SOCIAL FUNCTIONS: The league encourages sponsorship of pep clubs, award banquets, parent participation, game concessions, or other activities which build and aid the league or teams in a constructive way.

Any and all fundraising must be coordinated through the Association Director. Teams may NOT do their own fundraising or ask the players and/or parents for additional funding for any reason without the knowledge and approval of the Director.

Even if fundraising is allowed by the Director, outside fundraising cannot be mandatory, no sales quotas or requirements can be set and those wishing not participate CANNOT be punished or have playing time threatened, reduced or affected in any way.

# 26.0.9 CONCUSSION POLICY

#### Rule

 A player who has demonstrated signs, symptoms or behaviors consistent with concussion to any coach, Director, League officer, another player or official, shall be removed immediately from the contest or practice and shall not return to play or practice until cleared by an appropriate health-care professional. The player and their parent/guardian shall be provided with the "Post Concussion Instructions and Return to Play Clearance Form".

# Role of the contest official in administering the rule:

- Officials are to review and know the signs, symptoms and behaviors consistent with a concussion.
- Officials are to direct the removal of a player who demonstrates signs, symptoms or behaviors consistent with concussion from the contest according the rules and protocol regarding injured contestants for the specific sport.
- 3. Officials have no other role in the process. The official does not need to receive clearance for an player to re-enter the contest.

# Role of Association Director or league official in administering the rule:

 All coaches, athletic trainers, and administrative personnel are required to complete a course dealing with concussion prior to working with student/athletes. The course *Concussion in Sport* is available free of charge at www.nfhslearn.com satisfies this requirement. Association Director and league officials will ensure compliance.

# **27.0.0 MEDICAL OVERSIGHT**

- 27.0.1 An appropriate healthcare professional includes any actively licensed physician (MD/DO), nurse practitioner, physician assistant, paramedic and athletic trainer acting within their respective scope of practice who is trained in concussion recognition and management.
- 27.0.2 Each Association is required to have a designated appropriate healthcare professional present at all home games in which the Association has one or more participating team.
  - The designated or alternate healthcare professional shall not be "on-duty" for any agency
    or entity for which they may be expected to leave their post as the designated healthcare
    professional.

• In the event the designated healthcare professional is unavailable, an alternate appropriate healthcare professional may substitute in their place.

#### ADDENDUM A: REGION COMPOSITION:

REGION # 1	REGION # 2	REGION # 3	REGION # 4
	Clinton	Roy	Sky View
Kaysville	West Point	Plain City	Logan
Layton	Wash. Terrace	N. Ogden	Mtn. Crest
Syracuse	So. Ogden	Ogden	Box Elder
	Morgan	West Haven	Bear River
	_		Ridgeline
			Green Canyon
			Preston, ID

NOTE: From time to time it may be necessary to move teams from one region to another in order to rebalance region composition. The Executive Board shall make this determination after registration is completed.

ADDENDUM B: DISTRICT BOUNDARIES

**NORTH OGDEN**: All of North Ogden and Pleasant View City boundaries, plus Weber High School boundary within Harrisville city limits. All of Eden, Liberty, Greenhill Co. Estates, Evergreen & Sunridge Estates, Idlewild Townsite, Hermitage, Wildwood and Huntsville City boundaries, including Ogden Canyon to the mouth of Ogden Canyon.

**OGDEN**: All of Ogden City boundaries.

**SOUTH OGDEN**: All of South Ogden City, Uintah, and Uintah Highlands.

WASH. TERRACE: All of Washington Terrace and Riverdale city boundaries.

**BEAR RIVER\***: All of Plymouth, Deweyville, Fielding, Elwood, Garland, Beaver Dam, Tremonton, Thatcher, Bothwell, Portage, Riverside, Collinston, Penrose, Snowville, Park Valley, Grouse Creek and Howell City boundaries, including Malad and Stone, ID. In unincorporated BE County, all players north of 6800 North.

**Box Elder\*:** All of Corinne, Brigham City, Mantua, Perry and Willard City boundaries. In unincorporated BE County, all players south of 6800 North.

\*All of Bear River City & Honeyville residents have their choice in year one playing football. A player will remain in that association for remainder of playing career in the WFFL.

LOGAN: All of Logan City boundaries.

**MOUNTAIN CREST**: All of Petersborough, Mendon, Wellsville, Mt. Sterling, Hyrum, Avon and Paradise City boundaries.

**SKY VIEW**: All of Smithfield, Richmond, Cove, Lewiston, Cornish and Trenton City boundaries.

PRESTON, ID: Franklin and Bear Lake Counties, ID.

**KAYSVILLE**: All of Fruit Heights and Kaysville City boundaries including all unincorporated Davis County residences located within the zip code boundaries of 84037. Also all Farmington residents living in Farmington High School official boundaries.

**LAYTON**: All of Layton City boundaries (including all unincorporated Davis County residences located within the zip code boundaries of 84041), plus H.A.F.B. base housing boundaries.

WEST POINT: All West Point City and Clinton boundaries.

**MORGAN:** All of Morgan County boundaries (Morgan, Como Springs, Litttleton, Milton, Stoddard, Richville, Porterville, Whites Crossing, Taggart, Croydon, Devils Slide, Mountain Green, Peterson, Enterprise).

**PLAIN CITY:** All of Plain City, Farr West, Marriott/Slaterville, Warren city boundaries, plus Harrisville city boundaries excluding Weber High School boundary. Also parts of West Warren and West Weber South until the North side of State Rd 39.

RIDGELINE: Young Ward, College Ward, Nibley, Millville, Providence and River Heights City Boundaries

**ROY:** All of Roy city boundaries and the part of Hooper city boundaries East of 5100 west, including the East side of that boundary, excluding 5100 West South to 5850 S. then East to 4950 W. then South to the Davis County Border.

**WEST HAVEN**: All of West Haven and Taylor city boundaries, parts of West Warren and West Weber North until the South side of State Road 39. All of Hooper city boundaries except East of 5100 W, including the East side of that boundary (includes unincorporated Hooper/Davis County), plus 5100 West South to 5850 S. then East to 4950 W. then South to the Davis County Border.

**GREEN CANYON**: All of North Logan, Hyde Park, Benson, Newton, Clarkston, Amalga, and Cache Junction City Boundaries.

**ADDENDUM C:** MIMI BOWL PLAYOFF BRACKETS with Home Team (North/South) listed. Note: Bracket illustrations are based upon a 16 team playoff format. Playoff brackets will be determined by the Executive Board.

2024 – SOUTH TO DETERMINE HOME TEAM

PLAY OFF SCHEDULES TBD BASED ON SIZE OF DIVISIONS

# **ADDENDUM D:** associations in order of furthest North to South:

# NORTH

Preston, ID

Sky View

Green Canyon

Logan

Bear River

Ridgeline

Mountain Crest

Box Elder

North Ogden Plain City

Ogden

West Haven

Roy

Washington Terrace South Ogden North Summit

Morgan

West Point

Layton

Kaysville

# SOUTH

# **ADDENDUM E:** ASSOCIATION COLORS

<u>Association</u>	<u>Colors</u> (The first color is primary jersey color)	Reversible
Bear River	Black and Red	No
Box Elder	Purple and White	Yes
Green Canyon	Green with Silver	Yes
Kaysville	Charcoal White with Vegas Gold	Yes
Layton	Columbia Blue with White	Yes
Logan	Crimson Red with Vegas Gold	No
Morgan	Maroon and White	Yes
Mt. Crest	Orange	No
North Ogden	Black and White	Yes
Ogden	White and Weber State Purple	Yes
Plain City	Royal Blue and White	Yes
Preston, ID	Royal Blue with White	Yes
Roy	Black and White	Yes
Ridgeline	Blue and White	Yes
Sky View	Light Blue and Black	Yes
South Ogden	Red with Black and White	No
Wash. Terrace	Navy Blue with Yellow and White	Yes
West Point	Black, Green, and White	Yes
West Haven	Black, Orange, and Grey	Yes

# **ADDENDUM F:** SPECTATOR SUPPORT ITEMS.

Only those items marked YES shall be allowed as spectator support items at WFFL sponsored events. Sportsmanlike vocal cheering and support is encouraged. Unsportsmanlike behavior shall not be tolerated.

ITEM	ALLOWED	STIPULATIONS
Balloons	YES	Must be kept outside the restraining ropes.
Banners	YES	Must be positive and welcoming to both teams. No unsportsmanlike comments or designs.
Corporate Sponsor Signs	YES	
Hand held signs of any size	YES	Must be positive and welcoming to both teams. No unsportsmanlike comments or designs
Confetti/Shredded paper	NO	
Laser light pointer	NO	
Miniature sports balls thrown to fans	YES	Must be kept off the playing field.
Megaphones (non-electric)	YES	Non-electric, hand held.
Artificial noise makers, (horns, cowbells, bells, buzzers, clickers)	YES	Small air horns are acceptable. Large air horns are not permitted.
Whistles	NO	
Decorated shirts	YES	Unless obscene or vulgar
Paper banners for team to run through	YES	Must be positive and welcoming to both teams. No unsportsmanlike comments or designs
Pom-Poms, shakers, spirit towels	YES	
Recorded music over PA system	YES	With approval of the home field Director. Music must be free of obscene or vulgar language.
Personal boom boxes/stereos	NO	
Large air horns/Sirens	NO	
Cannons/muskets/guns	NO	