

**TRI-COUNTY JUNIOR FOOTBALL
CONFERENCE
An Illinois Not-For-Profit Corporation**

**AMENDED AND RESTATED
BY-LAWS**

June 2019

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
ARTICLE 1– NAME AND PRINCIPAL OFFICE.....	1
ARTICLE 2– PURPOSE.....	1
ARTICLE 3– MEMBERS OF THE LEAGUE.....	1
A.GENERAL.....	1
B.ADMISSION OF MEMBERS.....	2
C.REMOVAL OF MEMBERS.....	2
D.GOOD STANDING.....	3
E.INFORMATION REGARDING MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS.....	3
F.LIABILITY.....	4
ARTICLE 4– FEES, FINES AND PENALTIES.....	4
A.FEES.....	4
B.FINES AND PENALTIES.....	5
ARTICLE 5–BOARD OF DIRECTORS.....	5
A.MANAGEMENT OF CORPORATION.....	5
B.APPOINTMENT OF DIRECTORS.....	5
C.QUALIFICATIONS OF DIRECTORS.....	5
D.REMOVAL OF A DIRECTOR.....	5
E.VACANCIES.....	6
F.COMPENSATION OF DIRECTORS.....	6
G.CHECKS AND FINANCIAL POLICY.....	6
H.LIABILITY.....	6
ARTICLE 6– MEETINGS OF THE BOARD.....	6
A.REGULAR MEETINGS.....	6
B. SPECIAL MEETINGS.....	7
D.ABSENCES.....	7
E.QUORUM.....	8

F.CANCELLATION.....	8
G.VOTING.....	8
H.RULES OF ORDER.....	8
ARTICLE 7– OFFICERS.....	8
A.OFFICERS.....	8
B.NOMINATIONS.....	9
C.ELECTION.....	9
D.TERM OF OFFICE.....	9
E.REMOVAL FROM OFFICE.....	9
F.VACANCIES.....	10
G.PRESIDENT.....	10
H.VICE PRESIDENT.....	10
I.SECRETARY.....	11
J.TREASURER.....	11
K.LIABILITY.....	12
ARTICLE 8– COMMITTEES.....	12
A.STANDING COMMITTEES.....	12
B.SPECIAL COMMITTEES.....	13
C.COMMITTEE MEETINGS.....	14
ARTICLE 9– PLAYER ELIGIBILITY.....	15
A.AGES AND WEIGHTS.....	15
B.GENERAL LEAGUE RULES.....	15
ARTICLE 10– DISSOLUTION.....	16
ARTICLE 11– ALTERATION, AMENDMENT OR REPEAL OF BYLAWS.....	16
ARTICLE 12– DISCIPLINARY MATTERS, CONFLICTS AMONG MEMBERS AND INVESTIGATIONS.....	17
A.MEMBERS.....	17
B.CONFLICT BETWEEN MEMBERS.....	17
C.INVESTIGATION BY THE LEAGUE.....	17

ARTICLE 13- FISCAL YEAR.....17
ARTICLE 14- SEAL.....17

TABLE OF DEFINED TERMS

Application.....	2
Board.....	5
By-Laws.....	1
Code.....	1, 16
Committee.....	13
Committee Meeting.....	14
Committee Meetings.....	14
Committees.....	13
Corporation.....	1
Director.....	5
Directors.....	5
Executive Committee.....	12
Good Standing.....	3
Initial Fee.....	2
Initial Meeting Fine.....	5
League.....	1
Meeting.....	6
Meetings.....	6
Member.....	2
Member Report.....	4
Officers.....	8
Prohibited Affiliation.....	3
Prospective Member.....	2
Regular Meeting.....	6
Regular Meeting Location.....	7
Regular Meetings.....	6
Special Election.....	10
Special Election Nomination Date.....	10
Special Meeting.....	7
Special Meetings.....	7
Team Fee.....	4

PREAMBLE

Tri County Junior Football Conference (the “*Corporation*” or the “*League*”) was formed pursuant to the statutes of the State of Illinois on October 8, 1976 and original bylaws were adopted and last amended on June ___, 2015. These by-laws amend and completely restate those by-laws previously adopted by the Corporation and are adopted on this 14 day of June, 2016 by the Board (these “*By-Laws*”).

ARTICLE 1 – NAME AND PRINCIPAL OFFICE

The name of the Corporation is the Tri County Junior Football Conference. The principal office and registered agent of the Corporation shall be as prescribed by the Board.

ARTICLE 2 – PURPOSE

The purpose of the Corporation will be to:

1. promote the game of football in the Southwestern Illinois area;
2. inspire children to practice good health, citizenship, and character;
3. bring children together through means of a common interest in sportsmanship, fair play, and fellowship;
4. keep the welfare of the children first and entirely free of adult lust and glory;
5. acquaint the children with the fundamentals of the game; running, passing, kicking, blocking, and tackling;
6. teach sportsmanship, love of the game, and the ability to overcome adversity; and
7. promote safe play by encouraging children to play in their own weight and age division.

The Corporation will not:

8. endorse, sponsor financially, nor support in any way, any political party or candidate for political office;
9. take any action that is contrary to its purpose set forth in Section A of this Article 2;
10. take any action or position contrary to its function as a not-for-profit corporation under the laws of the State of Illinois or as required pursuant to its recognition for exemption as a not-for-profit corporation under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the “*Code*”).

ARTICLE 3 – MEMBERS OF THE LEAGUE

A. GENERAL

- . Only organizations that have been admitted to the League pursuant to the procedures set forth below and have not been terminated or suspended (including without limitation, suspension for failure

to remain in Good Standing) will be a member of the League (each a “**Member**” and collectively, “**Members**”).

B. ADMISSION OF MEMBERS

. An organization desiring to join the League (a “**Prospective Member**”) may be admitted as a Member as follows:

1. **Application and Documentation.** A Prospective Member will present an application for admission to the League (the “**Application**”) to the Board pursuant to procedures established by the Board. The Application will consist will consist of the following requirements:
 - a. Any potential new club may not appear before Growth and Development without sponsorship from 2 Tri-County organizations in good standing.
 - b. Prospective Member’s articles of corporation, articles of organization or similar proof of charter from the State of Illinois.
 - c. Prospective Member’s by-laws.
 - d. A copy of minutes of the most recent meeting of the Prospective Member and a copy of meeting minutes (or resolution in lieu of a meeting) of the Prospective Member authorizing the Prospective Member to pursue membership in the League.
 - e. List of officers and board members of the Prospective Member.
 - f. Most recent bank statement with a balance of \$1,000.00 of the Prospective Member.
 - g. Any other document, evidence, requirement, fee or qualification prescribed by the Board.
 - h. The field must meet the approval of the Growth and Development Committee
 - i. Written letter of proof that they have home field available
2. **Admission.** Admission to the League pursuant to an Application will require the vote of two-thirds (2/3rds) of the Directors present at a Regular Meeting or a Special Meeting called for such purpose.
3. **Initial Fees.** Upon admission to the League, Members will pay a fee of \$100.00 for a period of three (3) years (the “**Initial Fee**”).

C. REMOVAL OF MEMBERS

. A Member may be removed as follows:

1. **By Vote.** A Member may be removed and expelled from the League, with or without cause, by the vote of at least two-thirds (2/3rds) of the Directors present at a Meeting, called for such purpose; provided, however, a quorum at any Meeting called for purposes of removal of a Member shall consist of three-fourths (3/4ths) of the then serving Directors and provided further, that Directors representing Members subject to removal are not entitled to vote in connection with removal and therefore will not be considered in determining a quorum of Directors at any Meeting called for such purpose.
2. **Absence.** A Member may be removed as set forth in Section B.1. of Article 4.
3. **Prohibited Affiliation.** Members may be removed as set forth in Section D.2 of Article 3.
4. **Good Standing.** A Member remains out of Good Standing until made to be in Good Standing by acceptance of the payment, document or other remedy that cause the Member to fall out of Good Standing.
5. **Actions Against the League.** Any Member that files, or causes to be filed, or whose representative Director(s) file, or cause to be filed, any legal action against the League (including without limitation, an action filed in any court of competent jurisdiction or any alternative dispute resolution filed against the League, such as arbitration, whether voluntary or involuntary, or mediation), shall immediately be suspended and disqualified as a Member.

D. GOOD STANDING

. A Member will NOT be in “*Good Standing*” and will lose their right to Director representation on the Board and will no longer have any right to vote on matters affecting the Corporation if a Member:

1. fails to pay any amounts due to the League (including, without limitation, dues, fines, fees, payments or other monetary consideration whatsoever as prescribed hereunder or by the League) on or before the same become due and payable;
2. any director or officer thereof, and/or any Director representing that Member affiliates in any way with other football league(s), conference(s), or similar organization(s) considered to compete with the League, as determined by the Board, without first obtaining approval from two-thirds (2/3rds) of the Directors at a Meeting called for such purpose (a “*Prohibited Affiliation*”); if a Member is not in Good Standing due to a Director’s Prohibited Affiliation, the Director engaging in such Prohibited Affiliation will be immediately terminated from the Board and will be prohibited from serving as a Director for a minimum of twenty-four (24) months from the date of said Director’s termination; or
3. fails to provide the Member Report on or before the due date as prescribed by the Board.

Reinstatement of a Member not in Good Standing will require an affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3rds) of the Directors at a Meeting called for such purpose.

E. INFORMATION REGARDING MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

.

1. **Member Report**. The following information will be provided to the League pursuant to rules prescribed by the Board (the “***Member Report***”):
 - a. Member’s officers including name, phone number, address, e-mail address (if available);
 - b. Member’s organizational mailing address;
 - c. evidence that the Member’s organization is in good standing with the State of Illinois;
 - d. a list of the name, phone number, address, e-mail address, cell phone number and facsimile number (if available) of each Director nominated for the then fiscal year by the Member;
 - e. such other information related to each Member as prescribed by the Board.
2. **List of Member Organizations**. The League will maintain a list of Members including information provided on the Member Report.

F. **LIABILITY**

- . No Member shall be personally liable for the debts, obligations or liabilities of the League solely because of their membership in the League.

ARTICLE 4 – FEES, FINES AND PENALTIES

A. **FEES**

1. **Initial Fees**. Members shall pay the Initial Fee as set forth in Section B.3 of Article 3.
2. **Team Fee**. Each year, Members will pay a fee per team as prescribed by the Board for each team that will participate in the League’s games (the “***Team Fee***”). Fifty percent (50%) of the Team Fee will be refunded on or prior to December 31 of each year if the applicable Member’s team completes its games within the game schedule as prescribed by the League. In the event a team fails to complete league schedule (including post season games as applicable), the Member will forfeit the team fee. Forfeiture of the Team Fee does not limit the right of the League to collect additional fines or other actions against Teams that complete the scheduled games, including suspension as set forth herein and in rules prescribed by the league. Team Fees will be due on or before the annual Rules and Interpretation Meeting. Failure to pay fees by this meeting will result in forfeiture of the first weekend of games and the club will incur the fines and penalties associated with the forfeits.
3. **Other Fees**. The Board may impose fees, dues, reimbursements, fines and penalties pursuant to rules of the League or otherwise.

B. FINES AND PENALTIES

1. **Fines for Failure to Attend Meetings.** Any Member that fails to have at least one (1) Director attend two (2) Meetings during any twelve (12) month period will be assessed a fine as prescribed by the Board \$150.00 payable at next meeting (the “***Initial Meeting Fine***”). Any Member that fails to have at least one (1) Director attend three (3) Meetings during any twelve (12) month period will be assessed a fine of \$400.00 in addition to the Initial Meeting Fine, as prescribed by the Board. Any Member that fails to have at least one (1) Director attend four (4) Meetings during any twelve (12) month period will be expelled from the League and Directors for said Member will be removed from the Board. There will be no excused absences.
2. **Other Fines.** Upon notice to the Members, the Board may impose other fines and penalties pursuant to rules of the League.

ARTICLE 5 –BOARD OF DIRECTORS

A. MANAGEMENT OF CORPORATION

- . The affairs of the Corporation will be managed by a Board of the Directors selected as provided in this Article 5 (the “***Board***”).

B. APPOINTMENT OF DIRECTORS

- . On or before the Regular Meeting held in January of each year and pursuant to rules and procedures prescribed by the Board, each Member will nominate a maximum of three (3) primary representatives and three (3) alternate representatives to the Board (each a “***Director***” and collectively for all Members, “***Directors***”) who are qualified pursuant to Section C. of this Article 5. One (1) Primary representative must attend the regular scheduled monthly meeting.

C. QUALIFICATIONS OF DIRECTORS

- . A nominated Director must attend at least one (1) Meeting prior to becoming a Director. No person will be a Director for more than one Organization.

D. REMOVAL OF A DIRECTOR

- . A Director may be removed as follows:

1. **By Vote.** Directors may be removed, with or without cause, by the vote of at least two-thirds (2/3rds) of Directors present at a Meeting, called for such purpose.
2. **Absence.** Directors may be removed as set forth in Section B.1. of Article 4.
3. **Prohibited Affiliation.** Directors may be removed as set forth in Section D.2 of Article 3.
4. **Removal of Member.** Upon the removal or termination of a Member, the Member’s representative Directors will be automatically removed.

5. **Actions Against the League.** Any Director that files, or causes to be filed, any legal action against the League (including without limitation, an action filed in any court of competent jurisdiction or any alternative dispute resolution filed against the League, such as arbitration, whether voluntary or involuntary, or mediation), shall immediately be removed as a Director and the Member they represent shall be removed as a Member.

E. VACANCIES

- . Unless the vacancy of such Director results from the removal of the Director pursuant to Sections D.3., D.4. or D. 5. of this Article 5, any vacancy created by such removal shall be filled for the unexpired term in respect of such vacancy by nomination from the Member that the vacating Director represented by written nomination to the Secretary.

F. COMPENSATION OF DIRECTORS

- . Directors shall not receive any remuneration for their services; provided that nothing herein contained shall be construed to preclude any Director from serving the corporation in any other capacity and receiving compensation or reimbursement of expenses therefor.

G. CHECKS AND FINANCIAL POLICY

- . All checks or demands for money and notes of the Corporation shall be signed by such Officer or Officers or such other person as the Board may from time to time designate, provided that any two (2) signatures must accompany all checks and drafts of the Corporation.

H. LIABILITY

- . No Director shall be personally liable for the debts, obligations or liabilities of the League solely because of their service on the Board.

ARTICLE 6 – MEETINGS OF THE BOARD

Regular Meetings and Special Meetings are sometimes collectively referred to in these Bylaws as “*Meetings*”, but the terms “*Meeting*” or “*Meetings*”, as used in these Bylaws, do not include Committee Meetings)

A. REGULAR MEETINGS

1. **Schedule.** The regular meetings of the Board will take place on the following dates at the Regular Meeting Location (each a “*Regular Meeting*” and collectively, the “*Regular Meetings*”)
 - a. 7PM, the second (2nd) Tuesday of March, April, May, June July, August, November and December of each year; and
 - b. 8PM, the second (2nd) and fourth (4th) Tuesday of September and October of each year.

2. **Location.** The location of Regular Meetings (the “*Regular Meeting Location*”) will be determined as follows:
 - a. Any Member desiring to host the Regular Meeting must submit written application to host the meetings to the Secretary before the Regular Meeting held in January of each year. For Regular Meetings, facilities must:
 - i. be indoors with adequate heating, air conditioning and ventilation;
 - ii. accommodate the number of Directors and Officers currently serving on the Board and any other party presenting or attending Regular Meetings;
 - iii. be available for twelve (12) consecutive months on the dates set forth in Section A. 1. of this Article 6 after approval by the Board.
 - b. The Regular Meeting Location will be decided by the vote of the Directors at the Regular Meeting held in February of each year and will remain in that location until March of the following year unless changed by the vote of the Directors or, in the event a change in the Regular Meeting Location becomes necessary prior to any Meeting, then at such location as prescribed by the Executive Committee, in which case the Regular Meeting Location will be at a location otherwise provided by notice to each Directors by any Officer.
3. **Time.** 7pm December thru July and 8pm August thru November

B. SPECIAL MEETINGS

- . A special meeting of the Board (each a “*Special Meeting*” and collectively with respect to all such meetings, the “*Special Meetings*”) may be called as follows:
 1. **Action of Members.** If requested by three (3) or more Members, the President shall schedule a special meeting within five (5) days of the request by notice to each Director.
 2. **Action of President.** The President shall have the power to call any Special Meeting as deemed necessary by notice to each Director.
 3. **Notice.** Notice of any Special Meeting occurring during the months of August through November of any calendar year must be sent to the Directors at least three (3) days prior to the Special Meeting. Notice of any Special Meeting occurring during the months of January through July or in the month of December of any calendar year must be sent to the Directors at least ten (10) days prior to the Special Meeting. Notice of any Meeting or cancellation of any Meeting may be given personally, or by first class mail, by e-mail, facsimile or telephone pursuant to the information provided on the Member Report or announced and recorded in the minutes of the Board at any Regular Meeting.

D. ABSENCES

1. If a Director is not present fifteen (15) minutes after the scheduled Meeting time, the Director will be counted absent and not in attendance.

2. A Member whose Director(s) is absent from Meetings is subject to the fines and penalties set forth in Section B.1. of Article 4.

E. QUORUM

1. **Waiver of Notice.** A Director's attendance at or participation in any Meeting waives any required notice of the meeting unless the Director upon arriving at the Meeting or prior to the vote on a matter not noticed in conformity with the law or these Bylaws, objects to lack of notice and does not vote for or assent to the objected to action. Neither the business to be transacted at, nor the purpose of, any Meeting need be specified in any notice or waiver of notice of such meeting unless otherwise provide by law or in these Bylaws, in which case such express provision shall govern and control.
2. **Majority.** At all Meetings, a majority of all the Directors in office shall be necessary and sufficient to constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, and the act of a majority of the Directors present at any Meeting at which there is a quorum shall be the act of the Board, unless the action is one upon which, by express provision of the statutes or these Bylaws, a different vote is required, in which case such express provision shall govern and control. If a quorum shall not be present at any meeting of Directors, the Directors present thereat may adjourn the Meeting, from time to time, without notice other than announcement at the Meeting, until a quorum shall be present.

F. CANCELLATION

1. . No Meeting may be canceled unless agreed upon by a majority of the Executive Committee. Meetings may be cancelled by notice to each Director. Notice of any cancellation of any Meeting may be given personally, or by first class mail, by e-mail, facsimile or telephone pursuant to the information provided on the Member Report or announced and recorded in the minutes of the Board at any Regular Meeting.

G. VOTING

- . At Meetings, each Member is entitled to a maximum of two (2) votes and only one (1) vote per Director present, unless the action is one upon which, by express provision of the statutes or these Bylaws, a different vote is required or prohibited, in which case such express provision shall govern and control.

H. RULES OF ORDER

- . Robert's Rule of Order will govern the proceedings of all Meetings, except where it conflicts with these Bylaws.

ARTICLE 7 – OFFICERS

A. OFFICERS

- . The Officers of the League (the "**Officers**"), will consist of a President, Vice President, Secretary, and a Treasurer.

B. NOMINATIONS

1. **Qualifications.** The following are the qualifications to be nominated as an Officer of the Corporation:
 - a. the nominee must have been a Director for at least one (1) year; and
 - b. the Member that the nominee represented as a Director must be in Good Standing at the time of the nomination.
2. **Submitting a Nomination.** Any Member may nominate a qualified person as an Officer of the Corporation. All nominations for Officers will be submitted to the Chairman of the Nominating Committee by the Regular Meeting held in November. All nominees must be endorsed in writing by the Member they represent.

C. ELECTION

1. Officers will be elected by vote of the Directors at the Regular Meeting held in December each year. Voting will be by secret ballot and a nominee must receive a majority of votes cast by Directors present at the Regular Meeting held in December to be elected as an Officer. If any nominee fails to obtain a majority of votes, then a run-off election will take place at the same Meeting of the two (2) nominees with the greatest number of votes by secret ballot. This process will continue until one (1) nominee receives the majority of votes cast by Directors present at the Regular Meeting held in December.

D. TERM OF OFFICE

1. Each Officer will serve for a term of one (1) year or until a successor is elected. Officers may be elected to successive terms.

E. REMOVAL FROM OFFICE

1. An Officer may be removed as follows:
 1. **By Vote.** Officers may be removed, with or without cause, by the vote of at least two-thirds (2/3rds) of Directors present at a Meeting called for that purpose. Unless the removal of such Officer results from the removal of a Member (in which case the Officer will be automatically removed as set forth in Section E.4. of this Article 7).
 2. **Absence.** If that Officer misses two (2) Meetings and/or Committee Meetings without giving notice to another member of the Executive Committee.
 3. **Prohibited Affiliation.** Officers may be removed as set forth in Section D.2 of Article 5.
 4. **Removal of Member.** Upon the removal or termination of a Member, any Officer endorsed by their representative Member will be automatically removed from office.

5. **Actions Against the League.** Any Officer that files, or causes to be filed, any legal action against the League (including without limitation, an action filed in any court of competent jurisdiction or any alternative dispute resolution filed against the League, such as arbitration, whether voluntary or involuntary, or mediation), shall immediately be removed as an Officer.

F. VACANCIES

- . An Officer may resign at any time by delivering notice to the Corporation. A resignation is effective when the notice is delivered unless the notice specifies a future effective date. The Corporation shall hold a special election to fill any vacancy on the Executive Committee (a "***Special Election***"). Any Member in Good Standing may nominate a qualified person to fill the remaining term of the office left vacant pursuant to the procedures set forth in Section B. of this Article 7, except that nominations will be due by the next Regular Meeting after notice of the Special Election by the Executive Committee to each Director (the "***Special Election Nomination Date***"). Election of the Officer pursuant to the Special Election will be pursuant to the procedures set forth in Section C. of this Article 7, except that the Special Election will be held on the next Regular Meeting after the Special Election Nomination Date. Any Officer elected by Special Election will serve the remainder of the term of the Officer he or she replaced.

G. PRESIDENT

- . The President shall:
 1. Be the chief executive officer of the corporation and shall preside at all Meetings at which he or she is present.
 2. Execute bonds, mortgages, and all other contracts except where permitted by law to be otherwise signed and executed, and except where the signing and execution thereof shall be expressly delegated by the Board to some other Officer or agent of the Corporation.
 3. Be an ex officio member of all committees except for the Nominating Committee.
 4. Perform such duties as prescribed by the Board, the rules of the League and these Bylaws.
 5. See that all orders and resolutions of the Board are carried into effect.

H. VICE PRESIDENT

- . The Vice President shall:
 1. Preside at all Meetings at which he or she is present in the absence or disability of the President.
 2. Be in charge of league standings, weekly results, weigh in stamps and sportsmanship standings.
 3. Solicit officials (referees) from each Member for League post-season competitions and schedule officials (referees) for each post-season competition site pursuant to the rules of the League.

4. Distribute the form of the official weigh in cards for football players and scheduling and organizing the official League sanctioned weigh in of football players pursuant to the rules of the League.
5. Collecting and organizing data from the official game cards and official (referee) cards from League games, including post season competition games.
6. Perform such other duties as prescribed by the Board, the President, the rules of the League or these Bylaws.

I. SECRETARY

. The Secretary shall:

1. Keep or cause to be kept a record of all Meetings and shall record all votes and the minutes of all proceedings in a book to be kept for that purpose.
2. Give, or cause to be given, notice of all Meetings.
3. Be responsible for authenticating all records of the Corporation.
4. Report on all Members not in Good Standing.
5. Keep and distribute a current list of the Directors with all pertinent contact information.
6. Perform such other duties as prescribed by the Board, the President, the rules of the League or these Bylaws.

J. TREASURER

. The Treasurer shall:

1. Have custody of the Corporation's funds and securities, and keep full and accurate accounts of receipts and disbursements in books belonging to the Corporation, deposit all monies and other valuable effects in the name and to the credit of the Corporation in such depositories as may be designated by the Board.
2. Disburse the funds of the Corporation as may be ordered by the Board, taking proper vouchers for such disbursement, and shall render the President and the Directors, as Regular Meetings, or whenever the Board or the President may otherwise require, an account of all of the transactions as Treasurer and of the financial condition of the Corporation.
3. Give the Corporation a bond in such sum and with such surety or sureties as shall be satisfactory to the Board for the faithful performance of duties of his or her office and for the restoration of the Corporation, in case of his or her death, resignation, retirement or removal from office, of all books, papers, vouchers, money and other property of whatever kind in his or her possession or under his or her control belonging to the Corporation.
4. Report all amounts owed by Members not in Good Standing.

5. Perform such other duties as prescribed by the Board, the President, the rules of the League or these Bylaws.

K. LIABILITY

- . No Officer shall be personally liable for the debts, obligations or liabilities of the League solely because of their service as an Officer of the Corporation.

ARTICLE 8 – COMMITTEES

A. STANDING COMMITTEES

1. **Executive Committee.** The committee of all of the Officers is sometimes referred to in these Bylaws as the “*Executive Committee*”. The Executive Committee shall:
 - a. Have and exercise the authority of the Board between meetings of the Board.
 - b. Be responsible for representing the Corporation in all resolution of disputes filed against the Corporation, whether in a court of competent jurisdiction or in any alternative dispute resolution such as arbitration or mediation.
 - c. Propose a budget at the Regular Meeting held in January each year for approval by the Board.
2. **Ages and Weights.** The Ages and Weights Committee is comprised of all Members. The Ages and Weights Committee shall review the existing ages and weights divisions and recommend changes to the Board for approval.
3. **Rules and Bylaws.** The Rules and Bylaws Committee shall be comprised of all Member Organizations. Each the Committee will review these Bylaws, rules of the League and any other governing documents and bring back recommended changes to the Board for approval.
4. **Growth and Development.** The Growth and Development Committee is comprised of all Members. The Growth and Development Committee shall hear and decide if prospective Members that desire to join the League have satisfied the criteria as set forth in these Bylaws and the rules promulgated by the Board and shall decide if prospective Members shall be presented to the Board.
5. **Nominating.** The Nominating Committee shall be selected from Members of the Board at the January Regular Meeting each year. The Nominating Committee shall accept nominations for Officers and present the ballot for Officers to the Board.
6. **Scheduling.** The Scheduling Committee shall be selected from Members of the Board at the January Regular Meeting each year. The Scheduling Committee shall coordinate all scheduling efforts of the League, both regular season games and playoff games pursuant to rules promulgated by the Board.

7. **Discipline and Rules Interpretation.** The Disciplinary and Rules Interpretation Committee shall be comprised of all Members.
 - a. **Duties.** The Discipline and Rules Interpretation Committee shall:
 - i. Continually study the playing rules of the game, the rules of the League, and interpretations of all such game and League rules and make recommendations known to the Board and the Rules and Bylaws Committee.
 - ii. Continually study the behavior of Members and investigate unethical behavior as it pertains to the rules and policies of the League.
 - iii. Conduct all hearings related to the violation of rules or ethics committed by Members and their players, coaches, field officials (referees) or spectators as set forth in the rules of the League or these Bylaws.
 - iv. Conduct and oversee any other disciplinary matters as may come before the League in accordance with the rules promulgated by the Board and these Bylaws.
 - v. Meet two (2) times per month during the regular season. If a player, coach, assistant coach or individual has been ejected from a League football game, such player, coach assistant coach or other individual will be suspended from all League activities until the next scheduled Disciplinary Committee meeting. At a minimum the player, coach, assistant coach will be suspended for the rest of said game and the following week.
 - b. **Committee Makeup.** All Members shall make up the Discipline and Rules Interpretation Committee; provided, however, a Member may not have more than one Director on the Rules and Disciplinary Committee, but may allow an alternate Director to serve on the Rules and Disciplinary Committee if the Director selected representing that Member is unable to attend. A Director sitting on the Rules and Disciplinary Committee may not vote on a matter involving a matter related to the Member that Director represents
8. **Officials:** The Officials Committee shall be selected from Members of the Board at the January Regular Meeting each year. Duties will include: administering a competency evaluation of all officials (referees) each year and selection of officials for the playoffs.

B. SPECIAL COMMITTEES

- . The Board, by a resolution adopted by a majority of the Directors in office, may designate one or more other Board committees, each of which shall consist of at least two Directors. Such committees shall, to the extent provided in such resolution, have and exercise the authority of the Board. Any committee set forth in Section A. of this Article 6 or as set forth in this Section B. or this Article 6., shall be herein referred to as a “**Committee**” and collectively as “**Committees**”.

C. COMMITTEE MEETINGS

1. **Location.** The location of any Committee meeting (each a “*Committee Meeting*” and collectively, “*Committee Meetings*”) will be determined by the chairman of the Committee.
2. **Time.** Upon the determination of the location of a Committee Meeting, any member of the committee will give notice to each Director of the schedule of Committee Meetings including the time of commencement of each Committee Meeting the location of each Committee Meeting. The notice may be in writing, via electronic mail or announcement at any Regular Meeting.
3. **Notice.** Notice of any Committee Meeting occurring during the months of August through November of any calendar year must be sent to the Directors at least three (3) days prior to the Committee Meeting. Notice of any Committee Meeting occurring during the months of January through July or in the month of December of any calendar year must be sent to the members at least ten (10) days prior to the Committee Meeting. Notice of any Meeting or cancellation of any Meeting may be given personally, or by first class mail, by e-mail, facsimile or telephone pursuant to the information provided on the Member Report or announced and recorded in the minutes of the Board at any Regular Meeting.
4. **Absences.** If a Director who is a member of a Committee is not present thirty (30) minutes after the scheduled Committee Meeting time as set forth in the notice to be provided pursuant to Section C.2. of this Article 6., the Director will be counted absent and not in attendance. A Member whose Director(s) is absent from any Committee Meeting is subject to the fines and penalties set forth in Section B.1. of Article 4.
5. **Quorum.**
 - a. **Waiver of Notice.** A Director’s attendance at or participation in any Committee Meeting waives any required notice of the Committee Meeting unless the Director upon arriving at the Committee Meeting or prior to the vote on a matter not noticed in conformity with the law or these Bylaws, objects to lack of notice and does not vote for or assent to the objected to action. Neither the business to be transacted at, nor the purpose of, any Committee Meeting need be specified in any notice or waiver of notice of such Committee Meeting unless otherwise provide by law or in these Bylaws, in which case such express provision shall govern and control.
 - b. **Majority.** At all Committee Meetings, a majority of all the Directors in office who are members of said Committee shall be necessary and sufficient to constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, and the act of a majority of the Directors who are members of said Committee who are present at any Committee Meeting at which there is a quorum shall be the act of the Committee. If a quorum shall not be present at any Committee Meeting, the Directors present thereat may adjourn the Committee Meeting, from time to time, without notice other than announcement at the Committee Meeting, until a quorum shall be present.

6. **Cancellation.** No Committee Meeting may be canceled unless agreed upon by a majority of the Directors who are members of the Committee. Committee Meetings may be cancelled by notice to each Director. Notice of any cancellation of any Meeting may be given personally, or by first class mail, by e-mail, facsimile or telephone pursuant to the information provided on the Member Report or announced and recorded in the minutes of the Board at any Regular Meeting.
7. **Rules of Order.** Robert’s Rule of Order will govern the proceedings of all Committee Meetings, except where it conflicts with these Bylaws.

ARTICLE 9 – PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

A. AGES AND WEIGHTS

DIVISION	Age as of September 1 st	Max Weight	Position Restrictions
TYKES	5-6	Unlimited	Over 65 lbs = Striper
7U	7	Unlimited	Over 80 lbs = Striper
8U	8	Unlimited	Over 90 lbs = Striper
9U	9	Unlimited	Over 100 lbs = Striper
10U	10	Unlimited	Over 110 lbs = Striper
11U	11	Unlimited	Over 120 lbs = Striper
12U	12	Unlimited	Over 140 lbs = Striper
14U	14	Unlimited	Over 175 lbs = Striper

1. **Age Restrictions.** The minimum age for participation shall be five (5) years of age. Maximum age for participant shall be fourteen (14) years of age. The player's age shall be considered his or her age as of September 1 of the calendar year in which League play begins. For example, if a player’s birthday is September 1 and the player turns 9 years old on September 1, that player will play in the 9U Division.
2. **Grade Restrictions.** No player shall have completed the eighth (8th) grade, nor be in the ninth (9th) grade and play in the League.
3. **No Like-Sport.** No player shall participate in a like-sport and also participate in League play. Like-sport shall be defined as set forth in the then current rules and regulations promulgated by the Illinois High School Association or as set forth in the Illinois High School Association bylaws and constitution.

B. GENERAL LEAGUE RULES

All eligible players on each team must participate in each game a mandatory eight (8) plays. A player weighing in at half-time is only required four (4) plays per game. The following penalties will be assessed against those organizations not complying with this rule:

First Offense: \$150.00 fine, forfeit of the game and a 1 game suspension for the head coach of the team found to be in violation of this rule.

Second Offense: \$250.00 fine, forfeit of the game and a two game suspension for the head coach of the team found to be in violation of this rule.

Third Offense: \$500.00 fine, forfeit of the game, and a one year suspension for the head coach of the team found to be in violation of this rule.

Play-offs: \$500.00 fine, forfeit of the game, and a suspension applicable to the offense(s) listed in this rule.

If applicable, this suspension will carry over into the next season.

ARTICLE 10 – DISSOLUTION

Upon dissolution of the Corporation, the Executive Committee, shall after paying or making provision for the payment of the Corporation's lawful debts, shall distribute all assets to any of the following organizations: (1) each Member, in equal shares; (2) organizations who have been organized and are operated for purposes consistent with those of the corporation who are operated as exempt organizations under Section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, or the corresponding provisions of any future law of the United States for substantially the same purposes (the “*Code*”); (3) organizations operated exclusively for charitable, educational, religious or scientific purposes shall at the time qualify as an exempt organization under Section 501 (c)(3) of the Code; (4) to the State of Illinois or a political subdivision thereof; or (5) to the United States of America, and to no other organization or person.

ARTICLE 11 – ALTERATION, AMENDMENT OR REPEAL OF BYLAWS

These Bylaws may be altered, amended or repealed by two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the Directors at a Meeting called for such purpose where at least seventy-five percent (75%) of the Members are represented. For example, if there are twelve (12) Members in Good Standing, each having two (2) voting Directors, then nine (9) Members must be represented at a Meeting by a Director to constitute a quorum at such Meeting and there must be at least sixteen (16) Directors voting to alter, amend or repeal these Bylaws. No alteration, amendment or repeal of these Bylaws shall be voted upon at the same Meeting called for such purpose at which such alteration, amendment or repeal is introduced, but such alteration, amendment or repeal of these Bylaws shall be voted upon at the next Meeting called for such purpose. Notwithstanding the foregoing, any alteration, amendment or repeal of these Bylaws after the Regular Meeting held in July of each year, must be by unanimous vote of all Directors at a Meeting called for such purpose where all Members are represented. For example, if there are Twelve (12) Members, each having two (2) voting Directors, then all twelve (12) Members must be represented at a Meeting by a Director to constitute a quorum and all Directors present at such meeting must vote to alter, amend or repeal these Bylaws.

ARTICLE 12 – DISCIPLINARY MATTERS, CONFLICTS AMONG MEMBERS AND INVESTIGATIONS

A. MEMBERS

- . Members must maintain discipline within their organizations and during the games which each Member hosts. Failure to do so may cause the Member to be disciplined by the League. Disciplinary matters involving a Member's players, coaches, assistant coaches, officials (referees), administrators, teams, or spectators shall be handled as set forth in the rules of the League and these Bylaws.

B. CONFLICT BETWEEN MEMBERS

- . In the event of a conflict between Members, upon written request of any Member to any the President or the Secretary, the Executive Committee shall assign the dispute to the Discipline and Rules Interpretation Committee for resolution pursuant to the rules of the League and these Bylaws. The clubs included in the dispute are excluded from the decision making process.

C. INVESTIGATION BY THE LEAGUE

- . The League may conduct an investigation of any matter related to League play, cheerleading, the conduct of a Member, its coaches, officials (referees), administrators, teams or spectators, a Member's Good Standing or any other matter related to a Member through the Executive Committee, the Discipline and Rules Interpretation Committee or any other Special Committee appointed by the Board for such purpose.

ARTICLE 13 - FISCAL YEAR

The fiscal year of the corporation shall begin the first day of January in each year.

ARTICLE 14 - SEAL

The corporation shall not have a seal.