



## DCYFL ByLaws

### Purpose:

The purpose of DCYFL is to promote the ideals of sportsmanship, fellowship, and citizenship by providing knowledge, fun, safe, and competitive sports through voluntary participation. This program is intended to give all eligible boys and girls the opportunity to participate in football, 7 on 7, camps and cheerleading.

DCYFL will provide local, state, and national competition for our organizations.

### Football League Sargent of Arms, President, Vice President and Athletic Director:

- These members have full authority and responsibility for administration and conduct of the DCYFL.
- Responsible for the oversight and development of the football program.
- Responsible for all documentation that is to be submitted to the league and program coaches.
- Guidance in the conduct of the program through recommendations and opinions from those knowledgeable of the football program and its activities.
- Responsible for administration of matters directly relating to all officials working scheduled league and playoffs games, such as assignment of game officials, conduct, rules, clinics and similar matters.
- Responsible for all safety decisions to protect the league and organizations
- Ensuring playing schedules
- Planning and moderating league meetings
- Preparation, presentation and facilitation of league rules
- Final standings by win-loss record

- Enforcing (DCYFL) rules and regulations as per the league's policy
- If these members are not present or are unable to fulfill the duties of the league, the DCYFL Board; shall make all decisions.

Cheer Director & Assistant Cheer Director :

- Responsible for the oversight and development of the cheer program.
- Responsible for all documentation that is to be submitted to the league.
- Guidance in the conduct of the program through recommendations and opinions from those knowledgeable of the football program and its activities.
- Responsible for administration of matters directly relating to all officials working scheduled league and playoffs games, such as assignment of game officials, conduct, rules, clinics and similar matters.

### General Rules – Section 1

Bylaw 1.1 – League Fees and Regulations:

1. League Entry fee is \$750 per football organization \$1000 with media and stat collection (4)A nonrefundable \$250 deposit is due to hold your spot in the league. That deposit does go towards your total league fee.
2. All teams must declare how many Silos (Teams) there Organization is running no later than June 1st of that fall season. If you decided not drop any levels after June 1st you commit to you will forfeit your (\$250).
3. All fees and rosters must be turned in before team certification day.
4. All fines during the season must be paid by 8pm Wednesday before your next game.
5. Playing rules for (DCYFL) football shall be those used by the NCAA games (rules issued by the National Collegiate Athletic Association) and UIL (University Interscholastic League) modified where appropriate. Rule changes may be made, necessary to fit the age and the ability of the players in the program.

Bylaw 1.2 – Organizations:

1. Must complete League interview process, application and agreement.
2. Must complete Organizational Directory
3. Must ensure that athletes and coaches pay applicable league fees.
4. Minimum age for all Volunteers, and Coaches is 18 years of age.
5. The (DCYFL) does accept teams seeking to play in a single division base on case by case.
6. Responsible for providing Minimum (1) / Maximum (2) representative to attend league meetings
7. Minimum # of 15 players per team is allowed. Must have 10 players prior to league coaches look.
8. Maximum # of players per team is organization discretion.
9. Each program is responsible for how player's equipment is procured.
10. All equipment must meet federal and state safety guidelines.
11. It is not required that teams have two jerseys as long as there is not a conflict with opposing

organizations. Each team must have their jersey approved by the league before the team orders them.

12. As a member of the (DCYFL) League teams are expected and required to act in the best interest

of the league and the kids of the (DCYFL).

13. You will provide positive support to the league and other members.

14 League business will be conducted in a professional and ethical manner. We are here for one

common goal, and teaching youth football, drill team and cheerleading. This program is for boys & girls with their safety and welfare being the main concern of this the (DCYFL). All coaches and

staff members MUST conduct themselves in a SPORTSMANLIKE manner at all times when they

are in the presence of the boys & girls in the program. To ensure the success of the program,

guidelines have been adopted concerning the behavior of coaches and their staffs. How we treat our

league defines us as a society as well as a community. We shall honor our league and rules as well

as each other. We pledge to meet these challenges. The Honor System at (DCYFL) exist to foster a cohesive bond of trust among all members of our communities and to instill in our youth honor and respect.

Bylaw 1.3 – Insurance:

1. Each organization is responsible for their own general liability and excess accident insurance for

coaches, players, cheerleaders and any volunteers. Unless discussion with board members and opt to use the league insurance. Copy of current insurance must be submitted to DCYFL office by August 15.

2. All participants shall participate entirely at their own risk. All organizations enter (DCYFL) with the full understanding that this is contact sport.

3. Purpose of coverage: This insurance will pay doctor, hospital and other medical bills typically associated with injuries to insured players, cheerleaders, drill team members and volunteer adults

only after their primary medical insurance benefits have been exhausted.

Bylaw 1.3 – Head Coaches and Assistant Coaches:

1. All football and cheerleading coaches must have league issued ID card to be on the field or around

the field. Absolutely no spectators are to be present on the sidelines or on the track. All spectators

must remain in the stands.

2. It is the responsibility of each program to maintain their head coaches and Assistant coaches' applications and background investigations. Each program must abide by the following coaching requirements:

3. A Head Coach shall be responsible for administration of all matters pertaining to his team.

The

Head Coach shall accept the responsibility for Actions of his team, assistant coaches and fans.

4. All coaches MUST complete USA Heads up football online to be eligible to coach in this league.

That fee is paid by the coach to USA Football NOT to (DCYFL). The fee is \$10.

5. No more than a combined (10) coaches and Team Moms (in good standing) will be allowed on the

Field during each game. This does include trainers and water personnel. It excludes the organizations President, Athletic Director, and Cheer Director.

6. There must be a minimum of two adults in presence at any team function; At least one being a

(DCYFL) registered head coach or assistant coach, and the other being an adult of age 18 or older.

7. Volunteers whose coaching assignment of a previous season or other sports program has not been

revoked for violation of (DCYFL) rules or for Unethical conduct as a head or assistant coach is not in good standing with the league and therefore is ineligible to serve as a volunteer at any (DCYFL) Events and/or games.

8. There shall be no use of tobacco or alcohol products and/or profanity/foul Language on the practice

field or playing fields at any time event or game.

9. Use of alcohol or drugs is not permitted at any (DCYFL) function. It is also unacceptable for anyone representing the league to appear at any (DCYFL) Function under the influence of drugs

or alcohol. If members of (DCYFL) appear to be under the influence during a (DCYFL) game or event; they will be immediately removed from the premises. They will be subject to Disciplinary actions by the League Commissioner and if found guilty of such accusation they will automatically be suspended for the remainder of the season. Assistant coaches must adhere to the

same policies required of the Head Coach.

10. Each member organization will provide all of their Coaches with an official coach's agreement,

which must be completed by the coach and returned to (DCYFL) prior to participation in any team tryout workout, into the custody of the teams Program Director or Head Coach for retention,

or until the end of the playing season.

Bylaw 1.4 – League Meetings:

1. All member organization shall have at least one representative all (DCYFL) league meetings.

No

more than (2) representatives will be allowed at these meetings unless advised otherwise.

2. Anyone who serves on a board with any other League will not be allowed to attend our league

meetings.

3. Only Organization who has a Team active in our league will be allowed to attend our league meetings.

4. If mandatory meeting is missed:

a.) 1 st Missed - \$50

b.) 2 nd Missed -\$100

c.) 3 rd Missed - \$200

d.) 4 th Missed – Board Members can choose to remove Organization from the League.

Rule 1.5 – Game Officials/Referees:

1. Game officials are contract employees of the (DCYFL). They will operate under UIL & NCAA rules,

the (DCYFL) exception rules and at the discretion of the League Commissioner and the DCYFL Board.

2. Game officials and referees shall be certified by (DCYFL) and its rules and regulations prior to the officiating any games on behalf of the league.

3. Two-man crews for 4U/6U Flag, three-man crews for 8U-13U games are set to be purchased by DCYFL but not guaranteed in the event that a ref doesn't show, we will proceed with the game(if applicable).

- 4. The rules of football do not provide for protests of any actions of officials. Except during a

conference requested by the coach during a game (a time out is charged if the coach is overruled).

5. Officials shall not participate in a game where they have a relative playing or coaching.

Rule 1.6 – Divisions:

1. Divisions may be formed within the league in order to facilitate scheduling or as otherwise necessary.

2. Once a player has been registered (payed any amount or the coach has documentation of registration)to play for a team if that player is dismissed or leaves that team for any reason the player is not eligible to play for any other team in the league for the remainder of that season. If a player is approved by the Board to leave the team prior to the draft the player must enter the draft to return.

a. Players may be added due to falling below roster min. at Board Members discretion.

b. No adding players during playoffs

Bylaw 1.7 – Practice Regulation (Organization Discretion this is optional):

Team programs may initiate contact and recruit players at any time during the year.

1. Heat Index Guidelines:

a. If the heat index is 80-89, players should be watched closely for any heat distress and frequent water breaks should be taken.

2. If the heat index is 90-94, 10-minute rest breaks should be taken every hour and water breaks every

10 minutes. Players should be under careful supervision. The athletic activity must be kept to 100

minutes or less.

3. If the heat index is 95-99, the athletic activity should be modified. For example, football practices in shorts, shoulder pads and helmets only. Frequent water every 10 minutes and rest breaks must be held. Players should be able to get water at any time and should be under extreme supervisions from teachers, coaches and trainers. The athletic activity must be kept to 90 minutes or less.

4. If the heat index is 100-104, further modifications must be made, such as football practice in shorts, t-shirts and helmets only. Water breaks should be taken every 10 minutes and athletes should be monitored at all times for heat distress. The athletic activity must be kept to 90 minutes or less.

5. If the heat index is 105 or greater, then the athletic activity will be suspended, postponed until later in the evening, or held indoors at the administrator's/coach's discretion, with suggestions made by the athletic trainer. Athletic activities could also be rescheduled to when heat index has reached an

acceptable level. When an event is "BLACK FLAGGED" (which means the heat, index is at 105 levels or higher that day), no outdoor practice may begin until the Athletic Director communicates

to the head coach that the conditions are acceptable; the heat index is below 105. Practice may be

postponed to a later time in the same day if the heat index lowers. All appropriate guidelines should

be followed based on the reading at the time.

6. It is the responsibility of all administrators and coaches to provide ample supplies of water and

appropriate care to our players. It is recommended that all guidelines be followed in such a way that

the safety and best interests of our players be made our number one priority. It is also recommended

that coaches constantly teach our players.

Bylaw 1.8 – Games:

1. Number of Games - Each organization shall contain at least (1) mandatory preseason bowl game, (8) regular season, as well as a two or three week playoffs tournament unless weather conditions

require a shorter schedule.

2. A minimum of (8) games will be scheduled each season unless unforeseen event that threatens safety of well-being of all involved.

3. Special Provisions for Games:

a. Any comment by a coach, player or player parent regarding officiating shall be directed privately to the Chief of Officials or the Board.

b. Only team members and seven (7) Head Coach, assistant coaches, team mom and water/trainer persons may be on the bench during the game. Coaches must wear like shirts. If a coach is absent, the acting coach may recruit help from any available person if the Director has not declared said person ineligible.

c. The Head Coach is responsible for the conduct of his coaches, players and fans during a game.

d. Ineligible Participants: An ineligible team or a team having any ineligible members shall forfeit all games played during the period of ineligibility.

e. A fifteen (15) yard sideline violation will be assessed for violating the maximum total of seven (7) coaching/ water/trainer person and team mom allotments on the sideline. The President and Athletic Director is not counted as part of the nine (10) when they are not coaching.

4. All Games must be played on fields and stadiums that have been certified by a (DCYFL) Official.

5. Music played at stadiums during (DCYFL) games must not be inappropriate, nor be of any sexual content or connotation.

6. No music audio sounds including any announcing may take place after the offensive team comes

to the line of scrimmage and continue until the official whistles the play over.

7. Announcer may not provoke, or comment game action after a play has been completed

8. Flammable fireworks and are not allowed by Organizations at any DCYFL events that included any league games hosted by an organization with in DCYFL. Violation of this rule can be subject up to the cost for repairs to damage caused. The minimum fine will be \$750.00.

9. If a team forfeit a game once it has started, they can be subject to a fine of \$200.00. Also, they may be subject to an organization forfeit for that day at the League discretion.

#### Bylaw 1.9 – Postponements/ Cancellation Policy:

1. Games in adverse weather may be played only if venue permits and both organizations are in agreement. Bad weather games automatically revert to a running clock unless weather changes to

acceptable conditions.

2. DCYFL official has the authority to move all games to running clock format due to weather or venue/field scheduling, regardless of score or time remaining in game.

3. The officials as a result of weather or field conditions may postpone games prior to their start.

4. After a game has been started, playing rules shall govern shortening or stopping a game.

5. Games may not be postponed or rescheduled by mutual agreement between coaches.

6. The Football Director shall reschedule regular league games.

7. Games postponed or cancelled will be made up on Sundays or during league bye week or during the week.

8. Rain out policy- DCYF will secure field solutions for all games to be played in the event of rain.

9. Games will only be cancelled if there is a threat of lightning. Player safety is first and foremost.  
Bylaw 1.10 – Team Photography (OPTIONAL):

1. DCYFL will secure the official photographer for league. All member organizations are NOT required to host a picture day. Photos from picture day will be utilized for league promotions and submitted by each organization upon request.
2. Any team photographers must receive credentials from (DCYFL) League office for game day photography. Each team to request Media can receive up to 2 pass per year
3. Teams must notify the ref of their team photographer being on the field during the game. Photographers must stay out of the way of game play. If team photographer interferes with game play, that team shall be penalized.
4. Only (1) still photographer on the playing field at any time.
5. (DCYFL) will also provide photography and videography services to any organization that wants to utilize them for a nominal fee.
6. Electronic video of each organization divisional game will be distributed by league videographer, if service is utilized.
7. PBJ is the official videographer of DCYFL.
8. Any team who has a documentary being filmed must get a special waiver from each team on schedule and League permission for post-season play.

Bylaws 1.11 – Team Awards and Recognition:

1. (DCYFL) will provide League Jr Heisman / MVP award (1 per Age division)
2. (DCYFL) will provide Coach of the Year Award (1 per Age division)
3. (DCYFL) will provide a plaque for the organization with the highest winning percentage.
4. (DCYFL) will only provide (1) Team championship rings and (1) Team runner – medals/trophies
5. (DCYFL) will provide championship rings to all certified coaches of that group and president (10)
6. There are NO participation trophies to be awarded all awards in the league are based off of winning or votes.

Certification Specific Rules – Section 2

Bylaw 2.1 – Registration and Certification:

1. Player registration shall be:
  - a. Handled by each organization.
  - b. Football Player may not be registered after the approved certification date. A certification date will be determined prior to the start of the current Season.
2. The fee for certification football is \$10 and you MUST HAVE STATE ID or BIRTH Certificate
3. The fee for certification for cheerleaders \$10
4. At the pre-season team program certification registration each team shall present (DCYFL) an official team roster.



5. Each player must attend the preseason certification registration conducted by the (DCYFL) to be eligible to play the upcoming season. Even if you have state ID (if league host event)
6. All player photographs and profiles shall be uploaded to the (DCYFL) league certification system prior to the official certification date.
7. Players will be allowed to play up 1 division if safe without affecting their eligibility in their respective divisions. They can only do this if it is going up one division ex. (registered 7u they can only go up one division which would be 8u) Notification cannot be on the day of the game; it must be adequate time to notify the other teams within the league.
8. If a player has been certified by a (DCYFL) official, and a mistake in age was discovered by any organization. An investigation will be performed by the (DCYFL). If it is found that there was no act of deceit by the organization, the organization in violation would not be reprimanded and (DCYFL) and its league officials reserve the right to determine the placement of the player. League determination is final and there will be no appeals.
9. Teams must maintain team player books and have accessible at every game.
10. All certification pages can be found on the (DCYFL) website.
  - a. This section of the site will be password protected and only available to those that are members of the (DCYFL).

Bylaw 2.2 – Player Eligibility:

1. FLAG DIVISION 6U: A player who has reached his 6th birthday as of August 1st is not eligible. A player must be 6 years old before August 1st for the current year to participate.
4. 8U DIVISION: A player who has reached his 9th birthday as of August 1st is not eligible.
5. 10U DIVISION: A player who has reached his 11th birthday as of August 1st is not eligible.
6. 12U DIVISION: A player who has reached his 13th birthday as of August 1st is not eligible.
7. 13U DIVISION: A player who has reached his 13th birthday as of August 1st is not eligible.
8. Players must complete the player's certification and contractual requirements of the (DCYFL).
9. A player may play up a division and still play in their age-appropriate division as long as it is an odd/ even mix. You cannot play up in the same age grouping (ex. 7u can only play up to 8u and still play 7u they can't play 9u) and (Flag Players can't play up to tackle)
10. A player may play "up" a division but never "down" provided that the head coach of that level deems the player capable of competing at the higher level. Once the player has competed at the higher level, he may NOT move back down and compete at the lower level again that season.
11. Players cannot be added to a team after the 1st regular season games have begun. Exceptions on a case-by-case basis.
12. All players must be certified by an Official League Director or appointed 3rd party company.

Teams will be provided final certification rosters in team books prior to Regular Season game.  
(On League Certification Date)

Bylaw 2.3 – Team Eligibility:

1. Teams are eligible for competition in league and playoffs games when they have met the following requirements:

- a. Official team rosters must be submitted to (DCYFL) prior to the regular season games.
- b. All players, coaches, and cheerleaders must be certified via the (DCYFL) certification process. It is the responsibility of the Athletic Directors and/or Head Coaches to have a current copy of the player's certification rosters on hand and at times during any (DCYFL) game and or event.
- c. All coaches must complete HEADS UP certification through USA football and provide documentation.
- d. League Fees have been paid in full