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**NUTMEG YOUTH**

**FOOTBALL LEAGUE**

**BY-LAWS**

As adopted by the Town Representative Board on 8/4/19

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The NUTMEG Youth Football League (referred to as NYFL or league) is a federation of town youth football programs in Central Connecticut that have voluntarily joined in order to form a youth tackle football league. The following are the NYFL Purpose and Mission, By-Laws, and Football Rules and Regulations

**PURPOSE AND MISSION**

The NYFL was established:

* To foster and encourage safe youth recreational football in the state of Connecticut
* To assist and promote the physical and intellectual development of youth.
* To provide a structure for inter-town tackle football competition.
* To promote sportsmanship, respect, fair play, wholesome participation, life enrichment and leadership development.

**CURRENT MEMBER TOWNS**

As of 3/12/19:

* Farmington MudHogs Youth Football
* Southington Valley Midget Football League (SVMFL)
* West Hartford Youth Football League (WHYFL)
* Granby/Suffield Bearcats Youth Football
* Simsbury Trojans Youth Football

**BY-LAWS**

The following make up the By-Laws for the NYFL and were ratified by the town representative board.

**Article 1: GOVERNANCE**

The NYFL is a federation of town football programs that have voluntarily joined in order to form a youth football league. The NYFL is governed by representatives from member towns. Two key components of league operations are decided by the town representatives. These are:

* By-Laws of NYFL.
* Football Rules and Regulations

**Article 2: TOWN REPRESENTATIVE BOARD**

The NYFL Town Representative Board shall consist of 3 representatives from each member town of the league. Each town shall be represented at meetings by these representatives and each representative will have a single vote (3 votes per town) on all matters concerning the league. Absentee votes are not permitted, and votes are non-transferable. Acceptable voting methods include: face-to-face, email, conference call, and text.

Each town will determine their own measure for selecting their three representatives and will be responsible for updating the contact list with the Board throughout the year.

The representatives are responsible for representing the interests of their community within the spirit of the league’s purpose and mission as they relate to the deliberation and approval of league matters.

**Article 3: BOARD EXECUTIVE POSITIONS AND COMMITTEES**

Board Executive Positions will include President of NYFL and Secretary of NYFL. These executives will be filled by an election with votes being cast by town representatives. Terms will be for one year, and no individual can hold either position for more than two consecutive years. The election for these positions will take place at the first meeting of the calendar year and the terms for these positions will begin immediately upon election. Committees for special projects will be created by the board as needed.

1. PRESIDENT

The NYFL Board President will be responsible for scheduling meetings, creation of meeting agendas, and conducting Board meetings

1. SECRETARY

The NYFL Board Secretary will be responsible for recording and distributing meeting minutes, updating documents on the league document shared drive and ensuring league documentation requirements are met.

1. COMMITTEES

NYFL Committees for special projects will be created by the Board as needed and can consist of NYFL Board representatives or volunteers associated with an NYFL Member Town.

**Article 4: MEMBERSHIP**

All towns are member towns upon election by the Town Representative Board. A two-thirds majority vote of the board is required for a town to be elected to membership.

Towns joining the NYFL prior to June 1st will receive voting rights immediately upon joining the league. Any towns joining the NYFL after June 1st will receive voting rights at the start of the following calendar year.

All member towns are required to adhere to all NYFL By-laws, and Football Rules and Regulations.

**Article 5: TOWN REPRESENTATIVE BOARD MEETINGS**

All meetings of the Town Representative Board will be scheduled by the President. Typically, the meeting will be the first Tuesday of each month at a place designated by the President with locations rotating amongst member towns.

Quorum shall consist of a simple majority of representatives from member towns. No meeting shall be held without a quorum being present. At least one (1) League Representative is expected from each town at each Town Representative Board meeting.

Robert’s Rules of Order, latest version, shall govern all parliamentary matters not covered by the by-laws.

**Article 6:** **GRIEVANCES**

The By-laws and Football Rules and Regulations have been established to govern the operations of the league and represent the interests of parents, players, coaches, volunteers, and member towns within the purpose and objectives of NYFL. None of these documents can nor are they intended to cover all contingencies but shall be viewed as the standard to which the spirit of fairness, respect and sportsmanship can be viewed. Where a situation occurs, if viewed to be outside the letter or spirit of fairness, respect and sportsmanship, an aggrieved party may file a grievance with the league within five (5) days of the event to seek a remedy.

There can be two sources of grievances:

* Relating to the By-Laws of the League
* Relating to Football Rules and Regulations

Grievances related to either the By-Laws of the League or Football Rules and Regulations shall be brought to the attention of a Town Representative,

The following procedures shall be used in the grievance process:

* The aggrieved party shall contact their Town Representative who in turn will contact the entirety of the Board with the following information:
  + Description of the grievance including time, place and the specific rule or by-law that is being violated
  + Names, addresses, and phone numbers of involved parties
  + Harm created as a result of the grievance
  + Remedy being sought
* Initial contact with the league official may be verbal but no action will be taken until it is received in writing / email.
* The Town Representatives shall investigate the claim including contacting involved parties and making a report to the entirety of the Board on findings and recommended actions. The nature of the incident and the impact it has on on-going league operations will dictate the speed with which the Board shall act.
* The Board shall adjudicate the matter and determine appropriate sanctions, if any, based on majority vote. Meetings to adjudicate the matter will be held during a closed meeting with only Town Representatives in attendance and associated parties that are invited at the discretion of the Board.
  + Sanctions may include player, coach, or team suspensions; game forfeitures; play-off ineligibility; or other actions deemed appropriate.
  + Sanctions shall be effective immediately subject and are final with no appeal process.
  + Sanctions need only be communicated verbally to be effective but must be followed up in writing/email to the sanctioned party within 24 hours. The written communication shall include a description of the violation, sanction imposed and duration of sanction.

Town Representatives will be responsible for reviewing any grievances with their respective member towns officials.

**Article 7:** **BY-LAW AMENDMENTS**

The by-laws of the Nutmeg Youth Football League may be amended anytime outside of the season of play, by a 2/3rds vote of the Town Representative Board. By-laws will not be amended during the season. Items to be considered for amendment must be brought to the attention of the Town Representative Board at a regular scheduled meeting and will be discussed by the group before voted upon.

**Article 8:** **INSURANCE**

Each member town will be responsible for their own insurance. The NYFL will not provide insurance for any member town.

**Article 9:**  **ADMISSION OF TOWNS**

From time to time, towns may ask to join the league while other towns withdraw or may be voted out of the league. Membership and continued membership in the league is at the discretion of the town representative board.

Any teams seeking admission to the NYFL must present the following information to the Town Representative Board prior to July NYFL board meeting, for admission for the current season. Teams seeking membership will provide the following information 30 days before their presentation and vote by the Town Representative Board.

1. Last year playing rosters for all teams (if applicable).
2. Proof of insurance
3. League officials’ names, addresses, phone numbers, and positions.
4. Location and condition of game fields
5. Any further information as may be required by NYFL in its review process.

The Town Representative Board upon review of the material and discussion with the prospective town shall vote new member towns to the league with a 2/3rds majority vote.

Towns joining the NYFL prior to June 1st will receive voting rights immediately upon joining the league. Any towns joining the NYFL after June 1st will receive voting rights at the start of the following calendar year.

**Article 10:** **REGISTRATION OF PLAYERS**

The registration of players will be the sole responsibility of each league town.

A participant’s eligibility to play for a member town will be based on that participant’s legal residence. A participant cannot play for another member town if residing within an active member town. Special exemptions will require a majority board vote.

Each member town will be required to collect the following items when registering players:

* Completed league town registration form to include written permission by a parent/legal guardian. No football player may take part in any NYFL activity without this written permission.
* Approval to play and medical forms must be with the team/child at all times. This includes practices, scrimmages and games. All players must have a physicians or nurse practitioner approval to participate, effective after January 1 of the playing year. Medical form must state the participant may participate in contact sports, tackle football, without any limitations, to be accepted.
* Birth certificates must be available upon request

**Article 11**: **REGISTRATION OF COACHES**

Each town at its own expense shall conduct a background check on any volunteer the town deems has repetitive contact with the players. Each town will conduct any level of background check it wishes, but it is required that each town do a minimum check of the Sex Offender Database. Volunteers must be listed by name and certified as “checked” to the NYFL at roster certification. These checks must be done prior to the volunteer being in contact with the players or cheerleaders.

Coaches’ names, addresses and phone numbers shall be furnished to the league along with representation from the town that the coaches passed the background check. All coaches must supply proof of completion of the USA Football Heads Up and Tackle Certification by the start of practices for each league town as well as wear the certification lanyard while coaching during games on the sideline.

Each town is required to have a Player Safety Coach/Commissioner in accordance with USA Heads Up Football and the Player Safety Coach/Commissioner must complete the USA Football Heads Up and Tackle Certification.

**Article 12:** **FINANCIAL POLICY**

Each league town will be responsible for their own finances. There will be no treasury within NYFL.

In the event there are costs associated with the NYFL, the Town Representative Board will determine by majority vote how to handle the expenses.

**Article 13:** **BONDS, FEES AND FINES**

There are no fees due to the NYFL by member towns.

There are no bonds due to the NYFL by member towns.

Towns will not be fined by the NYFL.

**Article 14:** **RULES AND REGULATIONS**

The Town Representative Board is responsible for establishing the football rules and regulations subject to the mission and purpose of the league.

Any rule reviews and recommendations to the football rules and regulations for the upcoming football season must be made by and voted on by June 30th. Any rules questions after June 30th will be noted for the following off-season to be reviewed prior to the start of the following season. Recommendations to rules changes that will affect player registration, including player ages and weights, must be presented and voted on by the end of the Town Representative Board by the end of the March meeting.

Changes to any football rule or regulation require a majority vote of the Town Representative Board.

**Article 15: REMOVAL OF MEMBER TOWNS AND/OR DISSOLUTION OF THE NYFL**

Removal of a Member Town from the NYFL will require a 2/3rds majority vote of the Town Representative Board.

The NYFL can be dissolved by a 2/3rds vote of the Town Representative Board.

***Attachment 1***

***NYFL Football Rules and Regulations***

Article 1: SCHEDULES

Article 2: PLAYER QUALIFICATIONS

Article 3: CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

Article 4: EQUIPMENT

Article 5: WEIGH IN PROCEDURES

Article 6: GAME REGULATIONS

Article 7: OFFICIALS

Article 8: FIRST AID

As adopted by the Town Representative Board on 8/4/19

**Article 1:** **SCHEDULES**

The Town Representative Board will assign a League Scheduler that will be responsible for divisional alignments, scheduling of games and planning of playoff/championship play. The league scheduler will be assigned by the end of the March meeting and may be a member of the Town Representative Board or a volunteer from outside of the board but part of a member town.

Where possible, member towns will host or travel together for ease of scheduling fields of play and to promote camaraderie amongst age divisions. Also, where possible, teams will have an equal number of home and away games.

The final schedule shall be released by the 2nd week in August after approval by the Town Representative Board.

Team practices may begin the first full week of August. Prior to the first full week, member towns may host conditioning sessions in a league setting but not divided up by teams.

**Article 2:** **PLAYER QUALIFICATIONS**

Each town shall collect the following prior to a player participating in any practice.

* Current year parental consent form signed by a parent/guardian.
* Current year Doctor’s Statement signed by physician or nurse practitioner, clearing the child for participation in contact sports, cheerleading, or football.
* A copy of player’s birth certificate. These are mandatory for all candidates prior to their first practice session each season.
* Weigh-in information for each player completed once during pre-season without equipment.
* All “A” Squad players may be required to submit a copy of their 4th term report card from the preceding year, or other form of proof, indicating that they will not be in HS during the playing year.

**Football Divisions, Weights and Ages:**

**C Division:**

* Players must be registered in grade 4 and under and cannot turn 11 years old before 12/1 of the present season with the exception of “older/lighters”.
* Players over 125lbs during the pre-season weigh-in must play as interior lineman on offense (Center, Guard or Tackle) in a three-point stance and have a defining mark on the front and back of their helmet.
* Players between 116-125lbs during pre-season weigh-in may play as interior lineman as well as TE on the line of scrimmage on offense and have a defining mark on the front and back of their helmet. They may receive a forward pass over the line of scrimmage but cannot receive a handoff.
* Players weighing under 116lbs during pre-season weigh-in are not position limited and may run the ball after receiving a handoff or snap.
* “Older/Lighters” must first be approved by the Member Town Board and will then be approved by for Position Eligibility by the Nutmeg League Town Representative Board. Older/Lighter players need to be approved to play skill positions (QB, RB, WR, TE) and are able to take a direct snap or handoff if approved by the Nutmeg League Eligibility Board, by a majority vote. Position eligibility and Older/Lighter status may be revisited by the Nutmeg League Town Board at a future date at any time during the season if an unfair competitive advantage is in question, and final decision will be determined by the Nutmeg League Board by majority vote.
* The Nutmeg League Eligibility Board shall be comprised of one representative from each town, who shall meet before the first game of the season, for the purpose of determining eligibility of Older/Lighter players. Each town will have a single vote. Attendance at the Nutmeg League Eligibility Board meeting is mandatory; a Town’s vote must be taken in person and votes cannot be made by proxy.

**B Division:**

* Players must be registered in grade 5-6 and cannot turn 13 years old before 12/1 of the present season with the exception of “older/lighters”.
* Players over 155lbs during the pre-season weigh-in must play as interior lineman on offense (Center, Guard or Tackle) in a three-point stance.
* Players between 126-155lbs during pre-season weigh-in may play as interior lineman as well as TE on offense. They may receive a forward pass but cannot receive a handoff.
* Players weighing under 126 during pre-season weigh-in are not position limited and may run the ball after receiving a handoff or snap.
* “Older/Lighters” must first be approved by the Member Town Board and will then be approved by for Position Eligibility by the Nutmeg League Town Representative Board. Older/Lighter players need to be approved to play skill positions (QB, RB, WR, TE) and are able to take a direct snap or handoff if approved by the Nutmeg League Eligibility Board, by a majority vote. Position eligibility and Older/Lighter status may be revisited by the Nutmeg League Town Board at a future date at any time during the season if an unfair competitive advantage is in question, and final decision will be determined by the Nutmeg League Board by majority vote.
* The Nutmeg League Eligibility Board shall be comprised of one representative from each town, who shall meet before the first game of the season, for the purpose of determining eligibility of Older/Lighter players. Each town will have a single vote. Attendance at the Nutmeg League Eligibility Board meeting is mandatory; a Town’s vote must be taken in person and votes cannot be made by proxy.

**A Division:**

* Players must be registered in grade 7-8 and cannot turn 15 years old before 12/1 of the present season. No 9th graders will be allowed regardless of weight.
* There are no position restrictions based on weight.

**Article 3:** **CONFERENCE REGISTRATION**

The date and time of roster certification shall be determined by the Town Representative Board before the first game of the season.

Each team must present the following in reviewable condition at roster certification:

For each team:

* Roster with each player’s: name, D.O.B., Address, Grade level, Weight, Notification of “older/lighters” on roster, Uniform Number, and weight restrictions
* Roster of coaches / volunteers with: certification of performed background check, Heads Up or other acceptable concussion training certification

After roster certification, only roster additions need approval. These additions must be supplied to the Town Representative Board before the next game is played.

No team shall be permitted to start an official NYFL game unless the team has a minimum of fourteen (14) eligible players, but a scrimmage game is permitted. Eligible means meeting all league requirements as set forth in these rules and regulations as well as in league by-laws at game time.

Thirty-five (35) player limits per team will be enforced prior to the schedule being released. Once a team has 36 players, the team must split into two teams. If due to late registration (after the league schedule has been released), a team exceeds 35 players, the team will be permitted to continue with more than 35 players but minimum plays per player will still be enforced as noted in Article 6.

Players cannot be listed on different rosters simultaneously. Players must stay on the same roster after the player has been approved by NYFL unless petitioned and approved by the Town Representative Board.

**Article 4:** **EQUIPMENT**

**Player**:

Required: Intra-oral mouth guard, NOC-SAE approved helmets with unaltered, face guard, chin strap, shoulder pads, hip pads, thigh pads, kneepads, socks, shirt, pants, and a protective cup must be worn by both males and females.

Chin straps are required. Football shoes, if used, must be a non-metallic cleat. Detachable cleats are allowed but must meet NFHS Rules.

Rib pads, flack jackets, hand, wrist, forearm, elbow pads, neck rolls, and clear face shields only will be considered optional equipment. Helmets must be worn in accordance with the manufacturer’s recommendations. Any belt must be standard football equipment without metal pointed buckle.

Any player that is not properly equipped will not be allowed to play.

**Ball**:

Composite and Rubber Balls are allowed at all levels.

* C Division: Wilson K2 or equivalent.
* B Division: Wilson TDJ or equivalent.
* A Division: Wilson TDY or equivalent.

**Field**:

A NYFL approved football regulation field with official game clock kept on the field by the officials is required. Yardage markers and end zone pylons are required. Chains will be done by the visiting team on the visiting sideline at all games/fields.

**Article 5: WEIGH-IN PROCEDURES**

To be eligible, each player must be weighed in prior to the submittal and approval of team rosters. Players will be weighed in once during the pre-season without equipment. All “older/lighters” must have marking visible on the front and back of their helmet and be noted on the team’s roster

**Article 6:** **GAME REGULATIONS**

All games shall be played in accordance with the NHFS rules unless otherwise noted.

**Player changes from NFHS rules**

Each team must have a minimum of 14 eligible players at the start of the game. Any team not able to field the 14 eligible players automatically forfeits the game but a scrimmage in place of the official game is encouraged.

Each team has three timeouts per half with no carry-overs.

A minimum of 10 plays per player will be required for A & B divisions (8 plays for teams with 25+ players on roster), and 12 plays for C division including special teams plays. Plays that result in a replay of down due to penalty will not count towards minimum plays

Any player sitting due to disciplinary or health reasons must be identified to opposing coach and cannot wear pads. If a player is injured during a game and is not able to return or is sat for disciplinary reasons is not subject to minimum play requirements. Coaches should make a reasonable effort to notify officials under these circumstances.

Each town will police themselves, however any coach proved not meeting minimum play requirement during a game will receive a warning for first offense, and forfeit any games proved for second or subsequent offenses as determined by the Nutmeg League Board.

Player ejections by officials at any point in a game will result in the following penalities:

* 1st offense – Current game suspension plus next game suspension
* 2nd offense – Current game suspension plus two additional game suspensions
* 3rd offense – Suspension for remainder of the season

**Scoring changes from NHFS Rules**

Extra Points:

* Ball starts on 3 ½ yard line
* 2 points for successful extra point kick
* 2 points for successful pass conversion
* 1 point for successful run conversion

**Game clock changes from NFHS Rules**

Game Time:

* C Division – 10-minute quarters with clock stoppages
* B Division – 10-minute quarters with clock stoppages
* A Division – 12-minute quarters with clock stoppages
* For all division’s halftime shall be 10 minutes
* Overtime Procedures will be the same as the high school federation except teams will be allowed to attempt one or two-point conversions during all overtime periods. One timeout per team per overtime.

**Bench Conduct:**

Only coaches or credentialed field personnel will be allowed on the bench or in the coaches’ area during the game.

All coaches and professional people must stay within the coaching area, on the sidelines between the twenty-five (25) yard lines on either side of the mid-field stripe. Referees may impose a fifteen- (15) yard penalty for any infraction of this rule.

C Division Only – one coach is allowed on the field and in the huddle with their team (both offense and defense). Once the huddle is broken, the coach on the field is only permitted to realign their players through verbal instruction but may not physically move the player. This verbal instruction will be permitted up to the snap of the ball during games contested prior to and including September 30th. Starting October 1st and for the remainder of the season, verbal instruction by the on-course coach must cease at the word “set” by the offense and the coach must be a minimum of 15 yards deep of the line of scrimmage.

A playbook is allowed in the huddle but must be pre-written. Plays may not be designed and drawn in the huddle. Officials will enforce the play clock.

Any misconduct by players or coaches must be brought to the attention “in writing” to the Town Representative Board, by the member town for action within five (5) calendar days of the game in question.

Any misconduct by a coach resulting in ejection from the game must be reported to the Town Representative Board. Coaches ejected from a game will follow the same penalties as players with regards to future game suspensions and coaches ejected will also be prohibited to attending the next game as a spectator as well.

**Prohibition Against Crashing “The A Gap” (C Division only):**

Defensive players may not lineup over the center in C Division. No Nose Tackles. Defensive Tackles must lineup over the offensive guard in a 3 or 4 point stance. Defensive Tackles must engage the guard before movement towards the A gap. Consequently, A QB may not run the A gap from under center but is permitted to run the A gap from shotgun. No blitzing the “A” gap. Linebackers must be 3 yards off the ball and cannot move towards the “A” gap until the ball is snapped.

Infractions of this rule will draw an automatic five (5) yard penalty.

**Punting changes from NFHS Rules**

C Division – On fourth down, an offensive coach may choose from one of the following options:

* Run a play to attempt gaining a first down.
* No Punt – Ball is moved 20 yards down field where the ball will change possession

**Cancellation of Games:**

In the event of rain out or any potential game cancellation other than heat related issues, the hometown should call the opposing town’s representative and referees at least two (2) hours before the game is scheduled to start. Referees have the discretion to cancel any game any time.

In the event of heat related weather conditions that may affect the safety of players, the following rules are to be followed:

No games are to be played if, 1 hour before kickoff or at halftime during the game, the wet bulb globe temperature (WBGT) reads 87.0 at the location of the game. If the WBGT reading is between 82.0 and 86.9 1 hour before kickoff or at halftime, the home team must provide a cooling station to include but not limited to an iced immersion tub in shaded area.

If, 1 hour before kickoff or at halftime during the game, the wet bulb globe temperature reads 87.0 at the location of the game, the following procedure is to be followed:

1. The game is to be postponed and moved to a later time on the same game day and on the same field, under the assumption that later in the day the WBGT will drop to acceptable levels.
2. Other games shall not be moved or rescheduled to accommodate playing a rescheduled game.

Example:  On Sunday 09/01, A is to play at 10:00, B is to play at 12:30, and C is to be played at 3.  At 10:00 am the WBGT reads 87°.  The A game will be postponed until after the completion of the C game; under no circumstances should the B game or C game be moved to accommodate the playing of the A game.

1. If the postponed game cannot be played on the same game day, the game will be moved to the next succeeding Monday with kickoff at 6:30 pm.
2. If the home team cannot accommodate a Monday game because of either field availability or field lights (Granby and Farmington do not have access to field lights) the game will be moved to the away team’s field if they have lights.  The originally scheduled home team will maintain home team status even if playing on an away field.
3. If neither team playing in the postponed game has lights, the game will be played on the next succeeding Monday with kickoff at 6:30 pm at a field of another member town (West Hartford or Southington) who can accommodate a night game.  The originally scheduled home team will maintain home team status even if playing on another member town field.
4. If neither 3. nor 4. above can accommodate the playing of the game, or, due to the rescheduling there is an inability to staff with approved officials and/or medical safety personnel, the game shall be recorded as 1 – 1 tie in the standings.
5. If a game is postponed midway thru the game due to a WBGT in excess of 87.0, the postponed game shall resume on Monday, as set forth hereinabove, at the same point and score as when the game was postponed. Ie.:  If the game is stopped at halftime, with the score 6 – 0, it will resume, on Monday, at halftime with the score 6 – 0.

1. In the event a game has started and is then postponed, as in 6. above, and cannot be recommenced as set forth in 3. or 4., above, the game will be determined by the score at halftime.

These rules are subject to majority vote change **if** the final league game schedule includes a league wide bye week prior to playoffs under which circumstance a postponed game could be moved to the league wide bye week. If the league wide schedule does not include a league wide bye week before the playoffs, then 1 – 7 above shall solely govern.

**Rescheduling of games:**

Once the league schedule has been set, any rescheduling of game times or dates must be coordinated by the town Presidents (or their designee) involved. The Presidents will work together, in a timely manner, to reschedule the game(s).

If no resolution can be agreed upon, then both Presidents will present their alternatives to the Town Representative Board who will review and make a ruling as to the “best solution” by majority vote.

The Board decision is final and a team that cannot make the reschedule will forfeit.

In all cases the Town Representative Board must be notified of the changes.

This does not apply to league wide cancellation and rescheduling.

**Lopsided Score Rule**

If at any time a team takes a 25 or more-point lead, the trailing team will have the option of receiving the ball at the 50-yard line rather than a kickoff when the winning team scores until the lead is less than 25 points. The game clock will also move to running time unless the lead is reduced to under 25 points, at which time the game will revert to regular kickoffs and game clock.

**Playoff/Championship Procedures**

All teams will make the playoffs and will be seeded based on regular season record. Higher ranked team will receive home-field.

Ties will be broken by the following procedure:

* 1st Tiebreaker – Winning Percentage
* 2nd Tiebreaker – Head to Head
* 3rd Tiebreaker – Quality of Wins (combined win/loss of defeated opponents)
* 4th Tiebreaker – Points Against
* 5th Tiebreaker – Coin Toss

In the case of a 3 or more team tie, quality of wins will be used first to reduce the tie to two teams and the tiebreaker procedure will start at the top as listed above.

**Article 7:** **OFFICIALS**

All officials must be certified to officiate high school games.

Officials must always have foremost in mind the welfare of the players.

Game referees CANNOT make a determination on player eligibility as defined by NYFL Football Rules and Regulations but can and will enforce player position eligibility based on weights and ‘Older/Lighters” as defined in the NYFL Rules and Regulations.

Home team is responsible for the paying officials for as many games that are played immediately following the game(s).

**Article 8**: **FIRST AID and EMTs/Trainers**

It is mandatory to have an emergency vehicle or communications to an emergency vehicle available at every game

**Athletic Trainer / Emergency Medical Technician – Game Requirements**

The home team will supply a certified Athletic Trainer and/or EMT who will be designated as the primary medical responder to any game injury. No game will begin without the presence of the designated Athletic Trainer and/or EMT.

The Athletic Trainer and/or EMT must have appropriate identification (ID card), which shall be presented to the head coaches and game officials prior to the start of each game upon request.

The Athletic Trainer and/or EMT will position himself and remain visible on either sideline in or near the team box during play of the game.

Once the designated Athletic Trainer and/or EMT takes the field the decision on whether or not that player returns to the game is the responsibility of this individual. (NO member of either team’s coaching staff may function as the designated medical staff person for a contest in which they are the coach of that game).

If a parent refuses medical services, which is deemed as necessary their child is out of the game for the day. If a child is taken to the hospital, and later returns to the field, they must have a doctor’s release before resuming play.

All coaches will carry a binder containing all medical and emergency contact information at all times on the sidelines during games and/or practice.