

ILLINOIS 8 YOUTH TACKLE FOOTBALL LEAGUE
BY-LAWS (2026)

**Article I
NAME**

This organization shall be known as the Illinois 8 Youth Tackle Football League (I8YTFL).

**Article II
OBJECTIVE**

To attain and promote the growth of scholastics and sportsmanship to our community youth through athletic competition.

**Article III
GOVERNMENT**

Section 1, **MANAGEMENT**: A Board of Directors shall govern the Illinois 8 Youth Tackle Football league. The Board of Directors is made up of one representative from each team participating in I8YTFL. At the January Directors meeting, New officers will be nominated and voted on over alternating years by 2 year terms (President/ Secretary January 2026 and Vice President/ Treasurer January 2027) I8YTFL will function as a Board of the whole. The Board of Directors has been established to oversee the League as a whole, but not to intervene in individual member board matters unless a member organization breaks the By-Laws of I8YTFL.

The 2025 I8YTFL Board of Directors is as follows:

President –Mike Barry	Directors :	Peotone	Plainfield
Vice-President – Jason Schultz		Plano	Morris Warriors
Treasurer – Doe Valentine		Reed Custer	Chanooka
Secretary – Scott Cook		Bradley	Manteno
		Wilmington	St Ann
		Sandwich	Coal City

I8YTFL will also have a Cheerleading committee made up of one(1) representative from each member organization. This committee will meet throughout the year based on committee chair discretion. They will bring recommendations concerning the Cheer program to the I8YTFL Board of Directors for board approval.

I8YTFL BY LAW CHANGES will be submitted in written form at a I8YTFL League meeting to be voted on at the next scheduled I8YTFL League meeting.

Section 2, **DUTIES**: The Board of Directors shall perform the duties and exercise the powers described by the Articles of Incorporation set forth in these By-Laws. These duties and powers shall include, but are not limited to the following:

A. **PRESIDENT**: The President shall act as the Chairperson of the Board of Directors. The President shall be responsible for conducting the affairs of I8YTFL and for executing the policies established by the Board of Directors. The President is responsible for the conduct of I8YTFL and must be in strict conformity of its policies, principles, rules and regulations.

B. **VICE-PRESIDENT**: The Vice-President shall preside in the absence of the President. The Vice-President will be responsible to verify each member's registrations and bring any questions to the member organizations and the Board of Directors.

C. **SECRETARY**: The Secretary shall record minutes of each meeting to be presented at the next meeting. The Secretary is responsible for all Board correspondences. They are responsible for keeping track of the designated voter for each member organization during meetings.

D. **TREASURER:** The Treasurer has the authority to disperse League funds with the approval from the Board of Directors. The Treasurer is responsible for maintaining financial records and presenting them at each monthly meeting, as well as an annual report at the January meeting.

E. **DIRECTORS:** Directors are member organizations that do not hold an officer's position but still carry a vote in all League matters.

F. No member shall receive any compensation for serving on the Board. Each member organization is expected to attend each monthly meeting. After three (3) absences in a fiscal year, a Board member's term will cease and the organization will be placed on probation and lose voting privileges for one year.

Section 3, **VOTING:** Each I8YTFL member with voting privileges will be allowed to cast a vote on matters concerning I8YTFL. Before each meeting, a member must sign-in as a designated voter. The designee is the only person allowed to cast a vote at a meeting.

Section 4, **GENERAL INFORMATION:** General meetings are held the first Wednesday of each month at the pre designated facility at 7pm. The President may call special meetings as long as there is a 24-hour notice given to each member. I8YTFL fiscal year is from January 1 to December 31 of each year. A quorum of 51% must be present to hold a meeting.

MEMBERSHIP

Section 1, **ADULT MEMBERS:** Any person who has a child enrolled in the program or has an active interest shall be a member of the Illinois 8 Youth Tackle Football League, and shall be subject to its' By-Laws.

Section 2, **YOUTH MEMBERS:** Any child meeting the requirements as set forth in these By-Laws of I8YTFL, shall be eligible for participation. If equipment is available, no child will be refused to participate provided that they conform to the team By-Laws and the I8YTFL Rules of Eligibility.

Section 3, **DISQUALIFICATION:** Any member not conforming to the By-Laws of the I8YTFL may be disqualified at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

RULES OF ELIGIBILITY

1. Each club will consist of five (5) teams, Dyno, Superlight, Lightweight, Junior Varsity and Varsity, (1 team) per division, limited by age and weight class.
2. All weights listed on Attachment 1 "WEIGHT CHART" assume the player weighs-in wearing their game shoes, socks, game-pants, knee pads, thigh pads, all girdle pads and game jersey.
3. For weigh-ins, the player is not required to wear a helmet, shoulder pads, neck roll or rib pads. Stripers are required to have helmets at all weigh-ins.
4. Dual teams, see Dual team alignment rules.

STRIPER RULES

Section 1: SINGLE STRIPER

1. Only three (3) striper players on the field at a time. Superlight, Lightweight. JV is allowed 4 stripers. Varsity is allowed 5 Stripers on the field at same time IHSA Rules
2. Striper players must have a single team color stripe on helmet, front to back, the exception will be – ANY TEAM WITH A PRE-STRIPED HELMET MUST STRIPE THEIR HELMET, FRONT TO BACK, WITH A BRIGHT NON-TEAM COLORED TAPE. ALL PLAY DOWN PLAYERS WILL HAVE A X ON BACK OF HELMET AND ARE TO BE DOWN POSITION LINEMAN ONLY CANNOT ADVANCE THE BALL 06-23.

3. Stripers cannot handle the ball on offense and can only handle the ball if there is a turnover on defense. In the course of play, if a striper, either on defense or offense, recovers a fumble or intercepts a pass, he may not advance the ball.
4. The striper position on offense is a down lineman from tackle to tackle. The line positions are defined as LT,LG,C,RG,RT in a balanced offensive set and as LT,C,RG,RXG,RT in an unbalanced right formation and LT,LXG,LG,C,RT in an unbalanced left formation.
5. STRIPERS that play defense, must be in a 3- or 4- point stance (hand in the dirt) and may line up anywhere on or between the offensive tackles, but cannot line up in both "A" gaps or on the same offensive player.
6. At no time can two (2) STRIPPERS line up or rush the same gap.
7. If a striper plays out of position, an automatic five (5) yard penalty will be assessed against offending team
8. A striper on defense is not allowed to drop into pass coverage more than three (3) yards. A five (5) yard procedure penalty would apply.

Section 3: **STRIPER RULES FOR SPECIAL TEAMS:**

1. PUNT –Stripers may participate but may advance the ball only to the line of scrimmage in an attempt to punt. (NO TRICK PLAYS)
2. PUNT RETURN – Stripers may participate.
3. KICKOFF - No striper may participate except to be the KICKER. After kicking they must come directly off the field and not participate in the play.
4. KICK RETURN – NO Striper will be allowed to participate.
5. EXTRA POINT – May kick or hold the ball but NO trick play allowed. They may also be on the offensive line. No more than a total of 3 stripers on SLW and LW, 4 Stripers on JV, and 5 Stripers on Varsity
6. The penalty for violating these rules is a five (5) yard procedure penalty added to the end of the play.

RULES OF THE GAME

1. All teams must field eleven (11) players at the start of every game or that game will be forfeited (General Rule #3).
NOTE: Striper rules apply (refer to Stripe rule #1).
2. Games will be controlled by four (4) officials whenever possible. In order to maintain play, three (3) officials can be used if accepted by both teams involved. Official time will be kept on the playing field by the referees.
3. Coin Flip is to be done before the start of the game and the Head Coach is the only Coach to be in attendance.
4. All games will be played under IHSA Varsity Rules with the following exceptions:
 - A. Extra points will be scored: One (1) point for a run or pass, two (2) points for kicked.
 - a. Superlight and Lightweight move the ball to twelve (12) yards from the goal post to kick. If kicking an extra point they must kick.
 - b. Superlight and Lightweight may put only six (6) players on defense, lined up from end to end (head on the player in front of them) not covering or rushing the center or (A) gaps, from a down (3 point) lineman position during an extra point kick or field goal attempt. The offense must assume a normal (E T G C G T E) formation with splits no greater than 2 feet.

- c. Superlight and Lightweights must advise the referee if they are attempting an extra point or field goal.

B. Field goal tries in Superlight and Lightweight:

- a. The ball will be moved 10 yards closer to the goal post because of the 80-yard field.
- b. Same rules apply as extra point attempts. If an attempt is missed or blocked IHSA rules would apply.

- 5. At no time may any team line-up or rush no more than one (1) player per A gap. Infraction is a five (5) yard penalty. With the option to decline or accept.
- 6. Games will consist of four (4) quarters with twenty (20) minutes or less at halftime. Quarters, field size and timeouts will be as follows:

A. Superlight and Lightweight Divisions:

- a. Ten (10) minute quarters, played on a shortened eighty (80) yard field and MODIFIED CLOCK MEANING CLOCK STOPS AT OUT OF BOUNDS CHANGE OF POSSESSION INCOMPLETE PASS
CLOCK WILL START WHEN BALL IS PLACED BY OFFICIALS.
- b. A thirty-five (35) second play clock will be used.
- c. Four (4) timeouts per half. Timeouts are thirty (30) seconds.
- d. After a 24-point spread, time will be continuous until the end of the game minus time outs . All divisions

B. Junior Varsity and Varsity Divisions:

- a. Ten (10) minute quarters and played on a regulation field and IHSA rules for time.
- b. Four (4) timeouts per half. Timeouts are sixty (60) seconds.

- 7. Game Balls: Each team will provide their own game ball on offense. The same ball must be used through a series of possessions including extra points, punts, field goal attempts and ensuing kick-off. If a game ball is not readily available by the offensive team upon change of possession, the official has the right to use the ball on field.

Superlight shall use:

Leather - Wilson K2 TDJ, Baden, Rawlings Pro 5 Jr., Rawlings R5-PW
Composite – Wilson K2 or TDJ, Baden, Rawlings ST5, Nike – PW, Under Armor

Lightweight shall use:

Leather – Wilson TDJ or TDY, Baden, Rawlings R5Y
Composite – Wilson TDY or TDJ, Baden, Rawlings ST5, Nike Junior , Under Armor

Junior Varsity shall use:

Leather – Wilson TDY, Rawlings R5, Baden
Composite – Wilson TDY, Baden, Rawlings ST5, Nike – Youth, Under Armor

Varsity shall use:

Leather – Wilson TDY, Baden, Rawlings R5
Composite – Wilson TDY, Baden Collegiate, Rawlings ST5, Nike – Senior, Under Armor

- 8. When a team leads by eighteen (18) or more points, the leading team will not kickoff to the losing team. At the Superlight and Lightweight levels the losing team will take possession at the winning team's 30-yard line. At the Junior Varsity and Varsity levels the losing team will take possession at the winning team's 40-yard line after any score and at the beginning of the second half until the difference is below eighteen (18) points.

- A. Prior to the start of each game, the starting backfield line-up will be exchanged between coaches and provided to referees. The starting backfield consists of the four (4) backs and two (2) ends. To avoid confusion, the five positions not listed will be the two (2) tackles, two (2) guards and center.
 - B. The starting backfield of the leading team must be substituted and may not handle the ball on offense until the score is below eighteen (18) points. If positions players are not available as substitutes, positions of players must be changed. A five (5) yard procedure penalty, with option to decline or accept, will be charged if a starting backfield player plays one of the designated positions. The exception to this will be a player who is listed in the starting backfield and assumes the position of special teams. This player may continue to perform these duties but at no time may they advance the ball.
 - C. When a team leads by eighteen (18) or more points, the backfield may advance the ball only to the line of scrimmage in an attempt to punt or kick. This does NOT apply to defense. No trick plays.
 - D. All Striper rules apply.
9. At the Superlight and Lightweight level, the offensive team must inform the referee if they are going to punt on fourth down. If they are punting, the defensive team cannot rush the punter. The punter cannot move more than five (5) yards to the right or left from the center to punt. The punter will be given a five (5) second count to punt the ball after it is snapped. If the ball is not punted within the five (5) second count, a five (5) yard delay of game and loss of down penalty will be assessed.
10. At the Junior Varsity and Varsity level NO player shall line up head-on the center or rush the A gap unless in a down linemen position head up on the guard during a punt, field goal or extra point attempt. If they do a five (5) yard procedure penalty will be called. Also ANY CONTACT with the punter, kicker or holder will be called UNDER IHSA RULES BY THE OFFICIALS.
11. The Superlight and Lightweight levels will not have any major penalties to exceed ten (10) yards.
12. All tie games will be played off per IHSA Varsity rules.
13. All playing shoes must be IHSA approved shoes. No metal cleats will be allowed on the field.
14. Referees and both team representatives will have full responsibility for maintaining discipline and control in the matters concerning the conduct of the coaches, players, fans and their effect upon playing conditions.
15. Any Player or Coach ejected for any reason or involved in fighting during their game on the field will receive an automatic suspension for the remainder of that game and the following game. A second offense will result in a suspension for the remainder of the year. All ejections must be reported to the league Secretary and all league teams via e-mail by both teams and game officials within twenty-four (24) hours of the game in which this occurred. Coaches while on suspension will not be allowed on the field or on sidelines of the game. 1 game suspension after Incident Mandatory Coaches that change towns have to be approved by the program first and then after this have to be approved by the league due to conflict of interest.
- A. If anyone follows a referee/official off the field and to the parking lot or designated area causing confrontation will be banned from I8YTFL for the remainder of the current season
 - B. If an assistant coach is ejected from a game the head coach will also be ejected with them.
16. Cancel games prior to completion.
- A. Cancels anytime during and prior to the start of the fourth quarter are considered incomplete and will be continued on the home team's field at an agreed-upon date and time.
 - B. Games in play during the fourth quarter are considered complete.
17. Game Delays: The League recommends delays to last one (1) hour prior to canceling a total game day or one game. We also require referees to remain on the premises and will be reimbursed for their time. To minimize the backup of games, if able to continue, the following options should be utilized:
- A. Complete game has started.

- B. Complete game in progress and if the team is leading by eighteen (18) points or more utilize "Rules of the Game" 16.B and move to the next game.
18. Players will be allowed to compete while wearing a soft or hard cast with proper padding, a doctors release, and officials approval.
A.Players at any level may wear a guardian cap during practice and at games must be the same color or similar matching to team colors.
19. All initial contact on the interior line for both offense and defense must be above the waist. Interior line is defined as the outside shoulder from tackle to tackle on offense. Unbalance formations are defined in striper rule #4.
20. All on field coaching at the Superlight & Lightweight levels will end once the center is set and touches the ball. The first flag will result in a warning. A second and sequential flags will result in a five (5) yard penalty. If more than 1 warning and penalty coach would be removed from the field.
21. WEIGH-INS
- A. All weigh-ins will be held at halftime of the game in progress, except for the first game of the day. They will be held 30 minutes prior to start time. They will be executed under the provisions set by "Attachment 1, Weight Chart". (Rev 05-19)
- B. Each team is to have the only Head Coach and the Athletic Director present at Weigh-Ins . NO parents will be allowed at weigh-ins.
- C. A balance beam or digital scale is the only scale approved by the league directors. A fifty (50) pound metal weight will be used to check the scale before weigh-ins.
- D. Opposing AD's will have the right to inspect equipment to assure that it is of the type used by the players in the game. If a player is found not to be wearing complete or improper equipment at weigh-in the opposing team has the right to make that player sit out the first half of play.
- E. A player arriving late has until the start of their game to be weighed; after the game starts, they must sit out until halftime of their game to be weighed in.
- F. All players will be weighed wearing their game jersey with number visible
- G. If a player weighs in at halftime prior to his/her game and does not make weight, he/she has the right to weigh-in at halftime of his/her game. The five (5) plays per game rule applies. (At halftime, a striper/double may not re-weigh to make it as a non-striper/striper.)
- H. All stripers must present their helmet with stripes at time of weigh-ins.
22. Each team has the right to ask for measurements during a game as long they have timeouts remaining. If the ruling on the field is overturned the team will not be charged with a time out. If the ruling on the field stands the team will be charged with a time out.
23. All players must play a minimum of five (5) plays.
A play is any attempt to proceed with game play with the exception of the following. Taking a knee, spiking the ball and any dead ball foul.

GENERAL RULES

1. Each team will provide no later than the June 1st I8YTFL meeting a complete Football & Cheerleading roster master sorted by level of play in paper form to each individual team and a copy of the same information via email in excel format to the league. The rosters must be sorted numerically for football and alphabetically for cheerleading in the format below.

Age-FB						
Jersey #	First name	Last name	Grade-Cheer	Birthday	Level	Weight
1	Johnny	Player	8	7/26/01	SL	75

A. All teams are required to submit via email before a game, new rosters to every team after a roster move (i.e. LW move up to JV) or a new player added. It is a team's discretion to allow individual players to play if not listed on a roster. No new players will be allowed after the June's League meeting if a team has twenty-two (22) or more players. Board approved adding players after June 1st must be from the same school district as town.

2. All games will be played on Saturdays or Sundays (A \$25 rescheduling fee will be charged to the team requesting to reschedule a game after July 1st, with the exception of weather related changes. All weather related cancellations must be played at an agreed upon time by the two teams involved. If an agreed upon time can't be met, then the games will be scheduled by the league for the first open weekend date that the two teams have in common. If a team can't play on the date assigned, the team not attending would forfeit that day's games.)

3. Players will be allowed to move up in division if overweight, but once moved, they will not be allowed to move back. Players may play in only one division on any scheduled date, unless to avoid a forfeit. Final decisions will be left up to the coaches involved to avoid a forfeit.

4. Both divisions will have League champions.

5. Registration must start after January 31st and be completed by June 1st. Players can be added after June 1st if you do not meet the 22 man roster requirement. Max players per division 35. **NO TRYOUTS.** No player will be allowed to practice without proof of age. All Superlight and Lightweight teams will be granted permission to hold an informal 2-hour seminar one week prior to the start of the season. The purpose of this seminar is to fit and explain equipment, and to explain football terminology. No evaluation of players is to take place.

6. Practice will begin the week of July 27th 2026 with first week 3 days of helmets only per Ihsa rules. IF HEAT INDEX IS ENACTED ALL TEAMS WILL CANCEL. DURING PRE SEASON FILM STUDY DAY COUNTS AS A PRACTICE DAY NO EXCEPTIONS NO SAT PRACTICES UNLESS APPROVED 5.24

7. The League will allow five (5) practices per week prior to August 17th 2026. After this date, the maximum number of practices per week will be four (4). Each player must provide a copy of their birth certificate to be kept on file with your organization's board.

8. Any single team found to be in violation of Rules 5, 6 or 7 will be disqualified from football playoffs and/or cheer competition at the discretion of the Board of Directors. The member organization will also be placed on 1-year probation and a second offense will result in removal from I8YTFL.

9. Should any team, for any reason, wish to protest a game a written statement must be made to at least three (3) members of the League Board, giving the reason for the protest, within seventy-two (72) hours of the completion of the protested game. The League Board of Directors will meet at its earliest opportunity after all teams have been notified of the protest to determine if the protest is valid. A protest fee of fifty dollars (\$50) will be assessed to the protesting team, to be returned, if the protest is upheld. The losing team will pay a fine of two hundred fifty dollars (\$250). I8YTFL discretion on the outcome of the game that is under protest.

10. Any coaches or team official found intentionally violating League rules or the accepted rules of fair play and sportsmanship, that team may be placed on one-year probation. The Board of Directors will strictly enforce this rule.

11. A list of each team's facilities and a map or directions to each field shall be provided to the League Directors at roster hand-in.

12. Chains and down makers will be provided by the home team. Being placed on the home team's side of the field. Chain gang will be on the Home sideline for games regular season and Playoffs 3-20

13. A player is restricted to play in one (1) tackle football team during I8YTFL season (first practice until Championship). If a team is found to have players participating in multiple leagues, that team will forfeit all games the player or players participated in and the player or players will be banned permanently from I8YTFL.

14. Each team will have the identification registration provided by the teams on the playing field (Including copy of birth certificate)

15. All teams will be required to follow a set schedule, in the interest of safety, have helmets and facemasks recertified every two (2) years. Added 3-1

16. NO high school students will be allowed to play.

17. No alcoholic beverages allowed at practice or games. Smoking is not allowed on the sidelines of any League game. A smoking ban is in place at many of the fields being played on (Illinois State law prohibits smoking on any school property). Please observe these rules when posted.

18. I8YTFL will assess yearly fees to cover the cost of operating the League. Each member organization is responsible for an equal share in the expense of operating I8YTFL. League Fees for 2026 season will be \$2250.00. League Fees are due on or before May 1 2026.

19. Voting procedures to amend and or add to the By-Laws are as follows:

- A. One vote per team.
- B. Registered officer of each team casts a vote.
- C. A two thirds (2/3) majority vote of those present is required to pass or amend a By-Law.

20. The League has established a team representative (member of Board, coaches, stats, etc.) dress code. The representative must wear a designated team shirt. There are no headsets earpieces allowed unless the other team has been notified and approved.

21. Disciplinary Problems: A team representative must be at a League meeting (either a regular/special meeting) and present the following:

- A. Any occurrence of, or violation of, any by-laws or behavior issues set forth in the rules of the I8YTFL, must be immediately reported to the I8YTFL President and the Board. Whereas the President will convene a meeting day and time to discuss the issue or issues.
- B. The offending team or teams will have a representative and those who were involved available to be interviewed and to present their case.
- C. The offending team or teams will advise the I8YTFL board at that time what disciplinary action was taken by the individual team board(s) and what they have done or will do to correct the behavior.
- D. In any case the investigation by the I8YTFL board was not concluded; it may extend to additional meetings depending on I8YF discretion. In this case, possible temporary discipline may be issued until further investigation.
- E. After the conclusion of the investigation, the I8YTFL will render a verdict and issue discipline if needed. Discipline may include but is not limited to; individual, team, or club probation/suspension/ejection from the League.
- F. Any team that is on probation for a disciplinary reason is ineligible for the postseason in any level of play (Voted on by board)
- G. All I8YTFL rulings are FINAL.

22. There will be NO play-by-play announcing while the play is actually taking place.

23. Referee fees for 2026

- Will be \$75.00 per game = \$300.00 per day for Officials.
- Game Clock Official \$150.00 per day
- 1st and 2nd round of playoffs I8YTF league will pay for the referees/clock keeper for only the first day your organization is responsible for paying the full 2nd day
- 3rd round of playoffs and Super Bowl your organization is responsible for paying referee/clock keeper
- I8YTF will pay fees for referees/clock keeper at the Pro Bowl

- There should be no 1099 tax forms going out to officials.

24. No advertising or soliciting shall be done at any game except by the home team, unless specific permission is given by the home team.

25. Grilling tailgating and catering style of any kind is prohibited, or other food warm devices are prohibited unless used by the host team for concession stand use.

26. An organization cannot skip participating in a league event, to attend another league event. An organization may choose to not participate in the league event, but will not schedule other football/cheer activities in lieu.

27. All coaches must complete the USA Football Certification prior to the first day of practice and submit proof of certification to your organization that will be presented at the preseason league meeting. You are not permitted to be on the practice or game field without completing. Coaches' code of conduct must be signed before the start of 1st practice.

28. At least one representative from each organization needs to be in attendance for the duration of the cheer competition.

DYNAMITE LEVEL RESTRICTIONS

1. Dynamite team is composed of 5 & 6 year old players only (No weight restrictions). The games will be played jamboree style and there is no movement between the Dynamite team and other teams participating in I8YTF.
2. Dynamites can be 4 years old as long as they turn 5 before last day of season Date of Nov 10th of season **Please note this is only if your teams feel that the player will compete at this level.
3. Only two coaches from each team are allowed on the field.

PLAYOFFS

1. The League has established an all team playoff system described below

See attachment #2

2. The following criteria is established to determine seeding for the playoffs

- A. Conference Record
- B. Head to Head wins
- C. Strength of Schedule (non-conference opponents conference games only)
- D. Coin Flip at the seeding meeting

4. No player will be allowed to move up or down any division after the conclusion of the regular season

CAMPS

1. Each team will be allowed to hold a camp that is run by the organization.
2. The camp will be 3 days or less, not to exceed twelve (12) hours and the three (3) days do not need to be consecutive.
3. The coaching staff of each team can be present at this camp.
4. The camp must take place after registration of players.

5. The camp can only be from May 1st to July 1st.
6. They must be open to the public.
7. All camps must be voluntary.
8. No player or players shall wear pads.
9. All high school and college camps are exempt.

NEW TEAM APPLICATION RULES

1. To join the I8YTFL you must be able to pay \$2500.00 dollars on or before the January meeting, to be used for first year fees and part of the second year fee's approx. \$600.00 will be held over for the second year
2. If a team wants to join I8YTFL they must let the I8YTFL board members know before JANUARY meeting.
3. **Please note all new teams voted into the league are on Probation for 2 year period from date of approval into the league. After the 1st year the team if are approved they will have full voting rights and will be placed on a 2nd year of probation after 2nd season if final approval is given teams will then be able to host playoff games and cheer competitions. 1-20 If not approved you will be refunded any extra fees that were held over from initial league entrance fee.**

NEW TEAM QUESTIONS

1. How long has your organization been together?
2. Can you field four teams ages 7 to 14?
3. What is the approximate number of children in your program?
4. Do you have a cheerleading program?
5. Do you have a governing board and how many people make up the board?
6. Do you have your own equipment and are your helmets certified every two years?
7. Do you have a facility and all the traditional equipment? (Scoreboard, goalposts, bleachers, concessions, toilets, etc.?)
8. Are you part of a league now?
9. What league do you belong to?
10. How long have you been in this league?
11. What is this league's contact information?
12. Does your league have a cheer competition and a super bowl?
13. Approximate size of your coaching staff?
14. How long is your season?
15. Are there other teams you would recommend contacting?
16. Have you had any issues, warnings or disciplinary actions taken against your org. from this league?

17. What are your likes and dislikes of your current league?
18. How did you hear about I8YTFL?
19. Why do you want to join I8YTFL?
20. What do you feel you can bring to I8YTFL?
21. Have you read, do you understand and are you willing to abide by I8YTFL's by-laws?

The preceding By-Laws were approved by a vote of () yes, () no and () absent votes and they were signed by a designee from each of its' Member Organizations on, ____/____/____.

Plano – _____

Reed Custer _____

Manteno– _____

Wilmington- _____

Sandwich _____

Peotone- _____

Coal City _____

Manhattan _____

Morris Warriors _____

Chanooka _____

Bradley _____

Morris Chiefs _____

Attachment 1: WEIGHT CHART

As of March 1th , 2025 the I8YTFL Board has approved its' weight chart policy to be used during the 2025 season. This weight chart eliminates the option of weighing with or without equipment, and players simply weigh-in with the following requirements:

Required Equipment at all weigh- INS:

1. Game shoes
2. Socks
3. Game pants
4. Knee and thigh pads
5. Girdle and all girdle pads
6. Game jersey

All Stripers are required to show helmet at weigh-ins.

Equipment not required at weigh- ins: shoulder pads, rib pads, neck rolls

2024 SEASON AGE & WEIGHTS

Super-Light	Age	Weight
Non Striper (backfield eligible)	6-8	85.9 lbs.& under
Single Striper	6-8	86 to 116 lbs.
Age 9 on or before September 1 st	9	70.9 & below
Light-Weight		
Non Striper (backfield eligible)	8-10	105.9 lbs.& under
Single Striper	8-10	106 to 136 lbs.
Age 11 on or before September 1 st	11	85.9 or below
Junior Varsity		
Non Striper (backfield eligible)	9-12	130.9 lbs. & under
Single Striper	9-12	131 to 161 lbs.
Age 13 on or before September 1 st	13	100.9 or below
Varsity	Age	Weight
Non Striper (backfield eligible)	10-14	165.9 lbs. & under
Single Striper	12-14	166 to 265lbs

If Player is over 265 lbs for Varsity must have board approval

All levels play down players are limited to 3 per team. Playdowns are limited to first and second year of tackle football experience. Play down's are limited to down linemen only. Must have an "X" on the back of their helmet.

NO 15 YEAR PLAYERS ARE ALLOWED WHEN 15TH BIRTHDAY FALLS WITHIN SEASON 3.20

All Ages listed are as of September 1st of the respective year for the season.

UPDATED BYLAWS AS OF 2026/4/22 Voted on by the league.
ALL PREVIOUS BYLAWS ARE NULL AND VOID