



2011 Season

PANHANDLE YOUTH FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

PANHANDLE YOUTH FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION BY LAWS

I. The Association

A. Organization: This organization shall be known as the **Panhandle Youth Football Association (PYFA)** and shall be governed by these By-laws.

1. Initial adoption of By-laws - These By-laws shall be deemed adopted when signed by the Representatives of all present Areas.

2. Amendment - These By-laws may be amended by vote of a majority of the Representatives of all participating areas at a meeting conducted after a minimum of ten days notice of the proposed amendment.

B. Purpose: The purpose of this organization shall be to foster the sport of football and regulate activities among the youth of Northwest Florida, and to educate adults to be youth leaders through involvement in the Association of youth football program.

C. Management: The management and administration of the Association shall be conducted by the Board of Directors and one Area Representative from each area in the association. The Board of Directors shall be the President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, and the Officials Representative. Each participating Area may designate an alternate Area Representative who may cast that Areas vote at meetings and exercise all other powers of a Director on the absence of the regular Area Representative for that Area. The president shall not be an Area Representative or Alternate Representative.

1. The initial participating areas in this organization are: **DEFUNIAK, SPRINGS, DESTIN, FREEPORT, NICEVILLE, PANAMA CITY BEACH, SOUTHPORT, and SOUTH WALTON.**

2. Participating Areas may remove an Area Representative or designate a new representative at their discretion and may establish their own individual procedures for doing so; if a participating Area fails to designate an Area Representative during the regular season then

the Board of Directors may designate an acting representative for that area. No area will be deemed participating in the Association unless it is represented by a designated Area Representative prior to the meeting at which the regular schedule for that year is adopted. An Area Representative shall continue to serve in that capacity until he resigns, or until a new Area Representative is designated by the participating area, or until he is removed by the Association for violation of these By-laws.

D. Meetings:

1. Annual Meetings: There shall be an Annual Meeting of Directors in December to review the results and issues of the previous season. At the January annual meeting, an election of officers will be held.

2. Scheduling Meeting: There shall be a meeting each year during the month of August at which meeting the Regular Season Schedule shall be adopted. Such meetings shall be referred to in all notices as the Scheduling Meeting. The Scheduling Meeting shall be held on 14 days notice. Any other necessary business may be transacted during the Scheduling Meeting.

3. Regular Meetings: Regular Meetings for the transaction of necessary business shall be called on 7 days notice.

4. Emergency Meetings: Emergency Meetings to transact only such emergency business as is set forth in the notice of the meeting may be conducted with a 48 hour notice. Only, Board Members, Area Representatives, Head Coach and coach in which the infraction was against may attend. These meeting can be held by emailing or conference calls.

5. Infractions Meetings: Infractions of these By-laws may be determined to have occurred, and sanctions imposed for such infractions only at an Infraction Meeting which shall be conducted with a 48 hour notice. Such Notice shall state that the meeting is an Infractions Meeting and shall state the date, times, place. The executive board will preside at the infraction meetings but other attendees will include the teams involved in the suspected infraction of reasonably believed to be involved in the infraction, as well as to the Area Representative of teams involved. All players and coaches of a team shall be deemed to have been given such notice if such notice is given to the Head Coach of the team. No sanctions may be imposed at any meeting on any person, team, or Area which was not given notice of the meeting as required by this paragraph. All infractions must be brought before the area representative prior to requesting an infraction meeting.

6. Notices: Notices of the Annual Meeting, Scheduling Meeting, Emergency Meetings, and Infractions Meetings shall be by the secretary to each Area Representative in advance as required above. The Secretary shall also send additional notices of Infractions Meetings as required above. It is recommended that written notice of Regular Meetings be given, but an email notice is sufficient.

7. Calling Meetings: The President may call meetings, and direct the secretary to send required notices.

E. Quorum:

At any meeting of the Association, a quorum shall consist of a minimum of 4 Board Members and four Area Representatives. An alternate Area Representative present in lieu of that Areas regular Representative shall count towards a quorum.

F. Voting:

At each Panhandle Football Meeting, each Board Member and Area Representative shall be entitled to cast one vote in the affairs of the Association; such vote to be cast by the Area Representative or, in his absence, the alternate Area Representative. The President may vote only to break a tie. However, the President shall not vote on any resolutions to impose penalties for violation of these By-laws; nor shall the President vote in the election of a new President.

G. PYFA Monthly Meetings:

1. All areas will be represented at the monthly PYFA board meetings. This may be the designated area representative or any person appointed by the area representative in their absence. An area can be represented by a PYFA Board of Directors member from that area with the exception of the PYFA President.

2. Any Area in the association may miss one meeting during the year. A \$50.00 fine will be charged for every meeting missed after the first missed meeting. This fine is payable when team fees are collected prior to the start of the season. If any area refuses to pay any fine, they will not participate in the post-season playoffs the current year.

H. Board of Directors:

All board members shall be elected by a majority of Directors and Area Representative voting at the Annual Meeting, and shall serve until their successors are elected at the next annual meeting. The Association shall have the following Officers:

1. President - The chief executive officer shall be the President who shall call and preside at all meetings and have primary responsibility for the administration of the Association. The initial President of the Association under these by - laws is the person whose signature appears below.

2. Vice - President- The Vice President may be an Area Representative and shall preside at meetings in the absence of the President, but shall not be entitled to cast the President's tie breaking vote. The Vice President shall have such other duties as authorized by the Board of Directors. The Vice President is a voting position.

3. Secretary- The Secretary shall keep the minutes of all meetings, be the official custodian of Association position and may be occupied by an Area Representative. The Secretary is a voting position.

4. Treasurer - The Treasurer shall be the custodian of the funds and bank accounts of the Association. The office of Treasurer is a voting position and may be occupied by an area Representative.

5. Officials Director - The Officials Director will govern all the Officials Activities and monitor any problems with them. Any protest or problems will be handled by the Officials Director. The Officials Director is a voting position.

II. Participating Areas:

Any city or community which deems itself capable and interested in supporting a youth football program may apply to the Association at any time to become a participating Area. Approval will be by a majority vote of Area Representatives at a meeting conducted of at least ten days notice of such application. No newly admitted Area may include a geographical portion of an Existing Area without the expressed written consent of the Area Representative from the existing effected Area. A newly admitted Area shall be entitled to have an Area Representative in the Association and to the same privileges as are held by existing Areas.

1. Scope of Participation - An Area may participate by fielding one or more teams in three divisions of play under these By-laws. The Area must show proof of home field, insurance, equipment and roster of 16 or more players.

2. Maintaining Area Status - In order to maintain status as a participating Area, an Area must field a minimum of three divisions of play each season. However, that Area may reapply for admission to the Association at any time.

3. Renewal of Area Status - Any Area which fields at least one team in three divisions of play during a season shall be deemed to be a participating Area in all Association affairs through the end of the Scheduling Meeting.

III. Funding

A. Each Area shall generate their own funding to operate their own teams.

B. The Board of Directors shall require each area to pay an annual fee not to exceed \$50.00 per team (Baby Boomers included). In addition, all fines imposed on any area during the year must be paid when Area Team Fees are paid.

C. Matters of financial assistance must be addressed to the President and Board of Directors in writing. The board will thoroughly investigate upon request. The board will present its findings and recommendations, to include a repayment schedule to the Association for approval. Any loan exceeding 90 days shall bear interest at the current CD rate.

D. There will be NO SOLICITATION for the Panhandle Football League. The Panhandle Football League MAY NOT be used as a means for requesting funds.

E. The Panhandle Board will coordinate collecting the gate for all Playoff Games and Super Bowl. The PYFA will pay for the officials at these games.

IV. Injury Policy and Procedures. The PYFA, as an independent sanctioning authority, has established policies and procedures for injuries to players which are as follows:

A. General Policy and Procedures. The PYFA requires that all participating areas maintain equipment and facilities that meet standard safety requirements for all players and coaches. This requirement is monitored on a regular basis by the PYFA board members. General procedures for all injuries are as follows:

1. Any player sustaining an injury in practice or during a game will be immediately removed from that activity.

2. The parent or legal guardian will be contacted as soon as possible. However, player safety and first aid (if required) will be the priority before contact is attempted.

3. The head coach will ensure that an injury incident report form is filled out and returned to the area representative within 48 hours of the incident.

4. If the injured player visits an ER or physician, written permission from a physician is required before that player can return to any activity.

B. Head Injuries. Additional procedures for head injuries are as follows:

1. The PYFA will adopt guidelines to educate coaches, players, and their parents or guardians of the nature and risk of concussion and head injury.

2. Each area will require the parent or guardian of a player who participates in athletic practices or competitions of the PYFA, before the player participates in a competition, practice, or other activity, to sign and return a consent form that explains the nature and risk of concussion and head injury, including the risk of continuing to play after a concussion or head injury has occurred. This form should be available as part of the registration process for that area.

3. Each area will require youth athletes who are suspected of sustaining a concussion or head injury in a practice or competition to be immediately removed from the activity.

4. Each area will ensure a youth athlete who has been removed may not return to practice or competition until the youth receives written clearance to return from a licensed physician.

PANHANDLE YOUTH FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION RULES AND PROCEDURES

I. Regular Season Schedules and Playoffs.

A. Regular Season. Each year the Association shall conduct a regular schedule of games for each division.

1. A Jamboree, if applicable will be played prior to the first game of the season.

2. The schedule shall provide for games by teams fielded by participating Areas only.

3. Each division schedule shall result in each team within that division playing the same number of games, when at all possible. The schedule shall require each team to play a minimum of 6 and a maximum of 10 regular games. Each team shall be home team for one half of its scheduled games when at all possible.

4. Each team shall play one game per week. Games shall be scheduled for play on Saturday. Except under special circumstances games shall not be played from Sunday through Friday.

5. Non-sanctioned Panhandle games are prohibited. Games played with teams outside The PYFA during the season are prohibited. The season is considered over when your team is out of the Playoffs.

6. Games shall be scheduled for play during August, September, October and November; however, post-season play may be scheduled during December. NO practice will begin prior to the first Monday in August of the current year.

7. Open dates are permitted to balance the rotation of the schedule, however, no team shall have two consecutive open dates unless the team Head Coach and Area Representative both agree.

8. At the scheduling meeting the Association shall comply with the above rules. Game sites or playing times may be changed only by mutual agreement of the Head Coaches and Area Representatives of the two teams involved, with the approval of the President. Except for a true emergency, approval of the President must be obtained at least 72 hours prior to the earliest of either the originally scheduled game time or the revised game time. In case of emergency, such as power outage at a night game, severe weather, or other conditions, approval of the President may be obtained on the spot or on reasonable notice to both teams.

9. Area games may not be started before 9:00 am unless cleared by the PYFA Board.

10. A game is considered completed if the teams start the second half.

11. Any area may field more than one team in each division. Team roster must be supplied to each team by designated date year.

12. No out of area recruiting will be allowed for any area. This applies to all representatives of the area including board members and coaches. Players will sign up in the area which they reside to the maximum extent possible. **Exception;** a player may sign up in another PYFA area outside of his living area as long as a signed waiver is obtained from the area representative in which the player resides. The signed waiver must be provided to the PYFA Board of Directors and maintained by the PYFA Secretary. That player may only play in the area that they sign up in for the current year and areas cannot be changed within the season.

13. Out of area Recruiting Violations will go to the Board of Directors for resolution. Penalties will include as a minimum, forfeiture of all games which the player or players participate. Other penalties will be determined by vote of the Board of Directors and Area Representatives and can include but are not limited to coaching suspensions, loss of playoffs for the team or area, or fines to the PYFA.

B. Playoffs: The eight teams with the best overall record will advance to the post-season playoffs.

1. If there is a tie at the bottom of the playoff division, the PYFA Board will break the tie by using a blind draw. All of the teams that are tied at the bottom of the playoff division will be entered into the blind draw for a bid in the playoffs.

2. Playoff Draw. Once the top eight teams have qualified for the playoffs; the playoff schedule will be determined by a blind draw.

3. There will be two brackets [bracket A & bracket B] in which the top two teams will be placed in separate brackets. If there is a tie for 2nd, the tied teams will be placed in bracket B but will not play each other in the first round. The blind draw will complete the brackets with the first draw going to bracket A.

BRACKET A	PYFA PLAYOFFS		BRACKET B
First Seed			Second Seed A
	Winner		Winner
Blind Draw 1			Blind Draw 2
	A-Champion	B-Champion	
Blind Draw 3			Blind Draw 4
	Winner		Winner
Blind Draw 5			Second Seed B or Blind Draw 6

4. There will be five referees for playoff games and super bowl with the fifth referee running the game clock provided by the PYFA.

II. Area and Team Organization

A. Subject only to the limitations and requirements expressly set forth in these By-laws; each Area may conduct its affairs, as it shall deem appropriate.

B. The Area Representative is deemed by the Association to be fully authorized to act on behalf of, and to make decisions binding upon, the Area he represents. All coaches, parent directors, athletic directors, cheerleading sponsors and coordinators shall be familiar with and abide by all rules, regulations, and by-laws of the League.

C. No team may participate in the Season Schedule unless that team has been registered with the Association as a participating Area. Individuals may participate in the Associations affairs or programs only as an officer, an Area Representative, Alternate Area Representative.

D. Teams: Each team must have one Head Coach, whose name and address shall be registered as Head Coach with the Association. Head Coach's registration will be held during the preseason coach's clinic. Coach's identification cards will be processed and issued during the clinic. Only coaches with identification cards may address the officials during the course of a game.

E. Coaches:

1. HEAD COACH: The Head Coach has total authority over the preparation and discipline of his team players, and over the responsibilities and conduct of his team's Assistant Coaches. All details of practices, game preparation, travel arrangements, and similar procedure are under the authority of the Head Coach.

a. No person may serve as Head Coach of two PYFA teams.

b. In the absence of the Head Coach during a game, one Assistant Coach of the team shall serve as Acting Head.

c. No game shall be forfeited because of the absence of a Head Coach.

d. A team may have 4 additional coaches, all of whom shall be Assistant Coaches. The names and addresses of all Assistant Coaches shall be registered as Assistant Coaches with the area.

e. All Head Coaches must have applications filled out and on file with the PYFA Board. All assistant coaches will have filled out applications and these will be kept on file with their respective areas.

f. Head Coaches or his designee must be at all weigh ins.

g. The Head Coach is responsible for the actions of the assistant coaches, players, parents and spectators. Failure to enforce good sportsmanship values during any game will result in an Unsportsmanlike Conduct penalty on the Head Coach.

2. The Head Coach may impose suspension or benching of a player as a disciplinary action for missing practice, failure to participate, refusal to follow instructions, or other breaches of the good order and discipline of the team. The Head Coach may allocate responsibility among Assistant Coaches as he deems fit. All coaches must have their PYFA photo identification card displayed or they will not be allowed to address the officials during the game.

3. ASSISTANT COACH: The Assistant Coach (es) shall carry out the instructions of the Head Coach, and shall have authority over practices and team discipline subject only to those instructions. An Assistant Coach may recommend benching or suspension of a player, but only the Head Coach may impose such measures.

4. No more than five people on the field in the coaches box at a time. One head coach, three assistance, maximum of one other person.

5. Coaches ejected before, during, or after a PYFA game must release their identification card to the Head Official. The Head Official will report the incident to the area representative prior to leaving the field. The Head Official is responsible for providing a written statement to the PYFA Board addressing who was ejected and the circumstances. Payment to the Head Official for that game will be withheld by the PYFA or the area representative until this statement has been received by the PYFA Board.

III. PLAYER ELIGIBILITY:

A. A player may only move up one age group due to reasonable circumstances. However, if a child moves up one age group there must be a written consent from the player's parents provided to the area rep and Head Coach. That player must remain with the team he moved up to for the duration of the season.

B. Minimum Number: A team must have a minimum of 11 eligible players on the field for game play. If 11 players are not available, that game may be played with consent of both coaches but will be counted as a forfeit.

C. Maximum Number: A team may not have more than 30 eligible players on its roster.

D. Players will be placed on teams on a first come basis. Any area that has filled a team and does not have enough players to split into two teams MUST notify the additional players of other participating areas that may have space available for play. Registration forms must have a date and time of registration listed for verification.

E .Restricted Players- Any player over the set run weight but does not exceed the maximum weight restriction in that division will be considered "RESTRICTED." Restricted players will be identified by wearing a yellow bonnet over the helmet or by different color helmet. The restricted player can play between the tackles on the line of scrimmage.**(DEFENSE: DT NG DT)** **(OFFENSE: LT LG C RG RT)**. Restricted players are not eligible on a free kick (**KO or KO Return**). NOTE: The identification marking method used will be identified to the Head Official prior to start of game.

F. Player ejected before, during, or after a PYFA game must release their identification card to the Head Official from the Head Coach. The Head Official will report the incident to the area representative prior to leaving the field. The Head Official is responsible for providing a written statement to the PYFA Board addressing who was ejected and the circumstances. Payment to the Head Official for that game will be withheld by the PYFA or the area representative until this statement has been received by the PYFA Board.

IV. Common Playing Rules:

ALL PLAYING RULES WILL BE THOSE SET UNDER THE CURRENT FLORIDA HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION RULES EXCEPT AS AMENDED BELOW.

A. BOOMERS:

1. Age: 5 & 6- Must be 5 or 6 as of August 1st of calendar year
2. Weight: No weight limit
3. Field:
 - a. 50 yard field
 - b. No field goals required
 - c. No kicking game
4. **Only one Coach from each team can be on the field during game play**
5. Practice: **6 hrs a week until first game and 4 hrs a week after first game**
6. Number of Players: 18 max per team – (11 PLAYERS ON THE FIELD) Teams can agree to play with less if an opposing team does not have 11 present.
7. Ball: Generally K-2 (6 PSI) and must be traditional brown.
8. **Game Day:**
 - a. Games are two 15 minute halves with a 5 minute half time. **Water Breaks will be given at the 7 minute mark of each half.** Each team will play 15 minutes of offense. (Unlimited amount of plays within that time period)
 - b. Scoring: A team is rewarded one point for each touchdown. No safeties. No extra points. No Field Goals.
 - c. Ball spotted 45 yard line; The ball will be reset to the 45 yard line if a touch down occurs, or if a player does not make forward progress pass the 45 yard mark. No safeties. **Clock will stop after each touchdown until ball is reset at the 45 yard mark.**
 - d. Obvious holds and block in the backs on any play should result in replay of down.
 - e. No blitzing.
 - f. No nose guard is played over center.....No QB sneaks
 - g. **Coaches cannot make adjustments after the QB engages with the Center**
 - h. **Defensive coaches cannot talk when QB engages with the Center.**
 - i. A maximum of 6 players may be played on the defense line. The only exception to this rule will be in a goal line situation (inside the 10 yard line) and there should be man to man coverage on the line of scrimmage.
 - j. All linemen must be in a down position in either a three or four point stance.
 - k. Turnovers: If a player fumbles or throws an interception and the defense runs it

back to the 45 yard line for a touchdown, it is a **1 point** score for the defense; If a player fumbles or throws an interception and the defense does not run it back for a touchdown, the offense re-spots the ball at the 45 yard line and must continue their offense series.

l. All overhand passes must be completed rather it is a lateral or a forward pass. ie; A incomplete lateral will be treated as a incomplete pass.

m. No over time in regular season. A game is complete in a tie.

9. **BOOMER BOWL:**

a. One coach on the field at a time.

b. Overtime;

(1) Each team will get each four downs from the 10 yard line.

(2) The winner goes to deepest penetration

(3) If the offense scores; the ball goes back to the 10 yard line to continue their four downs.

(4) If a turnover occurs the ball will get re-spotted on the 10 yard line and the offense will continue until they get their four downs.

(5) **If the defense runs the ball back to the 45 yard mark and scores off of a turnover, the defense is rewarded a point and the offense gets the ball back on the 10 yard line to continue the four downs.**

10. **Awards:** Each player will awarded a participation metal but must be present to receive it.

B. PEE WEES:

1. Age: 7& 8, As of August 1st of calendar year

2. Weight: 115lbs (MAX WEIGHT)- Any player over the weight of 95lbs can not advance the ball at any given time.

3. Common Playing Rules:

a. 80 yard field

b. (4) 8 min quarters (Game cannot exceed 90 min)

OVERTIME: After a change of possession, the clock shall start with the ready-for-play signal, unless the action which ended the down also caused the clock to be stopped, i.e. out of bounds, incomplete pass, delay of game penalty.

c. K-2 Wilson or compatible (Regulation Football)

d. Live kick off from the 40 yard line, (mid-field.)

e. Punting- 25 yard assessment on punts ½ the distance to the goal inside the

30. **The referees will run 20 seconds off the clock for walk off punts.** Optional “no rush” punt is available.

f. Scoring: (6) Touchdown (1) EP run in (2) EP Forward Pass **(2) EP Field Goal**
g. 25 second play clock will be enforced by the officials.

h. All pee-wee coaches will be on the sidelines during the regular season and playoffs.

i. NO BLITZING (Referee Discretion)

j. **INFRACTION: 5 YARD PENALTY “DELAY of GAME”**

If the officials deem that a team is using this penalty in order to run the clock out then that team can be charged with an unsportsmanlike conduct foul. That foul will be charged to the Head Coach.

4. Nose Guard over Center Rule;
 - a. Nose Guard cannot be over the center when QB is in shotgun formation, punt, field goal, or extra point.
 - b. Nose Guard must slide into gap in a pre-snap situation. If QB is under center then he cannot shift into shotgun formation.

B. JUNIORS:

1. Ages: 9& 10- As of August 1 of calendar year
2. Weight: 140 lbs (MAX WEIGHT)- Any player over the weight of 120 lbs. can not advance the ball at any given time.
3. Common Playing Rules:
 - a. 100 yard field
 - b. (4) 10 min quarters After a change of possession, the clock shall start with the ready-for-play signal, unless the action which ended the down also caused the clock to be stopped, i.e. out of bounds, incomplete pass, delay of game penalty.
 - c. TDJ Wilson (Regulation Ball) or equivalent
 - d. All kicking game LIVE (40 yard line)
 - e. Restricted players cannot participate in a “Free Kick”
 - f. Scoring: (6) touchdown (2) EP field goal (1) EP conversion (run or pass)
 - g. 25 second play clock will be enforced for the 2010 season.
4. Nose Guard over Center Rule;
 - a. Nose Guard cannot be over the center when QB is in shotgun formation, punt, field goal, or extra point.
 - b. Nose Guard must slide into gap in a pre-snap situation. If QB is under center then he cannot shift into shotgun formation.

C. SENIORS:

1. Ages: 11& 12- Cannot obtain the age of 13 years old prior to August 1st.
2. Weight: 170 lbs. (MAX WEIGHT)- Any player over the weight of 150 lbs. can not advance the ball at any given time.
3. Common playing Rules:
 - a. 100 yard field
 - b. (4) 10 min quarters After a change of possession, the clock shall start with the ready-for-play signal, unless the action which ended the down also caused the clock to be stopped, i.e. out of bounds, incomplete pass, delay of game penalty.
 - c. TDY Wilson (Regulation ball)
 - d. All kicking game LIVE
 - e. Kick off from the 40 yard line
 - f. Restricted Players can not participate in a “Free Kick”
 - g. Scoring: (6) touchdown (2) EP Field Goal (1) EP conversion (Run or

Pass) (3) Field Goal

h. 25 second play clock will be enforced for the 2010 season.

4. Restrictions: Middle School Players are not allowed to play on any team in any area that is a member of the PYFA. The exceptions to this rule are as follows:
 - a. Any area that cannot field one Senior Team with a minimum roster of 16 players may petition the PYFA Board in writing to add Middle School Players to participate to make the minimum roster of 16 players.
 - b. Middle School Players in this case can only play for a team in the area which they reside.
 - c. Any Middle School Player on a team roster under these circumstances must be approved by the PYFA Board prior to the Middle School Player participating in any game. If additional non-Middle School Players sign up prior to the final roster approval date, those players will be put on the team and the MS Players will be taken off the team and their registration fee will be refunded.
5. Nose Guard over Center Rule;
 - a. Nose Guard cannot be over the center when QB is in shotgun formation, punt, field goal, or extra point.
 - b. Nose Guard must slide into gap in a pre-snap situation. If QB is under center then he cannot shift into shotgun formation.

V. GAME DAY:

A. The Head Coach or his designee will be present and conduct weigh-in and verify player cards eligibility at all games.

1. Weigh- in will be conducted 30 minutes before game time. Any player not at original weigh-in will wait and be checked at half time. No player may be in the bench area in uniform unless he is eligible to participate in that game. Over weight players may sit on the bench with a jersey, but no shoulder pads or helmet.

2. If the lever touches the top and remains in contact, the play is over-weight and not allowed to play in the game for that day. (Players are allowed to strip down if necessary to weigh-in)

3. Each player that will weigh-in must have his numerical game jersey in his possession.

4. A coach will not be allowed to change team members/ numbers after official weigh-in.

5. All players will be weighed-in prior to each game and each player must physically stand on the scale.

6. ID cards must be presented to the opposing team at the time of the official weigh-in

before the game. If player ID cards are not provided at the weigh-in, the game can be played but will be counted as a forfeit. Teams have until Halftime to produce ID cards.

7. Playing illegal/overweight players will result in a forfeit of those games the player participated in- and no post season play for that team for that season.(SEE SECTION III L.2. FOR VIOLATION PENALTIES).

B. Each area may introduce their football team and cheerleaders prior to game, but game time will not be held up to allow this.

C. The designated HOME TEAM must furnish three (3) people for the chains and down markers.

D. The officials used will be those secured by the league. Florida High Schools Rules are to be used unless specifically amended by the board.

E. Penalties are 5, 10,& 15 yards foe all age groups.

F. No audio assistance allowed from coach- to- coach or to coach- to- player during the game.

G. No coolers brought into facility hosting schedule games or play-off except for the player's refreshment coolers.

H. All games will consist of 4 quarters.

I. Season games ending in a tie will be broken by each team having one set of four downs from the 10 yard line. If there is still a tie, the game will end as a tie.

K. Playoff games ending in a tie will be broken by each team having two sets of four downs from the 10 yard line. If there is still a tie, the third OT will be from the 5 yd line. In all cases, each team will have the opportunity to go for the extra point conversion of their choice after scoring.

K. Any team behind by 32 points will be given the option:

1. Third quarter coach has option of running clock.
2. Fourth quarter coaches have no option on running clock. The only time the clock stops is for timeouts by the coach or the officials.
3. Fourth quarter the coach has the option to terminate the game at that point.

VI. EQUIPMENT REGULATIONS:

A. Game balls will be provided by the offensive team.

B. Each player will be furnished the following as a minimum; N.O.C.S.A.E. approved helmet and shoulder pads, pants with thigh, hip, and knee pads, tail bone pads, and a game jersey.

C. Players and candidates will obtain and use approved mouthpieces and rubber cleats or the equivalent.

D. All players will be furnished a game jersey and games pants.

E. All mouthpieces must be attached to the helmet at all times. No clear mouthpieces.

F. Visors: Clear Visors only can be worn. "Tinted" Visors of any color are not allowed.

VII. STANDARDS OF OFFICIALS.

A. Expectations of Officials

1. The Association(s) or Crew Chief is to inform the Panhandle Board League Official who the officials are working that particular site two days prior to game day. Crews are to be at site no later than 15 minutes prior to the first game to sign in and do pre-game.

2. Officials are to be insured through their Association or individually. The Panhandle Football League and the site(s) cannot be held liable for any injuries that occur to an Official on and off the field.

B. Certification / Payment of Officials.

1. All Panhandle Football League games must consist of at least one certified High School Official. If he/she does not plan on being high school certified and wants to receive certified pay, the Official can take a Panhandle League Official's test which consist of questions that are on the High School test and our local rules.

2. All Officials will be paid based on qualification, travel, and experience. All payment of Officials is up to the Area President.

3. The payment of Officials will consist of Officials Pay: Officials who can prove their Certification is valid will receive the leagues premium rate, Uncertified officials will receive the leagues standard rate.

a. Certified Officials will be paid \$25.00 per game per Official.

b. Non-Certified Officials will be paid \$15.00 per game per Official.

c. Each Official that travels 30 miles one way over to a site will receive \$5.00 extra per game per Official (prior to the beginning of the season each Official is to inform the Panhandle Board their address to confirm if the Official will receive \$5.00 extra per game per Official).

C. Fining of Officials

1. The Panhandle Football League holds each Coach to a standard as well as Officials.

2. The Area President or Representative as the site supervisor has the authority to place a fine on the Official. If the Official(s) shows up late to the site without an emergency situation they will be fined half a game fee.

3. If the Official(s) commits an act which is deemed inappropriate on or off the field they can be fined that day. The fine for the Official committing an inappropriate act is half his/her pay for that game. These acts include, but are not limited to:

- a. Showing up to the site late without proper reason.
- b. Showing up to the site without the proper attire or equipment.

4. Proper attire consist of black shoes, black coaching shorts (no mesh shorts), official black and white stripped jersey, and black piped hat. Proper equipment consist yellow flags, whistle, scorecard, and timer.

X. GENERAL.

A. Players and cheerleaders that participated during the previous season for a particular area have the option to return to that area. If more than one areas was played for, then the option only applied to the last area played for in previous season. Once this choice is made it cannot be changed.

B. The final day for a child to be placed on the school program roster is the day before the first regular season game. At this time, the child may not participate in the Panhandle Youth Football Association.

C. Teams must have a minimum of three (3) practice days of physical conditioning before starting drills involving body contact or hitting. Helmet may be worn during these three days.

D. Four (4) practice sessions, each lasting not longer than two (2) hours for a combined maximum of eight (8) hours, per week will be allowed prior to the 1st game. However, sessions will not last more than two (2) hours or be held more than once a day. Six (6) hours is the maximum practice per week any team is allowed after the 1st game. If a team has a by-week they may have one additional two (2) hour practice session. The Area Representative will submit to the Executive Board in writing a schedule of dates, times, and places of practices for the month of August by the July meeting.

E. Violations of the Panhandle Rules

1st Offense-Suspension of coach for 1game

2nd Offense-No Post season for that team

3rd Offense- Suspension of area league

(SEE VII A.7. FOR VIOLATION USING ILLEGAL/OVERWEIGHT PLAYER)

F. Player qualifications will consist of parent signature on a League contract. Birth certificates or valid notarized copy or valid military I.D. card, or notarized statement on school letterhead

signed by school principle will be accepted as proof of eligibility. Passports, Baptismal records, etc., will be accepted. All areas will be responsible for the accurate eligibility of their participants.

G. Any fraudulent act of cheating will result in the forfeiture of all games played to that date and suspension of a coach or the area rep for the remainder of the current season. This may be an indefinite suspension if any acts are found to be in conscious violation as ruled by the PYFA Board of Directors.