



BY LAWS

THE WEST HARTFORD YOUTH FOOTBALL LEAGUE

FOUNDED BY JOHN H. CAREY, JR., 1955

2024 SEASON

BY LAWS REVISION HISTORY

Date

Revision

	Updated Bylaws to reflect:
2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● updated safety requirements
2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Additional Members of the WHYFL Board of Directors, and details of their role and responsibilities:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Vice President of Officiating Flag Program○ Vice President of Fund Raising○ Bantam Division Director, Flag Program○ Mighty Mites Division Director, Flag Program○ Pee Wee Division Director, Flag Program○ Pony Division Director, Flag Program○ Conard High School (West Hartford) Head Football Coach○ Hall High School (West Hartford) Head Football Coach● Added Flag Football Division Content to:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ ARTICLE VII - CODE OF CONDUCT AND DISCIPLINARY ACTION● Added Flag Football Division Content to:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ ARTICLE IX - ORGANIZATION AND PLAYER ALLOCATION, Section 10● Added ARTICLE XI - COACHING PERSONNEL (Flag)● Modified ARTICLE XI RULES to Article XII ARTICLE XII – RULES (Tackle)● Added ARTICLE XIII – RULES (Flag)● Modified ARTICLE XII - FINANCIAL POLICY to ARTICLE XIV - FINANCIAL POLICY● Modified ARTICLE XIII - AMENDMENTS to ARTICLE XV - AMENDMENTS
2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● New Mission Statement● Stronger cooperation and synergy between the Tackle and Flag Programs● Better definition of Officers roles given new Mission Statement and emphasis of both Tackle and Flag Program.● Elimination of two board positions - Executive Vice President of Development and Vice President of Registration.● Creation of two new Board positions - Vice President Tackle Program and Vice President Flag Program.● Addition of the Code of Conduct and formalized Disciplinary Action Program.● Clean up old and obsolete language.
2018	Updated Offices and Directors to reflect leagues current operations.

Removed play rules as they are now in the NYFL bylaws
Added Coaches Safety Requirements.

2014 Article III- The Board of Directors -Clarified Board of Directors eligibility requirements

Article VIII- Organization and Player Allocation

- Mighty Mite Division revised to include eligibility of older/lighter 10 years olds weighing 75 pounds or less
- Mighty Might Division to play joint schedule with Farmington.
- Pee Wee Division revised to include eligibility of older/lighter 12 years olds weighing 90 pounds or less
- Pee Wee Division to play joint schedule with Farmington.
- Pee Wee Division ball carrier limit; error corrected

Article X- Rules - Clarified practice and contact limit rules

2013 Article VIII – Organization and Player Allocation updated

- Instructional / Flag Division revised to include to 5,6, and 7 year olds
- Mighty Mite Division revised to include 7, 8, and 9 year olds. In addition, positional weight limits implemented.
- Pee Wee Division revised to include 10 and 11 year olds. In addition, positional weight limits implemented
- Midget Division eliminated (combined w/ Pony)
- Pony Division revised to include 12, 13, and 14 year olds. In addition, positional weight limits implemented.
- Pony Division to play joint schedule with Farmington.
- Legacy rule revised, effective for 2014

Article X – Rules

- Contact limits implemented.

Article IX – Coaching Personnel

- Added Head Coach qualification requirements, process for election and process for termination
- Added Prohibition on Monetary Incentives

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ARTICLE I - NAME, LOCATION AND MEMBERS

- Sec. 1. The name of this non-profit organization shall be the West Hartford Youth Football League, a division of the West Hartford All Sports Council, Incorporated, hereinafter referred to as “the League” or “WHYFL”.
- Sec. 2. The location of this organization shall be the Town of West Hartford, CT.
- Sec. 3. Members of the West Hartford Football League are defined as Board Members, Coaches, Players and Players Families.

ARTICLE II - OBJECTIVE

- Sec. 1. The West Hartford Youth Football League is committed to build a premier youth football program as judged by our peers, our high schools’ football program and our community. We plan to achieve our mission through the following:
- To build character, sportsmanship, self-confidence, self-discipline, physical fitness and leadership skills of our players by teaching the fundamentals of football in a competitive, safe and supported environment.
 - To offer the state of the art safety training, equipment and information for our coaches, players and their families.
 - To serve as positive role models for our players, their families and our community as measured by our actions both on and off the field.
 - To provide superior coaching and mentoring to all players for football, academic success and future life aspirations.
 - To partner with the Conard and Hall football programs to prepare our players for the rigor and responsibilities of student athletes at the high school and collegiate level.
 - To foster good health habits, teamwork, sportsmanship, compassion and charity for the betterment of our players, their families and our community of West Hartford.

ARTICLE III - THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Sec. 1. Duties

- The Board of Directors shall manage the affairs of the League and shall make all decisions with the best interests of the players in mind.
- The Board of Directors shall have full power to resolve any disputes relating to all matters of the By-Laws.

Sec. 2. Nomination and Elections

- Members of the Board of Directors shall serve two year terms.
- Men or women who have served in the League for one (1) or more years as either a Head Coach, Assistant Coach, Officer, Director, Committee Member or Team Parent or have actively participated in the League during prior two years shall be eligible to be nominated for the Board of Directors.
- A list of those people eligible and confirmed by the Board will be established annually at the Annual Meeting.
- If a Board Member, for whatever reason, can not fulfill their obligation as a Board member, the Board may nominate and elect a new Board member to fill the vacancy no more than two months from the date of resignation.
- Two-year participation requirement may be waived at the discretion of the Board of Directors subject to majority approval by the eligible voters.

Sec. 3. Size

- The Board of Directors shall have at least nine (9) members.
- There will always be an odd number of Board Members.
- The total number of Board members will be determined by need of the League as set forth by the Board of Directors.
- A quorum for the transaction of business of the Board of Directors shall consist of at least 51% of the members.
- Except as otherwise set forth in these By-Laws, the Board of Directors shall act at all times by simple majority vote of the quorum.

Sec 4. Code of Conduct

- All Board Members are subject to the WHYFL Code of Conduct and Disciplinary Actions put forth in Article IV of the bylaws.

Sec. 5. Attendance Requirements

- The Board of Directors are to attend at minimum 75% of the meetings held by the Board of Directors within a calendar year.
- Attendance will be taken at each meeting by the Secretary.
- Head coaches shall only be required to attend mandatory meetings.
- If a Head Coach cannot attend a mandatory scheduled meeting, that Head Coach shall make arrangements to have representation by another member of his/her coaching staff to attend the meeting.
- If a Board Member or Head Coach fails to meet the attendance requirement, the Board can make a motion to replace/remove the Board Member or Head Coach.

Sec. 5. Conflict Resolution

- Coaches, Volunteers, Players and Family members, shall follow the proper protocol in resolving issues or problems.
- Persons seeking resolution should follow the guidelines set forth by these By Laws.
- Final resolutions shall follow the guidelines outlined in these bylaws.

ARTICLE IV - OFFICERS

Sec. 1. The Officers of the League shall be:

- President
- Vice President Tackle Program
- Vice President Flag Program
- Vice President Publicity
- Vice President Equipment
- Vice President Player Safety
- Vice President League Matters
- Vice President of Officiating Flag Program
- Vice President of Fund Raising
- Treasurer

- Secretary
- Bantam Division Director, Flag Program
- Mighty Mites Division Director, Flag Program
- Pee Wee Division Director, Flag Program
- Pony Division Director, Flag Program
- Conard High School (West Hartford) Head Football Coach
- Hall High School (West Hartford) Head Football Coach

Sec. 2. The duties of the Officers shall be as follows:

President:

The President shall:

- Call and conduct all meetings according to the League By-Laws.
- Have the power to appoint Directors, chairpersons and committee members to efficiently execute the duties of the League.
- Be the Executive Officer in charge of seeing that all members of the Executive Board, Directors, Committees and/or Coaches are executing their outlined tasks and duties.
- Be the Executive Officer in charge of executing the policies approved by the Board of Directors.
- Preside over Public Relations and will appoint, if needed, committee members to assist with Public Relations.
- Serve as a liaison between players, families and the Board of Directors.
- Act as the liaison between coaches and the Board of Directors.
- Is responsible for promoting an understanding, by players, families, and/or coaches of the League's functions, operations and goals.
- Is responsible for advising the Board of Directors of issues, trends and concerns as expressed by players, families, and/or coaches during his/her interactions with the League.
- Will make all recommendations on dismissal of current coaches not meeting the standards set by the League to the Board of Directors.

- Cannot be a Head Coach in the League, unless approved by the Board.
- This position holds 1 vote as an officer of the Board of Directors.

Vice President Tackle Program

The Vice President Tackle Program shall:

- Serve as the liaison with the Nutmeg Youth Football League (NYFL).
- Help recruit new coaches
- Ensure interested coaches submit letters of intent and are voted on by the Board. Work with the Secretary
- Work with the Tackle Head Coaches and establish any necessary changes to tackle players to comply with the NYFL and the National Federation of State High School Association:
 - eligibility
 - practice schedules
 - rules of play
- Act as a liaison between the Board and the Tackle program and its participants.
- Be responsible for pursuing sources of revenue in the form of individual donations, team sponsorships, and league-wide fundraising events.
- Be responsible for renewing and collecting funds from our team sponsorships and pursue any new sponsorship as needed.
- Be responsible for coordinating all sponsorship items by providing the VPP with all sponsor names and information.
- Appoint Director for Tackle Player Recruitment and Development.
- Work with the Director for Tackle Player Recruitment and Development to establish recruitment strategies to meet the current season goals.
- All recruitment strategies require Board approval and must be coordinated with the Vice President of Publicity.
- Cannot be a Head Coach in the League, unless approved by the Board.

- This position holds 1 vote as an officer of the Board of Directors.

Vice President Flag Program:

The Vice President of Flag Program shall:

- Appoint and be responsible for four (4) Divisional Flag Directors:

- **Bantam**

- **Division:** 1st & 2nd Grade
- **Mighty Mites Division:** 3rd & 4th Grade
- **Pee Wee Division:** 5th & 6th Grade
- **Pony Division:** 7th & 8th Grade
- Work with the Flag Directors to establish the Flag Team structure.
- Work with the Flag Directors to establish player placement guidelines - need board approval.
- Work with the Flag Directors to establish and communicate to the Vice President of Publicity the game schedule for the season and post-season play.
- Work with the Flag Directors to establish Practice schedules.
- Work with the Flag Directors to establish Player Recruitment strategies.
- All recruitment strategies require Board approval and must be coordinated with the Vice President of Publicity.
- Work with the Flag Directors and establish any necessary changes to flag program to comply with the NFL Flag program:
 - eligibility
 - practice schedules
 - rules of play
- Act as a liaison between the Board and the Flag program and its participants.
- Cannot be a Head Coach in the League, unless approved by the Board.
- This position holds 1 vote as an officer of the Board of Directors.

Vice President Publicity:

The Vice President of Publicity (VPP) shall:

- Be responsible for the development of a Strategic Publicity program for the League that will communicate the overall message of WHYFL to new and existing players, their families and our community which must be approved by the Board.
- Have full responsibility for the WHYFL website including, but not limited to content approval, maintenance, modifications and images released on the website.

- Be responsible for the regular maintenance of the League website to ensure pertinent League information is posted in a timely manner and maintained on the website.
- The VPP shall also maintain all game and practice schedules on the website.
- Have full responsibility for all of the League's social media presence including, but not limited to Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat.
- Be responsible for assuring weekly publication of game results and statistics provided to him/her by team coaches and/or representatives through the appropriate electronic or print forums.
- Be responsible for notifying the media of the League's special events (e.g. parades, registration events, opening day and playoff games and exhibition games).
- Provide and oversee the positive promotion of the League, its events and activities through the use of the media and other available mediums.
- Responsible for player registration via the League's website.
- Work to ensure proper collection, storage and security of registration data and player information.
- Be responsible, in conjunction with the Vice President of Tackle and Vice President of Flag, for the planning and running of recruitment strategies such as open registration parties, combine events, public informational meetings regarding youth football, etc.
- Be responsible for the video strategy of the League including fulfilling the NYFL requirements for game films.
- Appoint a Director, if needed, to assist in the videotaping of League events.
- Have full responsibility for the League's Hudl strategy.
- This position holds 1 vote as an officer of the Board of Directors.

Vice President – Equipment:

The Vice President of Equipment (VPE) shall:

- Be responsible for, keeping inventory of, maintenance of and purchase of, all League equipment; e.g., helmets, shoulder pads, uniforms and field equipment etc.
- Be responsible for obtaining Board approval for the final selection and approval of all equipment and awards (e.g. trophies).
- Work with all the coaches to ensure all league owned equipment is collected at the end of the season and is stored in the shed in an orderly and sanitary method.
- Equipment shall be issued to each player directly from the shed and all equipment shall be collected and inventoried at the shed.
- Ensure all equipment is clean and sanitized.
- Shall ensure all field equipment, e.g. sleds and lights are neatly stored by the shed for the off season.
- Conduct an inventory and audit of all league equipment at the end of each season.
- Submit a report of inventory at the Annual Meeting.
- The inventory report shall include an itemized list of the leagues equipment and recommendations for purchases and associated budget for the upcoming year.
- Be prepared to render other equipment reports as requested by the President.
- This position holds 1 vote as an officer of the Board of Directors.

Vice President – Safety

The Vice President of Safety (VPS) shall:

- Be responsible for ensuring that all coaches and board members have completed all safety requirements per Section (2).
- Track and ensure all CPR certifications are up to date and valid.
- Ensure all Tackle and Flag certifications are up to date and valid.
- Select the appropriate vendor to perform necessary background checks on coaches and volunteers.
- Serve as the WHYFL Player Safety Coach (PSC) in accordance with USA Football.

- Ensure that WHYFL is USA Football Heads Up compliant.
- Participate and satisfy all of USA Football's requirements to be the WHYFL PSC.
- Inform all coaches and board members of the league's safety requirements, track compliance, and report status to the President.
- Have the authority to cancel practices or games due to safety conditions using youth sport guidelines such as but not limited to USA Football and the Town of West Hartford.
- Coordinate with the President - Use the Kestrel Heat Stress Tracker to evaluate field conditions prior to practice or games. Must take half time readings during home games.
- Issue coaches heat acclimatization protocols for the season as defined by USA Football and ensure compliance.
- Ensure practice and home game facilities have proper cooling stations as defined by USA Football.
- Make sure players hydrate.
- Communicate to coaches, players, their families and our community the League's Safety Programs and Protocols which will help foster a better understanding of the changes to the game that are meant to ensure player safety.

Vice President League Matters:

The Vice President League Matters (VPLM) shall:

- Be responsible for all matters involving practice and game day fields, including:
 - scheduling officials and trainers,
 - obtaining all necessary field permits (Sterling Field) for practices and games,
 - ensuring league insurance coverage is adequate and up to date.
 - obtain all necessary health permits for the operation of the Snack Shack.
- Appoint a Director of the Snack Shack to oversee and run the Snack Shack at Sterling Field or at off site locations during games and other League events.
- Coordinate League activities with local high schools such as:

- securing field permits for games played at the high schools.
 - coordinating exhibition games during half time of high school games.
 - Potential Day Camps
- Appoint a Director of Game Day Operations that will:
 - enlist and coordinate high school players to assist in game day activities such as field set up, snack shack support, announcing and game filming.
 - ensure that all field markers are placed on the fields for all home games and removed and placed in the shed when games are finished.
- Work with the NYFL Board or its representatives to ensure:
 - that officials will be scheduled for all home games, including rescheduled games.
 - any canceled games are rescheduled.
- Obtain each week from the Treasurer, checks to pay officials.
- Organize and make arrangements for Picture Days.
- This position holds 1 vote as an officer of the Board of Directors.

Vice President of Officiating Flag Program

The Vice President of Officiating for the Flag Program shall:

- Be responsible for recruitment of Referees
- Be responsible for creation of a training plan for Referees
- Maintain a weekly schedule of slated games for Referees to Officiate
- Coordinate the payment of per game payouts for Referees
- Be available to review and provide input on any Flag Division Rule changes or updates
- This position holds 1 vote as an officer of the Board of Directors.

Vice President of Fund Raising

The Vice President of Fund Raising shall:

- Be in charge of coordinating Fund Raising efforts for the League

- This position holds 1 vote as an officer of the Board of Directors.

Treasurer:

The Treasurer shall:

- Be in charge of the deposit and distribution of all League funds.
- Obtain and maintain a League credit card.
- Prepare a budget for the upcoming season which will be delivered and voted on at the Annual Meeting.
- Be responsible for submitting a formal, written, semi-annually, non-certified, audited Financial Report.
- Submit a year-end Financial Report.
- Pay all types of outstanding bills within 30 days of receipt, unless there is an unresolved issue with a League President.
- Be prepared to render other reports as requested by the board. This position holds 1 vote as an officer of the Board of Directors.

Secretary:

The Secretary shall:

- Schedule all Board meetings by whichever medium is necessitated by local conditions; in person, electronic video conferencing or teleconferencing.
- Be responsible for creating and distributing the Board Agenda with input from the President, other Board Members and Coaches.
- Distribute any additional material required for the Board meeting.
- Establishing the Board Packet format that will be required to be used to standardize Board Agenda items.
- Record and distribute minutes of all of the League's meetings at the next Board Meeting.
- File consents within the minutes of the meetings of the Board of Directors as described in Article 6, section 5.
- Distribute the ByLaws to all League members.
- Be responsible for recording any changes and/or amendments of any League and division specific rules

changes made beyond the rules stated in the Federation Rule book.

- Distribute a division specific rules of play to all League members.
- Responsible for the distribution of the Federation Rule book to all League members.
- Be responsible for Coaches and Player Game Day rosters as required by NYFL.
- Be responsible for maintaining a live and up to date distribution list(s) for coaches, board members, chair persons and committee members.
- This position holds 1 vote as an officer of the Board of Directors.

Flag Division Directors (Bantam, Mighty Mites, Pee Wee and Pony Division):

The Flag Division Directors shall:

- Work with the Flag Vice President to establish the Flag Team structure.
- Work with the Flag Vice President to establish player placement guidelines - need board approval.
- Work with the Flag Vice President to establish Practice schedules.
- Work with the Flag Vice President to establish Player Recruitment strategies.
- Work with the Flag Vice President to establish any necessary changes to flag program to comply with the NFL Flag program:
 - eligibility
 - practice schedules
 - rules of play
- This position holds 1 vote as an officer of the Board of Directors.

Conard High School (West Hartford) Head Football Coach

The Conard High School Head Football Coach shall:

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- This position holds 1 vote as an officer of the Board of Directors.

Hall High School (West Hartford) Head Football Coach

The Hall High School Head Football Coach shall:

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- This position holds 1 vote as an officer of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE V - ELECTIONS OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS

- Sec. 1. The President shall appoint a nominating committee of three members from the Board. The nominating committee shall be responsible for collecting nominations and preparing a list of eligible candidates to present at the Annual Meeting. Such nominations shall be made at least 30 days prior to said Annual Meetings. Other nominations from the floor may be made at the Annual Meeting.
- Sec. 2. Officers and Directors of the League shall be elected by a majority of the incumbent Board of Directors at the Annual Meeting. (See Article III, Section 3)
- Sec. 3. If any Officer or Directorship is left vacant, the Board of Directors may fill the unexpired term at any official meeting following written notice to all members of the Board of Directors that an election is to take place.
- Sec. 4. Officers and Directors are nominated on a yearly basis

ARTICLE VI – MEETINGS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Sec. 1. The Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors shall be held during the 4th week of January. The purpose of this meeting shall be to elect a new slate of Officers and Directors and to schedule the annual Pee Wee and Mighty Mite player drafts.
- Sec. 2. Additional meetings may be called by the President or upon request of at least four members of the Board of Directors to the President.
- Sec. 3. All meetings shall be open to all adult personnel associated with any part of the League, but only members of the Board of Directors may vote. The President may hold meetings open only to board members and directors.

Sec. 4. Written or oral notice of meetings shall be given to all members of the Board of Directors at least one week prior to the time of any meeting of the Board of Directors. Any Officer may waive notice of any meeting in writing or by attendance without protest at the meeting.

Sec. 5. If all members of the Board of Directors, severally or collectively consent in writing to any action taken or to be taken, such action shall be as valid as though it had been authorized at a meeting of the Board of Directors.

Sec. Sec. 6. Members of the Board of Directors may participate in a meeting of the Board of Directors by means of a conference telephone or similar communications equipment enabling all members participating in a meeting to hear one another. Participation in a meeting pursuant to this section shall constitute presence in person at such meeting.

ARTICLE VII - CODE OF CONDUCT AND DISCIPLINARY ACTION

Sec. 1. West Hartford Youth Football League Code of Conduct:

Nutmeg Youth Football League and each of the associated towns as part of the league will not tolerate verbal abuse of its coaches and referees from any Fan, Parent or Spectator. Players, coaches, officials, parents and spectators are to conduct themselves in a manner that "Honors the Game" of football and demonstrates respect to other players, coaches, officials, parents and spectators. The essential elements in this "Code of Conduct" are HONESTY and INTEGRITY. The Flag Football division follows the same "Code of Conduct" with a focus on HONESTY and INTEGRITY.

Players, Coaches and Fans shall:

- Always demonstrate positive behavior and respect toward teammates, opponents, coaches, officials, parents and spectators and not criticize an opposing team, its players, coaches, or fans by word of mouth or by gesture.
- Accept decisions of the game officials (including referees and coaches) on the field as being fair and called to the best ability of said officials.

- Refrain from using physical/verbal abuse or profane language at any NYFL or FLAG functions.
- Abstain from being under the influence of or in possession of and/or drinking alcoholic beverages and the possession or use of any illegal substance on the game and practice fields.
- Fans will not be allowed on the sidelines, or designated coaches areas during a game.
- Fans will not interfere/interrupt the coaching staff before, during or after games or at practice. Fans will not address coaches after games.
- Fans will not express complaints about coaches in stands or to coaches around the children.

Sec 2. Disciplinary Action

- When a member of WHYFL or a spectator at any WHYFL practices, games or sponsored events violates the Code of Conduct, appropriate disciplinary action will be enforced.
- Verbal Warning: Any player, parent or spectator who violates the code of conduct or becomes a nuisance will be asked to leave by the head coach, team coach or WHYFL board member and can be suspended from all team activities.
- If a parent fails to leave upon request, their player can be suspended by the head coach or WHYFL board member.
- The head coach along with the executive board will decide the duration of the suspension.
- Any parent or spectator who violates the code of conduct risks the future participation of his/her children in the program. Depending on the severity of the incident the WHYFL board may decide to ban future participation in the program.
- Written Warning:
- Hearing: With the full Board present, the person will be given an opportunity to defend himself/herself. The final ruling will be decided by two-thirds (2/3) of the members present.
- Any member or spectator who receives a Verbal Warning, Written Warning or a Hearing with a guilty verdict is subject to the Disciplinary Actions of probation, suspension, removal or ban from WHYFL and any sponsored events.

ARTICLE VIII -PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

Sec. 1. Any youth will be eligible to play who meets all of the following requirements:

1. Is a resident of West Hartford, or attends a public or private school in West Hartford, or receives special permission from the Board of Directors.
2. Has written permission from one or both parents or legal guardian.
3. Meets the specific weight, age, or grade requirements under the proper divisional classification.

Sec. 2. Player eligibility or changes in player eligibility shall be determined by the Player Eligibility Committee outlined in Article V, Section 4. All decisions of the Player Eligibility Committee shall be final.

ARTICLE IX - ORGANIZATION AND PLAYER ALLOCATION

Sec. 1.Divisions Tackle

Youths selected to play in the Football League shall be divided into (3) three separate Divisions; C, B, A. Each Division will have separate team(s) that will be sponsored by the League and supported by registration, fund-raising, contributions from spectators, and or organizations or firms desiring to further promote the League. Tackle teams will participate in the Nutmeg Youth Football League.

C division - 3rd & 4th grade

B division - 5th & 6th grade

A division - 7th & 8th grade

Sec. 2 Teams

CREATION/ELIMINATION OF TEAMS

The creation of any expansion team or elimination of any team on any level shall be within the discretion of the Board of Directors subject to majority approval by the eligible voters.

Sec. 3. NFL Flag Football Division

The NFL Flag Football Division shall be comprised of the following divisions:

Bantam 1st & 2nd grade

Mighty Mite 3rd & 4th grade

Pee Wee Flag 5th & 6th grade

Pony Flag 7th & 8th grade

The division is governed by the WHYFL NFL Flag Football Rules.

Sec. 4. C Division

All Mighty Mite Division rules are governed by NYFL.

Sec. 5. B Division

All Pee Wee Division rules are governed by NYFL.

Sec. 6. A Division

All Pee Wee Division rules are governed by NYFL.

Sec. 7. Player Assignment (Tackle)

Players shall be allotted to various teams under the jurisdiction of the VP Tackle in as equitable a manner as possible. All teams shall be allowed to carry over to the next year any players who continue to meet the weight, age, and grade requirements for their division.

Sons/daughters of Head Coaches may be assigned to their parent's team, if the parent makes the request. This rule also applies to Assistant coaches with at least three (3) years of coaching under the following conditions:

1. He/She has coached for three years in the Pee Wee and/or Mighty Mite Divisions and his/her son/daughter is a first year player.
2. He/She have coached for at least three years and are coaching in the Pony Division during the year that his/her Pee Wee son/daughter is eligible for the draft.
3. If player compensation is required and/or requested, it will be arbitrated by the VPPR after conferring with all of the Head Coaches within said division.

Sec. 8. Legacy Rule:

All player grades are based on the season that most recently came to a close.

1. A sibling is eligible to be a legacy player if a Pony Division team has a seventh grade sibling of a draft eligible Pee Wee.
2. A sibling is eligible to be a legacy player if a Pee Wee Division team has a sibling returning of a draft eligible Mighty Mite.

Sec. 10. Player Assignment (Flag)

Players shall be allotted to teams either by a team building exercise led by the Flag Vice President and respective Flag Division Directors and any necessary Flag Coaches to form a Committee, or by a Player Draft. The Flag Vice President and the League President will confer and decide on the best Team Building method to be used on a year by year, and division by division basis.

ARTICLE X - COACHING PERSONNEL (Tackle)

Sec. 1. Each team shall be supervised by one (1) Head Coach with no maximum of Assistant Coaches.

Any person desiring to be a Head Coach or wishing to remain a Head Coach must submit a written request to the Board of Directors. The request shall include experience and reason for coaching. Failure to do so will be viewed as an intent not to continue coaching and the Board of Directors will proceed to elect a new Head Coach.

Written requests will be evaluated by the Board. The board shall vote on what coaches are approved to be head and assistant coaches.

HEAD COACH ELECTION

If there is a lack of volunteers, or the Board chooses not to select, by majority, a coach that has volunteered, - The Secretary shall post on the WHYFL website the specific Head coach position that has become available. Any interested individual in the Head Coaching shall notify the League President as soon as possible.

Requirements for the position of Head Coach are as follows:

- a. Must be at least 21 years of age
- b. Must conform to WHYFL's rules and regulations
- c. Must submit a resume detailing their football experience
- d. Must pass the background check
- e. Must complete all WHYFL safety requirements
- f. Must have completed at least one year of coaching in the WHYFL. This requirement may be waived in exceptional circumstances

ELECTION OF HEAD COACHES

Head Coaches shall be elected by the majority of eligible voters of the Board of Directors. Each Head Coach position will be deemed terminated at the conclusion of each season and must be renewed pursuant to the election procedures of a Head Coach.

TERMINATION OF HEAD COACHES

Any Head Coach at any time may be removed from their position with a two-thirds majority vote of eligible voters of the Board of Directors.

Each Head Coach shall select his assistants subject to the approval of the Board of Directors. Such coaching personnel shall be selected on the basis of their own good character, their ability to work with youth, and teach the objectives of the League. Each Head Coach shall be responsible for the actions of his/her assistants and shall have the authority to release any assistant not acting in the best interests of the League. Such released personnel may request and obtain a hearing before the Board of Directors.

Sec. 2. Safety Requirements

All Board Members and coaching personnel (head and assistants) shall complete all of the following *applicable* safety requirements, before participating in any practice or game:

1. Read and sign Coaches' Code of Conduct - annually
2. Background check – annually
3. CDC's ***HeadsUp*** training - one (1) time, completion certificate kept on file
4. ***USA Football*** Tackle Certification - annually *Tackle Division only*
5. First Aid Training must be certified every two (2) years for *Tackle Division Head Coaches*.
(recommended and offered to ALL coaches)

If a Board Member or Coach does participate in a practice and or game, without completing the *applicable* above training, the Board can make a motion to replace/remove the Board Member or Head Coach.

Sec. 3. PROHIBITION ON MONETARY INCENTIVES

It is prohibited for any member of the league (board member, coach, assistant coach, division director, volunteer, etc to reward a player with a monetary incentive (e.g. cash, gift cards, or other coupon which transfers purchasing power).

As outlined in the WHYFL Coaches Code of Conduct, any

member of the league who is found to have violated this or any other policy may be subject to temporary or permanent removal, as determined by the Board of Directors

ARTICLE XI - COACHING PERSONNEL (Flag)

Sec. 1. Each team shall be supervised by one (1) Head Coach. An Assistant coach can be designated before teams are built. Additional Assistant Coaches for Flag need to be reviewed on a case by case basis.

Any person desiring to be a Head Coach or Assistant Coach or wishing to remain a Head Coach or Assistant Coach must submit their written request as part of the player registration process. The request shall include experience and reason for coaching. Failure to do so could result in the parent not being assigned a team to coach.

Written requests will be evaluated by the Board. The board shall vote on what coaches are approved to be head and assistant coaches.

Requirements for the position of Head Coach are as follows:

- g. Must be at least 21 years of age
- h. Must conform to WHYFL's rules and regulations
- i. Must pass the background check
- j. Must complete all WHYFL Flag safety requirements

TERMINATION OF COACHES

Any Coach at any time may be removed from their position with a two-thirds majority vote of eligible voters of the Board of Directors.

Such coaching personnel shall be selected on the basis of their own good character, their ability to work with youth, and teach the objectives of the League. Each Head Coach shall be responsible for the actions of his/her assistants and shall have the authority to release any assistant not acting in the best interests of the League. Such released personnel may request and obtain a hearing before the Board of Directors.

Sec. 2. Safety Requirements

All Board Members and coaching personnel (head and assistants) shall complete the following safety requirements before participating in any practice or game:

1. Read and sign Coaches' Code of Conduct - annually
2. Background check – annually

If a Board Member or Coach does participate in a practice and or game, without completing the above training, the Board can make a motion to replace/remove the Board Member or Head Coach.

Sec. 3. PROHIBITION ON MONETARY INCENTIVES

It is prohibited for any member of the league (board member, coach, assistant coach, division director, volunteer, etc to reward a player with a monetary incentive (e.g. cash, gift cards, or other coupon which transfers purchasing power).

As outlined in the WHYFL Coaches Code of Conduct, any member of the league who is found to have violated this or any other policy may be subject to temporary or permanent removal, as determined by the Board of Directors

ARTICLE XII – RULES (Tackle)

Sec. 1. Rules of Play:

The National Federation of State High School Association rules shall be accepted as the official League Rules with such exceptions as may be proposed annually by the NYFL.

Sec. 2. Equipment:

1. The League will furnish each player with the standard youth equipment commercially available. No player shall be allowed to participate in any game or practice without approved League equipment and must not be allowed contact in practice or a game without helmet, shoulder pads, hip pads, tailbone pad, thigh pads, knee pads, practice/game pants, mouthpiece and supporter. Only equipment sanctioned and approved by

the League will be allowed. Any exception must be approved by the League.

2. Shoes will not be furnished by the League. Players may wear sneakers or any rubber soled cleats. No metal cleats will be allowed. Players must also supply their own mouthpiece and athletic supporter.
3. Each player is responsible for the equipment issued to him/her. His/her coach is responsible for seeing that all equipment issued to his/her team is returned to the league, at the shed and on the scheduled date. Only the VPE or the President can sign off that a player has returned all equipment. No player should be allowed to keep his/her equipment from one year to the next. Parents assume liability up to \$400 for equipment when they sign the player's registration card.

Sec. 3. Practice: WHYFL

1. The start of pre-season practice will begin on the approved NYFL date. Practices must be in accordance with the NYFL and USA Heads Up Football guidelines.
2. Once the school year starts, practices shall be limited to six (6) hours per week. No practice shall exceed two (2) hours in any one day. There shall be no more than one (1) practice per day.

Water must be made available at all time and in accordance with USA Heads up Football. Never deny a player water.

3. The following Drills and Warm-up Exercises are banned from all activities. Neck Bridges, Neck Rolls, Bull in the Ring, Barrel Rolls without helmets, and any and all drills and exercises not generally accepted as safe or prohibited by the VP Safety, and that may not be reflective of actions that would normally occur during the course of a football game.

Sec. 4. Contact Limits

Initial no-contact period

Contact limitations

And Acceptable measures:

Shall be in accordance with any State of CT regulations and USA
Heads up Football.

Sec. 5. Protests:

In keeping with the stated purpose of the League, the decisions of
the town Field Officials shall be final. No protests will be
allowed.

ARTICLE XIII – RULES (Flag)

Sec. 1. The Vice President of Flag and the Flag Division Directors
will maintain and where necessary revise the Flag League Rules
which are kept in a document that is separate from these By-Laws.

ARTICLE XIV - FINANCIAL POLICY

Sec. 1. The Board of Directors shall decide all matters that pertain to the
finances of the League and it shall be a permanent policy to place
all income in a common League treasury, directing the
disbursement of funds in such a manner that will give no individual
team an advantage over the others as to equipment, etc.

Sec. 2. The Board of Directors shall prohibit the contribution of funds to
individuals of teams. The regulation is to discourage favoritism
among teams and to endeavor to equalize the benefits of the
League.

ARTICLE XV - AMENDMENTS

Sec. 1. Proposed changes in the By-Laws or any section thereof must be
made in writing and incorporated with the notice of meeting which
is to be mailed or sent out by similar communications equipment to
all members of the Board of Directors. These By-Laws or any

section thereof may be amended or repealed by a two-thirds vote of the quorum.

WHYFL BY LAWS ACKNOWLEDGMENT

I HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND THE BYLAWS OF THE WEST HARTFORD YOUTH FOOTBALL LEAGUE AND SHALL STRIVE TO UPHOLD THE STANDARDS SET FORTH IN THE BYLAWS TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE AND ABILITIES.

TITLE: _____

PRINT NAME: _____

SIGNATURE: _____

DATE: _____