

2025
GEORGIA YOUTH FOOTBALL LEAGUE, INC.
RULES AND BY-LAWS



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ARTICLE I – NAME

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

ARTICLE II – OBJECTIVE

II.I MISSION

The mission of the Georgia Youth Football League, Inc. (GYFL) is to create a Christ-centered athletic platform that fosters a competitive and supportive environment for youth football and cheerleading.

II.II VISION

Our vision is for GYFL to be recognized as the premier youth football and cheerleading league in the entire state of Georgia. We aim to set the standard through:

- The integrity of our member associations
- A steadfast commitment to safety
- First practices in every athletic event
- Success both on and off the field
- Exemplary sportsmanship demonstrated by our coaches, parents, players, and cheerleaders

II.III PURPOSE

The GYFL exists to provide a wholesome, faith-based environment that enriches the lives of children throughout Georgia. We accomplish this mission by:

- Upholding the principles outlined in our Constitution and Bylaws
- Adhering to the highest standards of youth athletics
- Ensuring responsible fiscal management
- Collaborating with other recreational organizations to promote youth sports

ARTICLE III – STANDING POLICIES

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

1. GYFL shall be Incorporated as a Not-For-Profit Georgia Corporation.
 - a. CEO shall be the Commissioner.

- b. CFO shall be the duly appointed Treasurer.
 - c. Secretary shall be the duly appointed Secretary.
 - d. Registered Agent shall be the Secretary or a company.
2. GYFL shall obtain and maintain Directors and Officers (D & O) Insurance, so as to cover the Board, the Coordinators, and the League Members.
 3. GYFL shall have a Fiscal Year beginning on January 1st and ending on December 31st.
 4. GYFL shall obtain and maintain a website.

ARTICLE IV – GOVERNING BODY

The Governing Body of the Georgia Youth Football League shall consist of a Board of Directors and Conference Coordinators.

The Associations hereinafter referred to as the “League”, “League Member” or “Representative”.

- Each League Member shall be allowed two representatives in attendance at all League meetings, having only one (1) voice and one (1) vote in GYFL.

The Board of Directors herein referred to as the “Board”.

- The Members of the Board shall be appointed by the Founder/Board.

The Conference Coordinators hereinafter referred to as “Coordinators”.

- The Coordinators shall be appointed by the Board.

The Committees will be made up of Associations or appointed by the Board and shall have no vote in league business but shall bring ideas to the board. The Board will appoint an advisory board of 5 to bring ideas to the Board.

IV.I VOTING

1. Each Member of the League in Good Standing shall have 1 (one) vote on PLAYING RULES of the League.
 - a. A Member in Good standing shall be defined as one who is not on probation, as stated in this document and is current with all dues, fines, and monies owed to the League.
2. The Board votes on what’s best for GYFL.
3. The vote required for a change to the Constitution, By-Laws, and/or Playing Rules of GYFL after December 31st but prior to July 1st shall be a MAJORITY vote.

4. After July 1st no change shall be made to the playing rules or By-Laws unless a situation arises that proves to show no current rule, or by-law directly states or governs said situation.
5. The vote required for New Members to be accepted into GYFL as probationary members is a majority vote by the Board.
6. The vote required for New Members to become a full (voting) member of GYFL shall be 3/4 of the Members of the League in Good Standing, provided a quorum is present.
7. The vote required to suspend any individual from GYFL related activities shall be 3/4 of the Board Members of the League unless superseded herein by these By-Laws.
8. There is no vote required to suspend, place on probation, and/or remove a League Member from GYFL if said program is not upholding the image of GYFL.
9. There's no vote to overturn a suspended, dismissed, or background check issue on a Coach or Individual from GYFL.
10. E-mail voting, for specific topics only by the Board and/or League Members shall be permitted.
11. E-mail voting shall NOT be allowed as a replacement for meeting attendance.
12. Such e-mail vote shall be sent to "All" Board Members, Coordinators, and Representatives. All reply votes shall be sent in a manner determined by the League. The vote window shall close 48 hours after the time stamp on the initial call for a vote.

IV.II QUORUM

1. A quorum shall be defined as 50% plus 1 (one) to conduct Business of the League.
2. A quorum shall be defined as 50% plus 1 (one) of the Board to hold a Board Meeting.

IV.III FUNDS

1. The Board shall set all Membership Fees, Team Fees and Fines for GYFL.
2. The League Membership shall review the Annual Audit from the Treasurer at the February Meeting of the Combined League and Board.
3. The Funds needed to operate GYFL shall come from the participation of League Members in semifinals and Super Bowl.
4. The funds and any others raised through the operation of GYFL shall be disbursed only for the operation of GYFL.
5. Should any League Member cease to be a Member of GYFL, their portion of Funds in the GYFL account shall be forfeited and remain in the GYFL account.

6. Should GYFL cease to exist or be dissolved, all Funds shall be divided amongst the League Members in the following manner;
 - o a. Each League Member shall receive evenly up to \$1,000.00.
 - o b. Any Monies left shall be divided based on the number of Teams that each League Member entered for play in GYFL the previous Season.

IV.IV AMENDMENTS

The Constitution, By-Laws, and Playing Rules may be amended as defined in Voting above.

ARTICLE V – DUTIES

The Board shall perform the duties of their elected positions of Commissioner, Vice Commissioner, Treasurer, Secretary, Football Commissioner, Cheer Commissioner, and Certification Commissioner assigned within the Constitution and Bylaws.

V.I BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS DUTIES

1. The Commissioners shall be responsible for day-to-day operation of the League.
2. The Commissioners shall provide guidance to the League with regards to growth opportunities.
3. The Board may not suspend a Program/Association unless superseded herein or if it is best for the league.
4. The Board may suspend a Coach, Participant or Spectator.
5. The Board may fine an Association, Coach, Participant or Spectator.
6. The Board may modify by-laws if there's a rule or situation arise that doesn't cover the league.
7. The Board may NOT represent an Association at any called or special meeting.

V.II COMMISSIONER

1. The Commissioner shall be the presiding officer at all Meetings.
2. The Commissioner will make all the best decisions for the league with help from the Executive Board.
3. The Commissioner shall appoint Committees, Special Sub-Committees, and members thereof, as needed.
4. The Commissioner shall be responsible for inter-league communications.
5. The Commissioner shall be responsible for league publicity.

6. The Commissioner will accept and investigate all applications for new membership and report such to the Board.
7. In the event of an emergency of any nature involving actual or suspected misconduct or regarding any property or moral integrity of members, the Commissioner shall have and is hereby empowered with the authority to act on his/her own initiative to secure the assistance of the local or municipal county, state, and federal law enforcement agencies, including the execution of affidavits in support of criminal warrants, to protect property and moral integrity in compliance with the intents and purposes of the league in Article II hereof. In such an event, a Meeting of the League shall be called within 24 hours at which time the Commissioner shall make the League aware of such actions and the reasons such were necessary.
8. The Commissioner shall be the exclusive point of contact for all Media and Press-related items. The Commissioner may choose or permit by writing a one-time alternative contact.
9. The Commissioner will be allowed to assign duties as needed.

V.III VICE COMMISSIONER

1. The Vice Commissioner shall carry out all duties assigned or delegated by the Commissioner.
2. The Vice Commissioner shall be the primary point of contact for all parks/presidents.
3. The Vice Commissioner shall assist with any other duties the Commissioner may appoint.
4. The Vice Commissioner shall help with trophy selection (in conjunction with the Commissioner) and trophy presentation at the Super Bowl.

V.IV TREASURER

1. The Treasurer shall open a General Fund Checking Account and/or a Money Market Account in the name of GYFL at an FDIC Insured Bank.
2. All bills and other obligations of GYFL shall be paid by check or card.
3. The Treasurer shall prepare an Annual Audit and make the same available for review at the Combined League and Board Meeting in February.
4. The Treasurer shall give recommendations as to how much of the GYFL Funds should be held over for operating expenses from the previous Season to the next. A second signature by the Commissioner or Vice Commissioner will be required for checks over \$1,000.00.

5. Any expenditure less than or equal to \$999 shall be agreed upon by a simple majority of the Board. Any expenditure \$1,000 or more shall be approved by a majority vote of the Board.
6. As the Registered Agent, the Treasurer shall assure that the annual corporate return and filing fees are filed and paid no later than April 1, of each year.

V.V SECRETARY

1. The Secretary records all Meetings.
2. The Secretary must submit written minutes of all meetings to the Commissioner and/or Vice Commissioner and shall post said Minutes on the GYFL website within 1 week of the Meeting.
3. The Secretary shall secure and maintain all records and documents pertaining to the GYFL, Inc.
4. The Secretary shall coordinate the Annual Banquet.

V.VI FOOTBALL COMMISSIONER

1. The Football Commissioner shall make the league schedule with input from the committee and Commissioner.
2. The Football Commissioner shall be the point of contact through the Vice-Commissioner on all schedule change requests in accordance with these by-laws.
3. The Football Commissioner shall assist the Certification Commissioner with the certification process.
4. The Football Commissioner shall be responsible for all Website Development and Support.
5. The Football Commissioner shall communicate Scores, Ejections, Temporary Jersey Changes, and Medical Removals no later than 48 hours after the scheduled event to the League and the Board.
6. The Football Commissioner shall, prior to December 31, provide an archived copy of the GYFL database to the League Secretary.
7. The Football Commissioner shall maintain all electronic records of the GYFL, all certification paperwork, and records. These records may be maintained locally, online, or in the “cloud”.

V.VII CERTIFICATION COMMISSIONER

1. The Certification Commissioner shall ensure the safe, fair, and organized operation of the youth football program, including overseeing coach certification, background checks, and compliance with league rules and regulations.
2. The Certification Commissioner shall ensure the program complies with all applicable laws, regulations, and policies at local, state, and federal levels.
3. The Certification Commissioner shall oversee coach certification processes, including background checks and ensuring coaches meet required qualifications.
4. The Certification Commissioner shall oversee verifying player eligibility and ensuring compliance with league rules.
5. The Certification Commissioner shall manage team rosters, ensuring accurate records and timely submissions.
6. The Certification Commissioner shall reinforce principles of fair play, sportsmanship, and fun in the league.

ARTICLE VI – BY-LAWS

Roberts Rules of Order (Revised Edition) shall govern the proceedings of all meetings except where it conflicts with these By-Laws of GYFL.

VI.I LEAGUE DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES

1. League Members shall be responsible for enforcing, at all times, the GYFL Constitution, By-laws, and Playing Rules.
2. League Members shall keep their participants up to date with Constitution and By-Laws changes of GYFL.
3. League Members shall submit a “Certificate of Liability Insurance” naming GYFL as “Additionally Insured” for \$1,000,000.00 (one million dollars) the day prior to the first scheduled day of practice. Practice may not commence for a League Member who has not submitted the required Certificate. This copy shall provide coverage from the first day of practice through the entire season including any GYFL play-off games of the current year and may be emailed or faxed to the Secretary. Failure to submit the Certificate to the Secretary prior to the first day of scheduled practice shall result in a \$50.00 (fifty dollar) fine.
4. League Members shall provide written proof of field availability. Letters of agreement must be on the letterhead of the property rights holder before the first day of practice.

5. League Members shall encourage usage of the GYFL website by their members to keep all their Board Members, Coaches, and Parents informed on the matters of GYFL.
6. League Members shall submit a copy of their League Members “Heat Policy” the day prior to the first day of practice. The policy may be e-mailed or faxed to the Secretary. League Members shall notify its participants of its Heat Policy at the time of registration. Failure to submit the policy in a timely manner shall result in a \$50.00 (fifty dollars) fine.
7. League Members shall designate a face-off area and one person to oversee it.
8. Board Members and Coordinators may conduct face-offs at any GYFL event.
9. League Members shall provide a face-off Representative 60 minutes prior to scheduled game time, which shall be available for 45 minutes. Failure to do so shall result in a \$100 (hundred dollar) fine.
10. League Members shall maintain a current copy of the GYFL Constitution, By-Laws, and Playing Rules in the face-off area (electronically).
11. League Members shall be responsible for maintaining the proper conduct of all participants (players, parents, spectators, etc.) throughout the season.
12. League Members shall submit all game day scores, fines, injuries, and ejections to the database by 4:00 pm Sunday for Saturday games and 4:00 pm the following day for weekday games. This should include any details describing the circumstances surrounding any ejected player, coach, or spectator. Failure by a League Member to comply with Reporting of Scores shall result in a \$50.00 (fifty-dollar) fine.

VI.II SEMI FINAL

Will be hosted by the league Board on Saturdays and Sundays. Will pay personnel to help.

VI.III SUPER BOWL

1. Shall be attended by Board members and we will pay personnel to help out, with one League representative there at all times, which can be split throughout the day.

VI.IV REGISTRATION

League Members can start registration whenever they like. No minimum fee for registration. The league doesn't control the money at your park.

1. A League Member may close their registration for any age group at any time based on the needs of the park. Upon the decision to close an age group, the Board shall be notified by receipt of the completed roster stating the player's names and birthdates within 48 hours of closure. Upon receipt of this notice, no additional players will be allowed to be added

to said roster, and upon certification, only identified players on the submitted list will be certified.

VI.V MINIMUM PARTICIPATION

There shall be no required minimum play count; that it's left up to each park how they handle that.

VI.VI INJURED PLAYERS

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

VI.VII UNIFORM AND EQUIPMENT

(A) Each participant must have a full uniform including: a helmet with an approved face guard and four-point snap; shoulder pads; pants with thigh pads, knee pads, and hip pads; soft mouthpiece or teeth protector (no clear or white mouthpieces allowed); and a numbered team jersey. Shoes with screw-in cleats are permitted in all Divisions provided there is NO exposed metal on the cleat. A mouthpiece must be attached to the helmet. NOTE: exceptions may be made on a case-by-case basis for color due to an orthodontic mouthpiece; however, the mouthpiece must still be attached to the helmet.

(B) No jewelry shall be worn during practice or games by football participants or cheerleaders, with the exception of Medical ID, which will be taped to the body.

(C) It is the responsibility of the head coach of each team to ensure that all participants are properly equipped.

VI.VIII GYFL GAME SCHEDULE

1. The official GYFL schedule will be prepared under the supervision of the GYFL Commissioner.

2. No change to the schedule is permitted without the approval of the GYFL Commissioner and/or Football Commissioner. Coaches and/or GYFL Representatives may NOT reschedule games.
3. The season will start the Saturday after Labor Day with an 8-week regular season.
4. The league will host semifinal games.
5. The league Super Bowl will be played the weekend prior to Thanksgiving. Games will be held on Saturday or Sunday.
6. The league will not release the week 8 schedule as we will hold it in case, we have enough teams to have a silver bracket.
7. The Board can move any age group to any time on the schedule. There's no set time for age groups to play.

VI.IX HOST ASSOCIATION RESPONSIBILITY

(A) The host association will be responsible for the following specific items:

1. Preparing and marking the field in accordance with the National Federation of State High School Rules.
2. Providing all field markers and other officiating equipment.
3. Providing official GYFL regulation game balls for all games.
4. Providing three (3) responsible adults to serve as the official crew for down-markers and line-to-gain equipment. These adults are not to be part of the participating team's coaching staff and must not act in a coaching capacity from the sidelines. Chains will be on the home side of the field. If there are stands on both sides of the field, the home team will be on the home side. If the home team is not a member of the hosting park association, then they will be responsible for providing a chain crew and are accountable for any fines associated with their actions.
5. Providing an announcer for all games. If the home team is not a member of the hosting park association, then they will be responsible for the game announcer and any fines associated with their participation.
6. Making other necessary arrangements for the convenience of the game.
7. Placing a responsible adult in charge of the gate.
8. Providing a uniformed police officer for each field and all games.
9. Providing a paramedic or EMT for each home date. The paramedic/EMT shall be within the confines of the playing field in a clearly identifiable uniform for immediate action

should a participant need attention. The paramedic shall not be allowed to act in any coaching capacity or perform other assignments while on duty.

10. Providing one individual who is clearly in charge of the activities surrounding the game to handle any problems which may arise during the game. This individual may be an Area Representative, member of the Area's Board of Directors, etc. The individual's identity should be made known to the officials prior to the game. The individual cannot be actively involved with the game being played (i.e. coach, safety coach, chain crew, spotter, announcer, etc.). If the home team is not a member of the hosting park association, then they will be responsible for providing a GYFL Rep in charge of game activities, in conjunction with the hosting park, and any fines associated with their participation.
11. Providing comparable facilities for participants of home and visiting teams.
12. Each host association is responsible for calling in the scores for all games played at their field. The scores must be called into the designated number prior to 10:00 p.m. on game day. Late scores will result in a \$250.00 fine to the host association. To avoid the \$250.00 fine, you must make a courtesy call to inform the score taker that your games are running late (regardless of the reason).
13. Football players will greet the opposing team on the field after the game. Cheerleaders will greet the opposing team after the halftime performance.
14. A cheerleading representative from the home team must greet the visiting team prior to the start of the game. Visitors perform first during halftime, and each squad must perform some part of their routine to the opposing side of the field. Limit halftime performance to a total of four minutes. This includes the announcing of names and entering and exiting the field (no exceptions).

(B) Any violation of the following rules will result in a \$250.00 per violation fine to the offending association.

1. No metal cleats including metal-tipped screw-ins allowed on artificial turf fields.
2. No food items including gum, candy, and sunflower seeds allowed on artificial turf fields (including fans spitting the seeds onto the field from outside the playing area).
3. No sports drinks or liquids of any kind other than water.

VI.X PROTESTS (Outcome of Game)

Any team has a right to protest certain matters occurring during the course of the game. In order to file a protest, a written notice of the protest outlining specifically the conduct protested with all pertinent details must be delivered to a GYFL Board Member within forty-eight (48) hours of the date of any event protested. In addition, the team protesting the activity must pay a \$100.00

fee to the GYFL, which will be refunded by the GYFL only in the event the protest is upheld in its entirety.

A protest shall not be considered unless (1) the referee in charge of the game in question has been notified before the end of the game that the game is being played under protest; (2) any protest not submitted in writing and presented to a GYFL Board Member within forty-eight (48) hours after the end of the game together with the \$100.00 protest fee attached shall not be considered.

A protest on matters of judgment rendered by an official will not be considered.

Upon the GYFL receiving a protest in proper form with the fee paid at the time the protest is delivered, the GYFL will convene within fourteen business days to review the written protest. The association, team, or party to whom the protest is lodged will be afforded the opportunity to present a written statement in contravention of the protest. They are not required to do so.

At a regularly scheduled or a specially called meeting of the GYFL, the matter protested shall appear on the agenda. The entire board of the GYFL shall determine by a majority vote whether to overrule or sustain the protest. The association, team, or party lodging the protest shall be allowed a maximum of ten (10) minutes at the GYFL meeting to present the protest. The association, team, or party that is the subject matter of the protest shall be allowed ten (10) minutes to present any rebuttal. The decision of the GYFL board majority vote shall be binding upon all parties.

NOTE: Code of Conduct Violations do NOT fall under the protest process.

VI.XI CANCELING GAMES

(A) The GYFL Board together with a GYFL Representative from the hosting association involved can postpone any and all games if a majority determines the weather or field conditions make it unfit to play.

(B) The intent to cancel or postpone a game under Rule A should be conveyed to the visiting team at least four (4) hours in advance of game time (except when cancellation or postponement is due to weather conditions).

(C) The GYFL President will coordinate the rescheduling of the postponed game(s) with the officials and the affected teams. Coaches and GYFL Representatives may NOT reschedule games.

(D) The rescheduled game(s) will be played at the new designated time(s), or the team(s) will forfeit.

VI.XII UNDERSTANDING THE RULES

(A) Each member of the coaching staff must be familiar with the "National Federation of State High School Association Rule Book".

(B) Each member of the coaching staff and each GYFL representative, together with all of the Board Members of the Member Association, must have a thorough understanding of the GYFL Rules and By-Laws and agree specifically to abide by all provisions of these Rules and By-Laws. Each member of the coaching staff and the GYFL representative for each association must understand and agree that the GYFL Board can impose various penalties for any Rule or By-Law violation (intentional or unintentional) as well as for any misconduct that the Board of Directors of the GYFL believes is in contravention of the best interest of the League and its participants. Each member of the coaching staff, the GYFL representative, and the Board Members of each Association agree to hold harmless and indemnify the GYFL from any and all claims asserted by them and to accept any penalties for any Rule or By-Law violation or misconduct. Except for, as specifically provided for under the Rules, there is no right to a hearing before the GYFL Board absent a GYFL Board's specific request that a hearing be held. Each coach, GYFL representative, officer, or Board Member of each Association understands that they can, based upon the decision of the GYFL Board, be exposed to a fine, probation, suspension, or expulsion from the GYFL as solely determined by the majority vote of the GYFL eligible voting membership.

(C) Each head coach must complete a certification seminar approved by the GYFL Board.

(D) The rules in this Rule Book are subject to change. Each GYFL Representative is responsible for advising his/her association and membership of any rule changes.

VI.XIII FILMING OF GAMES

Filming of all games by member associations and/or teams will be allowed as long as the filming is done outside the confines of the playing field. NO cameras of any kind will be allowed on the sidelines or within the confines of the playing field. No filming of scrimmages and practices is allowed unless the filming is by a direct participant.

At any field that does not allow filming or spotting from the press box, filming and spotting must be done from the bleachers of the team you are representing. No coach, parent, or spectator will be allowed on the opponent's side of the field with a camera, walkie-talkie, headset, etc. Any person found in violation of this rule may be asked to leave the confines of the arena. Repeat offenders may be subject to ejection, expulsion, or other action from the GYFL.

VI.XIV FORFEITS

(A) Any team forfeiting a game will be fined \$500.00. (\$300.00 of these funds will be paid to the host association to defer the cost of the forfeited game. The remaining \$200.00 will be added to the scholarship fund.) The fine must be paid before the team can participate in another game.

(B) If a team is unable to play a game, the team or association shall notify the GYFL Commissioner or Football Commissioner forty-eight (48) hours before game time. Failure to make this notification will result in a fine in addition to the fine in Rule (A).

(C) Teams must be at the game field thirty (30) minutes before game time or be subject to forfeit.

(D) Any team that is compelled to forfeit a game for dressing out an ineligible participant cannot automatically be required to pay a fine unless imposed by the GYFL Board of Directors.

VI.XV MUSIC

(A) Sideline music is permitted but must cease when the team breaks the huddle.

(B) An association is subject to a \$250.00 fine if music played at a GYFL Event has profanity in it.

(C) All cheerleading music and lyrics must be reviewed and approved by the Association's Cheer Director or the GYFL Cheer Commissioner or her designee.

VI.XVI PRE-SEASON JAMBOREES - POST-SEASON BOWL GAMES OR GAMES AGAINST OTHER CONFERENCES

The GYFL, Inc. shall not be held liable for any participation of any League Member in preseason Jamborees, post-Super Bowl games, or in any game not scheduled by the GYFL including games played against teams from other Conferences during the season. GYFL will host an All-Star game after the Super Bowl. The Board will provide details on how teams are formed.

VI.XVII SAFETY

1. The league discourages the transporting of teams, players, or cheerleaders to or from any league activities in open motorized vehicles.
2. Insurance - it shall be the responsibility of each League Member to offer insurance to cover accidents and injuries to their players and cheerleaders while playing games, practicing, or traveling. Any parent who does not desire said insurance must sign a waiver.
3. It is required that each League Member obtains parental release against liability for the League Member and GYFL, Inc. Proof of the release must be presented for final approval to the Board prior to opening registration.
4. Pyrotechnics and other fireworks incur a fine (\$350) besides. Smoke bombs may be used but must be approved by the home team before usage. All smoke must be used before or after the game; any smoke used during the game will be an unsportsmanlike penalty on the head coach in which the sidelines expel it. Any damage to a field or facility from the use of smoke will be the responsibility of the association discharging it if not approved prior to use.

5. Each League Member will install and maintain a thermometer that shows the current air temperature at the field. Each League Member will also use a device to measure the heat index (i.e., heat and humidity) at all outdoor events which the League Member hosts. If temperatures should rise to the point where you are past stated heat policies submitted to the league, the park president or highest-ranking Board member on site should inform the head official and present the policy and reading. The head official will make the judgment to allow an extended water break/game break without coaches entering the field to speak with players.

VI.XVIII TEAM COMPOSITION

1. The maximum number of players for all teams shall be thirty-five (35) with a mandatory split at thirty-six (36). A minimum of fifteen (15) players must be certified on a team roster by the third Saturday in August.
2. Any League Member may place players on teams where the age group is older than the players' age group. This may be done because a League Member cannot field, for example, a 7-year-old team but can field a 7 & 8-year-old team. The player must be of the lower age by July 1st; if not, they must play the lower age bracket. Players may not play up a 2-year gap due to safety concerns. This rule does not supersede the minimum of teams required per League Member.
3. A League Member may close their registration for any age group at any time based on the needs of the park. Upon the decision to close an age group, the Board shall be notified by receipt of the completed roster stating the player's names and birthdates within 48 hours of closure. Upon receipt of this notice, no additional players will be allowed to be added to said roster, and upon certification, only identified players on the submitted list will be certified.
4. There shall be no restrictions on how an individual League Member places players on teams. There shall be no equalized age restrictions on teams.
5. A League Member may register as many teams in an age group as it wishes.
6. A line shall be drawn through the space immediately under the last name on the roster to ensure the proper identification of players added after the third Sunday in August.
7. To certify new players to the roster, the Association President or his assigned representative shall present to the Commissioner or his assigned representative, Georgia State ID, picture, and duplicate copy of the roster on which the new player shall play. The information on the player shall be inserted on the original and duplicate. The entry shall be dated and initialed by the Commissioner or his representative. This is to be done on Wednesdays preceding the last Saturday in August to the third (3rd) Saturday in September at a time and place designated by the Commissioner.

VI.XIX FEES & FINES

Any game day violation that results in the same fine being issued a second time will double the fine amount. The third time the violation occurs; the head coach will be issued a one-week suspension. By-law fines include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Failure to submit to the League “Heat Policy”; Fine \$50.00.
2. Failure to submit a Certificate of Insurance before the first day of practice: Fine \$50.00.
3. Failure to have field certified prior to member’s first home game: Fine \$250.00 and loss of home games until certification is completed.
4. Failure of League Member Representative to attend League meeting: Fine \$50.00.
5. Failure to provide League Member by-laws and Board of Directors with contact information to the Board Secretary: Fine \$100.00.
6. Failure to certify a complete team on time where a team is declared: Fine \$150.00.
7. Coach ejection: \$200.
8. Failure of a League Member to attend the Super Bowl meeting: Fine \$100.00.
9. Failure to provide assigned workers to attend Super Bowl: Fine \$100.00 per worker.
10. Failure to report registration dates and fees to the Board Secretary: Fine \$100.00.
11. Failure for a coach to correct inaccurate information in the database after warning: Fine \$25.00.
12. Violation(s) of Practice regulations: Fine \$100.00 per incident & discipline of Head Coach.
13. Failure to report scores on time: Fine \$50.00.
14. Failure to report for face-off at the designated time: Fine \$100.00.
15. Not being in coaches’ attire: \$50 for flip flops/slides.
16. Failure for President to report temporary number changes: Fine \$25.00.
17. Failure to complete permanent jersey number change: Fine \$25.00.
18. Parent on inside 10ft barrier: \$50.
19. Failure to pay fines by due date: \$50 fine added.
20. Failure to abide by the Injured Player Rule: Fine \$100.00.
21. Not shaking hands after the game: \$100 fine.

22. Coach who refuses to play the game when they have eleven (11) players: Fine \$100.00 and one (1) week suspension.
23. Failure to move to a point behind the 10-foot physical barrier after the game: Fine \$50.00.
24. Any team from any Association which fails to play in and complete the balance of the scheduled regular season, playoffs: Fine \$1,000.00.
25. More than the allowed number of individuals (coaches, ball boys, or water boys) on a sideline during a game: Fine \$50.00 per individual.
26. The Board will set a fine for anything that's not listed here in By-Laws or fines list.
27. Failure to have a badge on or around the neck: \$25.
28. Game Forfeited: \$500.
29. Coaches ejection: \$200.
30. Reprint badge: \$25.

ARTICLE VII - PLAYING RULES

This section outlines rules to be followed for the Georgia Youth Football League. All games shall be played under the National Federation of State High School Associations rules unless contrary to these Playing Rules. The League retains exclusive authority to schedule all games as described by these GYFL Playing Rules and By-laws. Please read these rules carefully and contact the League Board if you have questions. All GYFL Football & Cheer Coaches Must Have a Valid Certification through USA Football. Background checks are also required.

VII.I TEAM INSURANCE REQUIREMENT

1. Association Teams will not be Eligible or assigned a Schedule without Insurance Coverage.
2. Associations must submit to the League a copy of their Association Insurance Policy/Certificate of Insurance, with the Georgia Youth Football League (GYFL) listed as a Rider on the Policy.

VII.II REGISTRATION REQUIREMENT

1. All Student-Athletes cannot begin Practicing with their assigned Team until they have officially Registered or Signed Up. To Register, the Student-Athlete must have all Association Forms Completed and Signed by their Parent or Legal Guardian and shall be Enrolled and Attending School (Public, Private, or Home School). If an Association folds after the Season has begun, the League shall work together to choose a place for the Student-Athletes to play out the remainder of the Season.

VII.III TEAM BOX PERSONNEL

1. Certified team personnel **MUST BE WEARING A TEAM SHIRT AND HAVE A COACHES BADGE.**
2. The President, Football Director, and Cheer Director are allowed on the sideline for support.
3. Only one water boy or girl and one MPR person will be allowed on the sideline.

VII.IV PARTICIPANT'S AGE RULE

1. The Age Control Date/Age Cutoff Date is 7/1 (July 1st).
2. Players **MAY** only Participate in Games that they are deemed **ELIGIBLE** to participate in.
3. Players are **PERMITTED** to Play 1-Age Group up.
 - o i. Example: a 6-year-old Player may Play on the 7u Team.
4. The minimum league playing age is 5 years old!
 - o i. The following age classifications are observed:
 - 5 Year Olds | Age 5 as of & including 7/1
 - 6 Year Olds | Age 6 as of & including 7/1
 - 7 Year Olds | Age 7 as of & including 7/1
 - 8 Year Olds | Age 8 as of & including 7/1
 - 9 Year Olds | Age 9 as of & including 7/1
 - 10 Year Olds | Age 10 as of & including 7/1
 - 11 Year Olds | Age 11 as of & including 7/1
 - 12 Year Olds | Age 12 as of & including 7/1
 - 8th Grade | Age 13 as of & including 7/1 through age 15 as of & including 12/31 of the current year with a maximum of 2 years participating at the 8th-grade level.

VII.V TOBACCO & ALCOHOL

1. Use of any tobacco product is not permitted anywhere on the playing field or in the game stadium.
2. Tobacco products are not allowed on school property.

3. Any association using school property should follow the rules of the local Board of Education.
4. Alcohol is not permitted in the stadium or adjacent areas. Any individual that is intoxicated will be removed from the field. Any coach, assistant coach, who is identified and determined to be under the influence of alcohol, drugs, or any type of controlled substance (unless prescribed for that person by a doctor) will be automatically suspended from participating or working in any GYFL League function.
5. If a parent and/or guardian of a player or cheerleader in your association is under the influence of alcohol, drugs, or any type of controlled substance (unless prescribed for that person by a doctor), they will be asked to leave the property and if this persists their child may be removed from the team with no refund.

VII.VI COACHES ON FIELD

1. 2 Coaches are allowed on The Field for 5U and 6U.
2. 1 Coach is allowed on The Field for 7U for the first 4 Games.

VII.VII TIMEOUTS

1. Each Team will be allotted 3 timeouts per half.
2. If a Coach desires to have a Discussion with a Game Official, the Coach must take a charged Team Timeout to do so.
3. Injury Timeouts will be recorded as Official Timeouts and WILL NOT be charged against a Team.

VII.VIII LENGTH OF QUARTERS/FIELD

1. 5U – 8U will have an 8-minute Game Clock.
2. 9U – 8th Grade will have a 10-minute Game Clock.

VII.IX HALF-TIME & RESCHEDULED GAME

1. There will be a 6-minute half-time for all games played.
2. No change of any type shall be permissible unless the officials determine it necessary to complete the game for safety reasons and/or a mutual agreement between the two associations (Example: pending darkness).
3. If a game is rescheduled due to any reason, i.e., weather, etc., a make-up game will be scheduled by the President and put out to the associations involved.

VII.X SCORING

1. Touchdown Scoring Play (Running or Passing): 6 Points.
2. Scoring Play after Touchdown (Kicking): 2 Points.
3. Scoring Play after Touchdown (Running or Passing) 1 Point (3-yard line).
4. Scoring Play after Touchdown (Running or Passing) 2 Points (7-yard line).
5. Safety (awarded to opponent): 2 Points.
6. Field Goal: 3 Points.
7. Forfeit Score: 21-0.

VII.XI PLAYER VISORS/FACE SHIELDS

1. Player's eyes must be visible through All Visors/Face Shields.
2. Darker Visors are not permitted unless proof is provided from a Licensed Physician prescribing as such.

VII.XII TEAM PERSONNEL STAFF AND REFEREE CREW CONDUCT RULE

1. Points of Emphasis for Team Personnel Staff and Referee Crews are as follows:
 - a. Respect
 - b. Sportsmanship
 - c. Professionalism
 - d. Courteousness
 - e. Appreciation
 - f. Leadership
 - g. Conflict Resolution

This revised Rulebook for GYFL retains all necessary information while ensuring clarity and an organized structure.