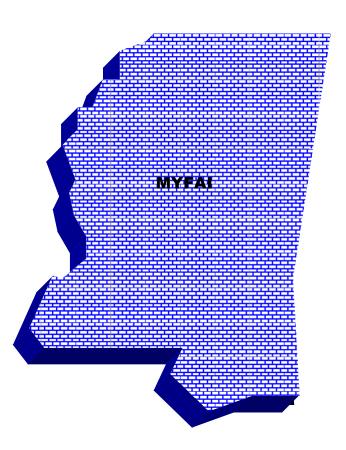
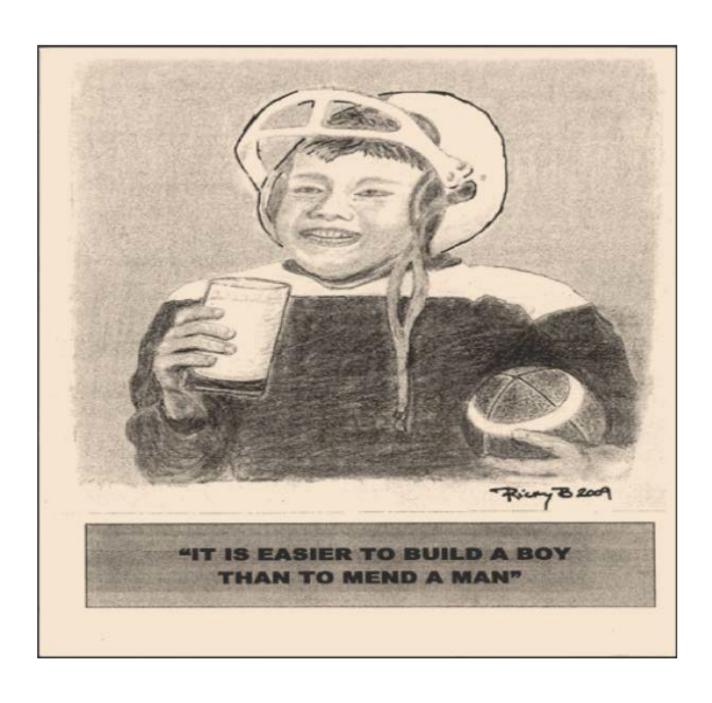
# MISSISSIPPI YOUTH FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION, INC

**2025**RULES & REGULATIONS



### **OUR MOTTO:**

"IT IS EASIER TO BUILD A BOY THAN FIX A MAN"



#### MEMBERS,

MISSISSIPPI YOUTH FOOTBALL HAS BEEN BUILT OVER THE PAST 49 YEARS WITH THE CONCEPT OF TEAM WORK; WE STEADFASTLY BELIEVE THAT TOGETHER WE ARE BETTER ABLE TO PROVIDE OUR INDIVIDUAL COMMUNITIES WITH YOUTH PROGRAMS THAT ARE SECOND TO NONE.

#### **OUR VALUES ARE:**

- 1. INTEGRITY, HONESTY, FAIRNESS AND RESPECT.
- 2. OUR **DESIRE** IS THAT SAFETY IS OF THE UTMOST IMPORTANCE.
- 3. LEAGUE DEVELOPMENT, **OUR** FUTURE DEPENDS ON OUR ABILITY TO MAKE OUR INDIVIDUAL LEAGUES SUCCESSFUL; OUR ASSOCIATION WILL BE PROACTIVE AND EASY TO DO BUSINESS WITH. WE WILL OFFER EXPERT KNOWLEDGE AND PRACTICAL SOLUTIONS TO BENEFIT OUR LEAGUES, PLAYERS AND OUR COMMUNITIES, AND WE WILL DELIVER ON OUR PROMISES BY WORKING TOGETHER.
- 4. LEAGUE ENGAGEMENT, WE WILL FOSTER A CULTURE THAT PROMOTES EXCELLENT PERFORMANCE, TEAMWORK, INCLUSION, LEADERSHIP, SPORTSMANSHIP AND GROWTH.
- 5. INNOVATION, WE WILL ALWAYS SEEK A BETTER WAY, WE WILL ENCOURAGE CHANGE AND SEEK THE OPPORTUNITY IT BRINGS.

OUR VISION AND OUR GOAL WILL ALWAYS BE "A BETTER, SAFER, MORE ENJOYABLE WAY TO PROVIDE OUR YOUTH AND OUR COMMUNITIES WITH THE HIGHEST CALIBER YOUTH ASSOCIATION POSSIBLE AND TO ALWAYS BE WORKING TO IMPROVE, IN EVERY AREA, EVERY YEAR."

THIS IS OUR VISION, OUR HOPE, OUR DREAM, AND THIS IS WHAT WE HAVE IN THE PAST AND WILL CONTINUE IN THE FUTURE TO DEDICATE OUR ASSOCIATION TO.

MAY GOD BLESS EACH AND EVERY ONE YOU FOR YOUR COMMITMENT TO THE YOUTH IN YOUR AREA, I TRULY BELIEVE THAT AS LONG AS WE REMEMBER TO PUT THE "YOUTH" IN

FRONT OF THE WORD FOOTBALL WE WILL IMPACT OUR YOUTH AND COMMUNITIES IN A POSITIVE MANNER AND WE WILL MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

LESTER IVY PRESIDENT/COMMISSIONER

MISSISSIPPI YOUTH FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION, INC.

MISSISSIPPI YOUTH FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED IS A MISSISSIPPI, NOT FOR PROFIT CORPORATION; IT IS GOVERNED BY A BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS SELECTED ANNUALLY BY THE OUTGOING BOARD.

THE BOARD DELEGATES DAY TO DAY OPERATIONS TO VARIOUS OFFICERS IT DESIGNATES.

MYFAI MEMBERSHIP IS MADE UP OF LEAGUES PROPERLY ADMITTED AND IN CURRENT GOOD STANDING WITH MYFAI. PARTICIPATION BY YOUTH WILL ONLY BE ALLOWED THROUGH THESE MEMBER LEAGUES. ALL MYFAI MEMBER LEAGUES MUST ENSURE THE MYFAI AUTHORIZED REGISTRATION FORM IS COMPLETED AND SIGNED BY PARENTS OR GUARDIANS BEFORE A PLAYER IS ALLOWED TO PARTICIPATE.

TO BE CLEAR, ALL PLAYERS, COACHES, AND PARENTS PARTICIPATE IN MYFAI ACTIVITIES ONLY THROUGH THEIR LOCAL LEAGUES. BY PARTICIPATING IN ACTIVITIES, EACH LEAGUE AGREES IT WILL BE IN TOTAL COMPLIANCE OF ALL RULES OF MYFAI. FURTHER, EACH LEAGUE AGREES TO MAINTAIN THIS COMPLIANCE BY ALL ITS PARTICIPANTS.

IN THE EVENT A RULES VIOLATION OCCURS, EACH LEAGUE AGREES MYFAI WILL INTERPRET THE RULES AND DETERMINE APPROPRIATE PUNISHMENT, AS NECESSARY. MEMBER LEAGUES AGREE THE APPEAL PROCESS CONTAINED IN THESE RULES WILL BE THE ONLY METHOD OF DISPUTING MYFAI'S RULE INTERPRETATION AND/OR PUNISHMENT. ONCE THE PROCESS DETAILED IN THESE RULES IS COMPLETE, THE MEMBER LEAGUES AGREE TO IMPLEMENT THE DIRECTIVES OF THE LEAGUE, OR WITHDRAW AS MEMBERS OF THE LEAGUE. AS CONSIDERATION FOR BEING ALLOWED TO PARTICIPATE IN MYFAI, EACH LEAGUE WAIVES ANY RIGHT IT MAY HAVE TO SUBMIT ANY DISAGREEMENT OVER RULES, INTERPRETATIONS OF THE RULES OR PUNISHMENT TO A COURT OF LAW OR EQUITY. FURTHER, EACH MEMBER LEAGUE, AS CONSIDERATION FOR PARTICIPATION IN MYFAI, AGREES TO REIMBURE MYFAI FOR ANY LEGAL FEES INCURRED AS A RESULT OF SUIT BY THAT MEMBER LEAGUE OR A PARTICIPANT MEMBER THEREOF.

MYFAI BOARD OF DIRECTORS IS MADE UP OF THE PRESIDENT OF EACH MEMBER LEAGUE.

OUR OFFICIAL YEAR BEGINS FEBRUARY 1 OF EACH YEAR.

EACH MEMBER LEAGUE SHALL BE REQUIRED TO SUBMIT IN WRITING ITS PRESIDENT EACH YEAR NO LATER THAN THE FIRST SCHEDULED MEETING OF THE YEAR.

THE PRESIDENT/COMMISSIONER OF MYFAI SHALL CALL AN ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AFTER THE FIRST OF THE YEAR.

## MISSISSIPPI YOUTH FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION, INC. 2025 MEMBER TEAMS

| League             | Director        | HOME         | CELL         | E-MAIL                     |
|--------------------|-----------------|--------------|--------------|----------------------------|
| BaySprings         |                 |              | 601-466-1204 |                            |
| Day opinige        | David Kinship   |              | 001 100 1201 | dHankinship1131@gmail.com  |
| Carthage           | Willie Townsend |              | 601-421-3382 | willie1074@gmail.com       |
| Collins President  | JJ Williamson   |              | 601-765-3558 | jncw1964@yahoo.com         |
| Columbia           | Ricky Franklin  |              | 662-402-3868 | wattabigstar@gmail.com     |
|                    |                 |              |              |                            |
|                    |                 |              |              |                            |
| Heidelberg         | Rickey Barnett  |              | 601-319-3479 | Bigriel@hotmail.com        |
| Kemper Co.         | Leroy Doss      |              | 662-610-2227 | dossleroy@gmail.com        |
| Lauderdale Co. B&G | Reginald Rome   |              | 601-227-1897 | Reginald_rhome03@yahoo.com |
| Lawrence County    | Greg Sutton     |              | 506-9021     | gregsutton651@att.net      |
| Lumberton          | Stanley McGowan |              | 601-606-4165 | Stanleymcgowan22@yahoo.com |
| Magee              | Cortez Chapman  |              | 601-882-4009 | SCseminoles01@gmail.com    |
| Mize               | Lester Ivy      |              | 601-466-0678 | Dragodawg51@aol.com        |
| Mendenhall         | Morris Byrd     |              | 601-699-2141 | kenmcdonald37@gmail.com    |
| Meridian           | William Autman  |              | 601-479-0829 | smcneill39@yahoo.com       |
| Morton             | Michael Hines   | 601-507-7228 |              | mortonrecreation@yahoo.com |

| Mt.Olive      | Marcus Brinson       |          | 2283271649(4) | MRB2011@gmail.com                      |
|---------------|----------------------|----------|---------------|--|
| North Forrest | Brian Croom          |          | 601-520-2081  | Briancroom12@gmail.com                 |
|               |                      |          |               |  |
| Philadelphia  | Linda Edwards        |          | 728-0800      | philadelphiayouthfootball@gmail.com    |
|               |                      |          |               |  |
| Prentiss      | Daryhl Hartzog       | 792-8526 | 517-5620      | daryhlh@gmail.com                      |
| Puckett       | Precious Rosse-Shoto |          | 601-519-9074  | zayzynrell92@gmail.com                 |
| Quitman       | Johnny Dear          | 776-0035 | 527-6606      | aandj981@bellsouth.net                 |
| Raleigh       | Otis Seaberry        | 782-9429 | 601-954-4833  | Oseaber@icloud.com                     |
| Richton       | Apollo Mitchell      |          | 228-234-2959  | Apollomitchell73@gmail.com             |
| Scott Central | Terry Lofton         |          | 769-274-1250  | Alofton99@yahoo.com                    |
|               |                      |          |               |  |
| Taylorsville  | Adrian Agee          |          | 601-433-5653  | Agee.football@gmail.com                |
| Waynesboro    | Marion Chapman       |          | 601-410-4715  | wcyfl24@gmeil.com c.marion21@yahoo.com |
| 2019 OFFICERS |                      |          |               |  |
|               |                      |          |               |  |
|               |                      |          |               |  |

| AND OFFICIALS                           |                 |              |              |   |
|---|-----------------|--------------|--------------|---|
| OFFICE-DUTY                             | Name            | Home         | Cell         |   |
| President /Commis                       | Lester Ivy      |              | 466-0678     | Dragodawg51@aol.com                                     |
| Sr Vice Commis.                         | Johnny Dear     | 776-0035     | 527-6606     | aandj981@bellsouth.net                                  |
| Vice Commissioner                       | Tom Polk        |              | 601-543-5279 | traypolk@aol.com  |
| Vice Commissioner<br>& website director | J.L. Breazeale  | 583-8462     | 543-6518     | <u>ilbreazeale@bellsouth.net</u>                        |
| Vice Commissioner                       | Paul Walley     | 788-6267     | 408-0270     | PaulWalley@aol.com                                      |
| Vice Commissioner                       | Linda Edwards   |              | 728-0800     | philadelphiayouthfootball@gmail.com                     |
| Vice Commissioner                       | Tony Fimiano    | 601-550-1898 |              | Tony.Fimiano@yahoo.com                                  |
| Vice Commissioner                       | Otis Seaberry   | 601-782-9429 | 601-954-4833 | Oseaberry@icloud.com                                    |
| Vice Commissioner                       | Jeremy Little   |              | 601-382-3439 | chunk6617@yahoo.com                                     |
| Vice Commissioner                       | Ryan Brown      |              | 601-606-8955 | Ryno14two@yahoo.com                                     |
|   |                 |              |              |   |
| Assigning Referee                       | JJ Williamson   | 765-4422     | 765-3558     | jncw1964@yahoo.com                                      |
| Assigning Referee                       |                 |              |              |   |
| Assigning Referee                       | Jackie Hathorne | 264-7727     |              | sgqb2416@hotmail.com                                    |
| Assigning Referee                       | Steve Galistel  |              | 934-7214     | sdg1619@hotmail.com                                     |
|   |                 |              |              |   |
| Klye George                             | USM-Marketing   | 266-6866     | 205-529-7916 | Kyle.george@usm.edu                                     |
| Jason Daily                             | USM-Events      | 266-6492     |              | <u>Jason.daily@usm.edu</u>                              |
| USA Football                            | Mike Cuzzone    | 630-433-6697 | 317-614-7738 | mcuzzone@usafootball.com                                |
| Georges Sporting<br>Goods               | Jay Purvis      | 425-1138     |              | georges.sportinggoods@yahoo.com                         |
| Web Page                                |                 |              |              | www.leaguelineup.com/myf                                |
| Facebook Page                           |                 |              |              | $\underline{www.facebook.com/MississippiYouthFootball}$ |

 MEMBERS WISHING TO HAVE ANNOUNCMENTS, ARTICALS OR OTHER THINGS PUBLISHED ON OUR WEB PAGE SHOULD CONTACT JL BREZEALE

#### **OFFICERS**

#### A. PRESIDENT AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

SHALL BE ELECTED TO THREE YEAR TERMS.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS SHALL SUBMIT THEIR NOMINATIONS TO THE SR OFFICER S, ( PRESIDENT/ COMMISSIONER, OR SR. VICE- COMMISSIONER), AS DIRECTED BY THE PRESIDENT, WHO SHALL SUBMIT A BALLOT OF CANDIDATES APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, AFTER THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS DETERMINE EACH CANDIDATE HAS MET THE REQUIRMENTS OF THE OFFICE.

All candidates shall be reviewed by the board of commissioners and be approved before they are placed on the ballot. All candidates shall meet or exceed the following minimum requirements:

- Must have demonstrated a successful commitment to community services through youth sports activities.
- Must have been actively involved with MYFAI for at least 10 years
- Must agree to a complete back ground check, and have no past criminal record
- Must have served as President of a member league.

#### A. COMMISSIONER

- 1. THE COMMISSIONER SHALL BE APPOINTED BY THE PRESIDENT. THE PRESIDENT MAY, AT HIS DISCRETION, ALSO SERVE ASCOMMISSIONER.
- 2. The sitting Board of Commissioners shall confirm the nomination by a minimum of 51% or request the President reconsider hisnomination.
- 3. THE COMMISSIONER OR SR. VICE COMMISSIONER SHALL ASSUME THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT IN THE EVENT THAT THE SITTING PRESIDENT CANNOT FULFILL THE DUTIES OF HIS OFFICE FOR ANY REASON.

#### **B. SENIOR VICE COMMISSIONER**

- 1. THE SENIOR VICE-COMMISSIONER SHALL BE APPOINTED BY THE COMMISSIONER AND SERVES AT THE COMMISSIONERS WILL AND PLEASURE.
- 2. THE SR. VICE-COMMISSIONER MUST BE CONFIRMED BY THE PRESIDENT.
- 3. THE SENIOR VICE-COMMISSIONER SHALL ACT AS THE CHIEF ADVISER TO THE COMMISSIONER.
- 4. THE SENIOR VICE -COMMISSIONER SHALL ASSUME THE DUTIES OF THE

  COMMISSIONER IN THE EVENT HE BECOMES UNABLE TO COMPLETE HIS TERM, OR
  IN THE EVENT HE CANNOT ATTEND ANY MEETING OR EVENT.

#### C. VICE COMMISSIONERS

1. THERE SHALL BE AT LEAST THREE VICE-COMMISIONERS, AND THERE MAY BE A NUMBER EQUAL TO THE NUMBER OF DISTRICTS THAT MAKE UP THE ASSOCIATION, SOLELY AT THE DISCRETION OF THE COMMISSIONER

- 2. THE VICE-COMMISSIONERS SHALL BE ELECTED OR APPOINTED BY THE COMMISSIONER TO SERVE 3-YEAR TERMS.
- 3. THE VICE-COMMISSIONERS SHALL ACT AS AN ADVISER TO THE COMMISSIONER,

  AND THE PRESIDENT AND ASSIST IN THE OPERATION OF THE LEAGUE AS DIRECTED

  BY THE COMMISSIONER.
- 4. THE MOST SENIOR VICE-COMMISSIONER SHALL ASSUME THE DUTIES OF THE SR.

  VICE COMMISSIONER IN THE EVENT THAT HE IS UNABLE TO COMPLETE HIS TERM,

  OR HAS TO ASSUME THE DUTIES OF THE COMMISSIONER.

#### D. AT LARGE VICE COMMISSIONER(S)

- 1. Any number of At Large Vice-Commissioner(s) may be appointed by THE PRESIDENT/Commissioner to serve in special areas of expertise which are required to efficiently and effectively run the Association. They are appointed and serve at the discretion of the President/Commissioner.
- 2. These Vice-Commissioner(s) report directly to the President and/or the Commissioner and shall be assigned to work in their field of expertise, whether as advisor, oradministrator.
- 3. THESE VICE-COMMISSIONER(S) SHALL INCLUDE BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO, LEGAL AFFAIRS, FINANCIAL AFFAIRS, MEDICAL ADVISOR, PUBLIC RELATIONS AND OR OTHER ADVISOR OR ADMINISTRATIVE ROLES.
- 4. These officers shall be exempt from the requirement of active participation for the previous three years, and may or may not be active in all areas of the Association at any time, except as required to perform task associated with their express areas of expertise.

5. EXCEPT WHEN ACTING AS PRESIDENT OF A LEAGUE, THEY SHALL BE ALLOWED TO VOTE ON GENERAL MATTERS COMING BEFORE THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF MISSISSIPPI YOUTH FOOTBALL, HOWEVER THEY SHALL BE LIMITED TO ONE VOTE ON ANY MATTER.

#### E. DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVES

- 1. May be appointed by the President, Commissioner or the Sr. Vice Commissioner as needed.
- 2. Any Vice Commissioner may request to have a district rep appointed if they desire, or need one to assist them.
- 3. They may assist during weigh in's, BUT must be over seen by an association officer who is onsite at the time of the weigh in.
- 4. These members shall assist the Commissioner and Vice Commissioners in investigating complaints and protests, heading projects, assisting new leagues, assisting with scheduling, and other duties as directed by the Commissioners.

#### F. BOARD OF APPEALS

Any major disciplinary actions i.e., expulsion from the league, or game results reversed, may be appealed for just cause in writing to the Commissioner within 72 hours of the ruling handed down. The commissioner will forward the appeal to the board of appeals chairman who will then appoint two other disinterested persons to serve as an appeals board for the ruling. Said appeals board will act as a supreme court, considering only the ruling as it applies to MYFAI rules pertaining to the infraction. This board shall have the power to interpret the rule as written in the rules book and cannot make changes to or add rules to the rules book. The President or

Commissioner will appoint an appeals board chairman. The board will consist of 3 persons, 2 of which will be chosen by the Chairman at his sole discretion from the following list of disinterested persons.

Paul Walley- Attorney at Law, former President, MYFAI Vice Commissioner, Former Coach, Life Time Achievement recipient.

Kelly Sanners- Media reporter, TV, radio and newspaper. Coach and advisor to the Commissioner. Life Time Achievement recipient.

JJ Williamson - Park and Rec manager, referee and assigning referee, Life Time achievement award recipient.

**Steve Galistel - Assigning Referee.** 

Bobby Wilson Business man, Referee, Former President of Bassfield Youth Football, Former Jeff Davis county school board member

Ernest Burton, Retired Msgt. Army Guard, Court Clerk, Assistant Administrator Mississippi VA Home, Collins

#### II. MEMBERSHIP

#### A. MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS

- 1. MISSISSIPPI YOUTH FOOTBALL, INC. (MISSISSIPPI YOUTH FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION, INC.). MEMBERS CONSIST OF LOCAL COMMUNITY FOOTBALL LEAGUES. ALL NEW MEMBERS WILL BE CONSIDERED FOR MEMBERSHIP ACCORDING TO THE PROVISIONS SET FORTH IN THE BY-LAWS OF MISSISSIPPI YOUTH FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION, INC. INDIVIDUAL PARTICIPANTS, COACHES AND PARENTS ARE NOT MEMBERS OF THE ASSOCIATION.
- 2. By applying for and accepting membership in this Association all members agree to follow the rules of Mississippi Youth Football Association, Inc., and agree that myfai will institute and administer fines, penalties, suspension or expulsions for violations of any rules, either game or ethical in accordance with these rules.
- 3. Each member league may form its own individual set of rules and regulations. However, they must meet or exceed those set forth by Mississippi Youth Football Association, Inc.
- 4. EACH MEMBER LEAGUE MUST ELECT OR APPOINT A PRESIDENT; THE PRESIDENT SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL ACTIONS OF THE LEAGUE, ITS OFFICERS, COACHES, AND FANS FROM MISSISSIPPI YOUTH FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION, INC.'S STANDPOINT.
- 5. Should any member league become unable to appoint or elect a president for any reason the PRESIDENT MAY assume the responsibilities of the president, or appoint a proxy, until such time as one may be duly elected or appointed.
- 6. EACH MEMBER LEAGUE HAS A RESPONSIBILITY TO CONDUCT THEIR BUSINESS AFFAIRS IN AN ETHICAL AND HONEST WAY, WHICH WILL REFLECT POSITIVELY ON THEIR LEAGUE, YOUTH SPORTS AND MISSISSIPPI YOUTH FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION, INC.

- 7. Any Parent, Player, or Concerned Member of the community must **submit first** to the president of their league any unfair, unsafe, or unethical actions taken by a league or members of a league. If no action is taken by the president the agreived may forward their complaint to the commissioner who may investigate or assign a designate to investigate and act accordingly on all such complaints. The member league must furnish all information requested, in a timely manner, to the Office of the Commissioner upon request, failure to fully and in a timely manner will result in the loss of participation privileges by the member league.
- 8. Each member, *new members included*, will be assessed a fee of \$2.00 per player on their rosters, said fee will be to the commissioner or his designated agent no later than one week after the member's first home game, **OR** make arrangements with **president/commissoner** for hardship extension. Failure to comply will result in the offending league removed from **ALL** post season play.
- 9. EACH MEMBER WILL SUBMIT COMPLETE TEAM ROSTERS THAT INCLUDE COACHES, PLAYERS NAME, AGE, JERSEY NUMBER, AND OFFICIAL WEIGHT ALONG WITH THE BIRTH CERTIFICATE, REGISTRATION FORM AND PHOTOGRAPH OF EACH PLAYER LISTED ON THE WEIGH IN SHEETS WHICH WERE STAMPED AT "OFFICIAL WEIGH-IN". TWO CHEERLEADER COACHES NAMES, (IF APPLICABLE), FOR EACH TEAM MUST BE ON THE OFFICIAL ROSTER. SAID PAPERWORK, PICTURES AND INFORMATION MUST BE INCLUDED IN THEIR TEAM BOOK FOR THE CURRENT YEAR. THERE WILL BE NO ADDITIONS THE ROSTER AFTERTHE SECOND OFFICIAL WEIGH IN WEEK. COPIES OF LEGAL ROSTERS MUST BE EXCHANGED BETWEEN OPPOSING COACHES AT MID-FIELD DURING THE COIN TOSS CEREMONY IN THE PRESENCE OF THE OFFICIALS. FAILURE TO DO SO WILL RESULT IN AUTOMATIC FORFITURE BY THE OFFENDING TEAM THE PRESIDENT OF EACH LEAGUE IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CORRECTNESS OF THE ROSTER. MISREPRESENTATION OF A PLAYER'S NAME, AGE, WEIGHT OR ANY MATERIAL FACT WILL RESULT IN PUNISHMENT DEEMED APPROPRIATE BY THE COMMISSIONER AFTER TAKING ALL FACTORS INTO CONSIDERATION. IN ALL CASES, HOWEVER ALL GAMES IN QUESTION ARE FORFEIT. ALL HEAD OR ASSISTANT COACHES MUST ATTEND THE ANNUAL COACHES MEETING

- 10. LEGAL ROSTER IS DEFINED AS A TYPED, NOT HAND WRITTEN, FORM SUPPLIED BY MYFAI OR SIMILAR, BUT NOT A WEIGH IN SHEET, THAT HAS THE TEAM NAME ON TOP, CURRENT YEAR THEN BELOW THE PLAYERS LISTED BY JERSEY NUMBER, NAME, AGE AND WEIGH. HEAD COACH IDENTIFIED AND ASSISTANTS LISTED ALL NEW LEAGUES REQUESTING MEMBERSHIP IN MYFAI MUST SERVE A ONE SEASON PROBATIONARY PERIOD, BUT WILL BE REQUIRED TO PAY THE MEMBERSHIP FEE OF \$2.00 PER ROSTERED PLAYER. AFTER SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETING THE FIRST SEASON, THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MAY VOTE AT THE NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING OR BY SPECIAL EMAIL BALLOT, TO ACCEPT OR DENY FULL MEMBERSHIP. MEMBERSHIP, ALONG WITH FULL VOTING AND ALL OTHER BENEFITS SHALL BE AWARDED TO ALL NEW LEAGUES MEETING THE CONDITIONS STATED ABOVE AND ATTAINING A 90% POSITIVE VOTE OF A QUORUM CONSISTING OF MYFAI MEMBERS.
- 11. Any association found to be in multiple or chronic violation of MYFAI rules, regulations or policy and thereby deemed undesirable by the President or Commissioner, and upon 75% approval vote of the board of Commissioners, may be suspended, sanctioned or expelled from MYFAI. Member teams **MUST NOT** play ANY games with a league leaving or expelled from MYFAI for failure to follow league rules. **ANY VIOLATION OF THIS RULE WILL BE A \$300.00 Fine PER GAME**. **SAID FINE MUST BE PAYED TO MYFAI BEFORE POST SEASON ELIGIBLITY**
- B. VOTING PRIVILEGES 1. VOTING PRIVILEGES ARE LIMITED TO ONE VOTE PER MEMBER REGARDLESS OF THE NUMBER OF TEAMS THE MEMBER HAS PARTICIPATING IN MISSISSIPPI YOUTH FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION, INC. ON ALL MATTERS SUBMITTED BY THE COMMISSIONER FOR A VOTE. ONLY THE LEAGUE PRESIDENT OR HIS ASSIGNED PROXY MAY VOTE. LEAGUES NOT SENDING A REPRESENTATIVE TO THE PRESIDENTS MEETING WILL FORFEIT **ONE** OF THEIR **HOME GAMES** IN THE UPCOMING YEAR. NO PERSON MAY HAVE MORE THAN THREE PROXIES
- 3. LEAGUES WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO VOTE DURING THEIR FIRST SEASON AS THEY ARE CONSIDERED PROBATIONARY TEAMS UNTIL FULL MEMBERSHIP IS GRANTED BY VOTE OF THE MEMBER LEAGUES AFTER SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETING ONE SEASON. LEAGUES OUT TWO YEARS MUST BE VOTED BACK IN.

#### C. MEMBER OFFICERS AND COACHES

- 1. THE MEMBER LEAGUE SELECTS ALL LOCAL OFFICERS, HEAD COACHES, AND ASSISTANT COACHES.
  ALL PRESIDENTS AND ALL HEAD COACHES OR THEIR ASSISTANT MUST ATTEND THE ANNUAL RULES
  REVIEW SESSION ADMINISTERED BY MYFAI AND COMPLETE THE Q&A SHEET.
- 2. ALL HEAD COACHES AND ONE ASSISTANT COACH MUST COMPLETE THE **USA HEADSUP TACKLING OR NYSCA FOOTBALL COACHES CERTIFICATION** AND KEEP A CURRENT STATUS. A

  COPY OF THE CERTIFICATION MUST BE INCLUDED IN THEIR TEAM BOOK.

As a coach in MYFAI you are representing the values of our association and as such are expected to wear proper attire, no cut off shorts, shirts, sagging pants, jogging pants or any attire that will shed a negative light on Mississippi Youth Football or your league. Proper attire will be sleeved shirts, Tee or Collared, Hemmed shorts or long pants properly fitted.

- 3. All local officers, head coaches, and assistant coaches participating in their local league are representing both their league and Mississippi Youth Football Association, Inc. They must conduct themselves with proper sportsmanship and as positive youth role models and leaders.
- 4. Any undesirable act, on or off the field, BY PLAYERS, COACHES, PARENTS OR FANS will result is suspension for two games on the first offense, four games on the second and banned from myfai on the third offense.
- 5. If a league is expelled the leadership at the time of expulsion must be removed and replaced before any consideration of re-instatement will be addressed by MYFAI, said leadership must not have any affiliation with the league requesting re-instatement. Any League that leaves MYFAI and plays with another league must provide proof of

completely new leadership and that the old leadership is removed from all affiliation with their league before consideration for re-instatement as a new member and said league must pass a membership vote of the Board of Presidents, i.e., 90% positive for membership.

5. All local officers, head coaches, and assistant coaches may be levied a \$100.00 fine and any other penalties deemed suitable by the commissioner, including being expelled from the participation, for any un-sportsmanlike or inappropriate act, on the field or off, deemed to be inappropriate for youth leaders, or causing their local league or Mississippi Youth Football Association, Inc. to be viewed in a negative light, the local league will fully and properly enforce all decisions of the commissioner of his designate(s).

Any coach ejected from a game will automatically serve a next game suspension and pay a fine of \$100.00. Suspension for the year will result on any same second offense the same year. This will be enforced by the local league.

ANY COACH, PRESIDENT OR OTHER MEMBER THAT MAKES ANY PUBLIC STATEMENT, OR ACTIONS THAT REFLECTS NEGATIVELY ON MYFAI, OR ANY OF ITS MEMBER TEAMS SHALL BE EXPELLED OR OTHER PENALTIES IN THE SOLE DESECRATION OF THE COMMISSIONER.

#### III. PLAYERS

#### A. REQUIREMENTS AND CONDUCT

- 1. ALL MEMBERS SHALL ENCOURAGE FAIR PLAY AND SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC PROGRESS OF PLAYERS WITHIN THEIR LOCAL LEAGUES, AND HOLD OPEN REGISTRATION, NO SELECT TEAMS ARE ALLOWED
- 2. Any undesirable act will be grounds for suspension or expulsion from the program. This will include acts performed by their Fans, parent's grandparents or guardians

- .3. Any player ejected from a game will automatically serve a complete game suspension. Suspension for the year will result on any same second ejection offense the same year, offense in the last game of the year will result in penalties applied in the reagular season of following year.
- 4. Teams may be fined \$25.00 for each un-sportsmanlike penalty called on its players and \$100.00 for coaches. In addition the players or coaches may face suspension, or expulsion depending on the infraction at the Commissioners discretion
- 5. Players who are injured must be taken out of participation until it has been determined that further participation will not aggravate any possible injury. A parent or guardian must be notified as soon as possible after an injury. Each player must play at least one play per game

#### **B. BOUNDARIES**

1. Member Leagues shall draw their players from boundaries laid out by county or city school boards or by special dispensation of the Commissioner. If special dispensation is granted by the Commissioner it must be in writing and must become part of the official league record. It is the responsibility of the member league president to ensure that players come from within these boundaries. Any player wishing to participate in MYFAI that is "home schooled" will be considered by the age they are at September 1 of the current year (IE, an 11 year old will be a 6<sup>th</sup> grader, 6 year old will be a first grader), and by what school the player would attend if they were not home schooled.

- 2. PLAYERS MAY ALSO BE ADMITTED FROM ANY AREA THAT DOES NOT HAVE A TEAM AFFILIATED WITH MISSISSIPPI YOUTH FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION, INC. HOWEVER ONCE A PLAYER FROM A NON-AFFILIATED AREA HAS SIGNED UP WITH A MEMBER TEAM HE MAY NOT PLAY FOR ANOTHER MEMBER TEAM WITHOUT BEING GRANTED A WRITTEN RELEASE FROM THE FIRST TEAM UNLESS THE PLAYERS HOME AREA JOINS THE LEAGUE. AT WHICH TIME THE PLAYER HAS THE OPTION TO STAY WITH HIS ORIGIANALLY SIGNED LEAGUE OR RETURN TO THE TEAM IN HIS HOME AREA WITHOUT RELEASE.
- 3. Players wishing to cross these set boundaries must receive a release in writing from his "Home Team" president; the Commissioner must approve this release, and it must be submitted with their book. As of 2/17/2019 the commissioner can not grant hardship releases. All releases must be agreeded and signed by the presidents of the leagues involved
- 4. A COPY OF THE WRITTEN RELEASE MUST BE SUBMITTED TO THE COMMISSIONER ALONG WITH THE COMPLETE TEAM ROSTER AS REQUIRED IN SECTION II, A, 9. FALIURE TO PROVIDE THE OFFICE OF COMMISSIONER WITH A COPY OF SAID RELEASE WILL RESULT IN GAMES FORFITURE UNTIL THE RELEASE IS IN THE COMMISSIONERS HAND.
- 5. Any Player found to be in violation of this rule may be expelled.
- 6. Member leagues found to be <u>Purposely</u> violating these rules shall be guilty of violating eligibility rules and treated accordingly, In sole discretion of the commissioner.
- \* "RECRUITING" PLAYERS FROM A PROTECTED AREA IS CONSIDERED UNETHICAL AND WILL NOT BE TOLERATED, COACHES PROVEN TO BE INVOLVED WILL BE SUBJECT TO DISCIPLINARY ACTION UP TO AND INCLUDING BEING EXPELLED.
- 7. **EXCEPTION**: Should a new team form, Players from that area, may be allowed to play for the new team or may continue playing for the team they played for the previous season. Sibling football players may be included in this rule.

#### C. REGISTRATION

1. ALL REGISTRATION FEES WILL BE AT THE DISCRETION OF THE MEMBER LEAGUES.

2. ALL REGISTRATION AND RELEASE FORMS MUST BE COMPLETED AND RETURNED TO THE LOCAL LEAGUE OFFICERS BEFORE A CHILD CAN PARTICIPATE. THESE FORMS MUST INCLUDE PROOF OF INSURANCE AND MUST BE SIGNED AND DATED BY A PARENT OR GUARDIAN.

#### D. LEGAL PLAYERS

1. All students who are League Age 12 and under are legal players and able to participate.

2. No student who is in the 7<sup>th</sup> grade may participate, Regardless of League Age.

3. **NO STUDENT THAT IS LEAGUE AGE OF 13 MAY PARTICIPATE**, REGARDLESS OF GRADE STATUS.

4. League  $\mathbf{A}_{\text{GE}}$  is that age attained on or before **September 1**<sup>st</sup> of the current season year.

#### IV. TEAMS

#### A. CLASSIFICATIONS

1. EACH PLAYER WILL BE PLACED ON A ROSTER AND PARTICIPATE ACCORDING TO THE FOLLOWING FOUR CLASSIFICATIONS:

**TINAMITE:** SIX YEARS OLD AND UNDER

| Eligible Players   | 75 LBS or less |
|--------------------|----------------|
| Ineligible players | No limit       |

# ROOKIE - \*6 yr. Olds may be used to fill out a 22 man roster only. Caution!!, No 7 or 8 year olds may be "cut" to make room for a 6 year old player

| 7 Year Olds       | 120 Pounds or less |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| 8 Year Olds       | 120 Pounds or less |
| Eligible Players* | 95 Pounds or less  |

#### **MIDGET**

| 7Year Olds        | 121 - 145 Pounds   |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| 8 Year Olds       | 121 - 145 Pounds   |
| 9 Year Olds       | 121 - 145 Pounds   |
| 10 Year Olds      | 145 Pounds or less |
| Eligible Players* | 105 Pounds or less |

#### c) PEE-WEE

| 9 Year Olds       | 146 Pounds or more                 |
|-------------------|------------------------------------|
| 10 Year Olds      | 146 Pounds or more                 |
| 11 Year Olds      | All weights                        |
| 12 Year Olds      | All weights (6 <sup>th</sup> grade |
|                   | or under)                          |
| Eligible players* | 130 Pounds or less                 |

- 2. ELIGIBLE PLAYERS ARE THOSE THAT MAY PLAY IN THE POSITION OF OFFENSIVE BACKFIELD, RECEIVERS, OR ADVANCE AN INTERCEPTION OR FUMBLE RECOVERY.
- 3. All eligible players must wear the numbers 0-49 and 80 99. *However these players MAY play any position, eligible or not.*
- 4. All ineligible players must wear the numbers 50 79.
- 5. Once the rosters are turned in at book review, no jersey numbers can be changed without legal reason, legal reason is limited to a loss, destruction or improper jersey number due to player weight rules of the previous jersey. If a team must change a players number for any legal reason the new number must be added to the roster beside the old number and a copy sent to the commissioner along with the reason for change. Violation of this rule results in the player being in violation of MYFAI eligibility rules and all penalties will apply.
- 6. ALL INELIGIBLE PLAYERS IN ALL THREE CLASSIFICATIONS MUST PLAY IN THE LINE FROM TACKLE TO TACKLE ON OFFENSE; AND AN ELIGIBLE PLAYER MUST COVER THEM UP.
- 7. If an ineligible player is on the line of scrimmage and not covered up by an eligible player that game cannot be protested *UNLESS*, you have notified the referee during the game in an on field meeting. Each team may have an uncharged time out for the coaches to meet with the referee.

- 6. Players may "play up" to help out their member teams if the team requesting the assistance has less than 22 players on their roster. The eligibility rules for the team classification that the player is moving up to apply. (I.e. a 106-pound Midget is an eligible player in the Peewee classification even though the same player is not an eligible player in the Midget class, but must wear an eligible number to play in an eligible position.) Any player moving up to assist must be hand written on the roster they are moving up to. Players typed on the roster are permanant team members. The number of players on a roster, as it pertains to this rule may be defined as the number of players who are in attendance at the time players are requested to move up. (I.e. a team has 22 players on its roster, only 17 show up at game time, this team may move 5 players up to fill their roster.
- 7. 8 YEAR OLDS ARE NOT ALLOWED TO STEP UP TO PEEWEES REGARDLESS OF THE NUMBER OF PLAYERS ON THE ROSTER.
- 8. Any team found violating the eligibility rules will forfeit all games in question and be subject to additional penalties, up to and including expulsion from Mississippi Youth Football Association, Inc.

B. WEIGH IN SHEETS ARE NOT PROPER ROSTERS. MYFAI HAS BOTH FORMS AVAILABLE ON OUR WEBSITE OR THEY CAN BE RECEIVED BY REQUEST FROM THE COMMISSIONERS OFFICE.

**B.1WEIGH-IN**; ALL PLAYERS MUST BE WEIGHED IN BY MISSISSIPPI YOUTH FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION, INC. WEIGH INS WILL BE SUPERVISED BY LEAGUE, CEO, COMMISSIONER, VICE-COMMISSIONERS OR DEPUTIES APPOINTED TO ASSIST ONE OF THE ABOVE. NONE OF AFOREMENTIONED OFFICIALS MAY WEIGH THEIR HOME TOWN PLAYERS. THERE WILL BE TWO WEIGH IN WEEKS PER YEAR, AND FOUR(4) REGIONS SET UP BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS EACH YEAR, SAID WEEKS, TIMES AND LOCATIONS WILL BE SET BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS AS NEEDED, WITH TEAMS ASSIGNED A WEIGH IN DATE AND LOCATION IN THEIR REGION BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS AND WILL BE SUCH AS TO COVER ALL AREAS ADEOUATELY IN THE TWO WEEKS SET EACH YEAR. ALL PLAYERS MUST WEIGH AT ONE OF THE TWO WEIGH IN WEEKS. YOU MAY STILL REGISTER PLAYERS UP UNTIL YOU TAKE THE FIELD FOR YOUR FIRST REGULAR SEASON GAME, IF YOU MUST HAVE THE PLAYER(S) TO FIELD A TEAM, BUT, ALL GAMES ARE FORFIET, NO POST SEASON IS ALLOWED AND AFTER THE SECOND WEIGH IN WEEK HAS PAST ALL PLAYERS WILL BE INELIGIBLE AND WEAR NUMBERS 50 THRU 79. IF A PLAYER REGISTERED AFTER THE SECOND WEIGH IN WEEK IS WITHIN FIVE (5) POUNDS OF AN AGE/WEIGHT LIMIT THEY MUST MOVE UP TO THE NEXT AGE DIVISION AND BE INELIGIBLE. IE, A 140-145 POUND 9 OR10 YEAR OLD WILL BE IN THE PEEWEE DIVISION OR A 115 TO 120 POUND 7 OR 8 YEAR OLD WILL BE IN THE MIDGET DIVISION AFTER FAILING TO MAKE THE SECOND WEIGH IN WEEK. EACH LATE WEIGHED PLAYER MUST HAVE AN ASTERISK.(\*) AFTER HIS TOTAL WEIGHT. (REAL WEIGHT+5#). AT WEIGH IN PRESIDENTS MUST ASCERTAIN THAT EACH TEAM PRESENTS A PRINTED TEAM WEIGH IN SHEET WITH NAME, AGE AND A BLANK SPOT TO RECORD THE PLAYER'S WEIGHT. EACH PLAYER MUST HAVE THEIR REGISTRATION FORM WITH A CURRENT YEARS PICTURE SIZE 4" BY 6" OR SMALLER BUT IDENTIFIABLE, (OVERSIZED PICTURES WIL NOT BE ACCEPTED), STAPLED TO IT TO HAND THE WEIGH OFFICIAL WHO WILL INSPECT IT, WEIGH THE CHILD THEN STAMP AND RETURN THE FORM AND PICTURE. ALL PLAYERS MUST BE READY TO WEIGH WHEN APPROACHING THE SCALES AS THERE WILL BE ONLY **ONE STEP** ONTO THE SCALES, NO RE-WEIGH WILL BE PERMITTED. ALL BOOKS MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ON THE SUNDAY FOLLOWING THE FIRST REGULAR SEASON GAME. PRESIDENTS WILL BE GIVEN 30 MINUTES GRACE PAST SCHEDULED TIME FOR BOOK

REVIEW, THEN WILL BE NON ATTENDEES. WITH PENALTIES APPLIED.

SAID BOOKS MUST INCLUDE, ALL PLAYERS REGISTRATION FORMS WITH PICTURES AND WEIGH IN STAMP, BIRTH CERTIFICATES, OFFICIAL SCHOOL **GRADE FORMS**, (transcript) FOR ALL 12 YEAR OLDS, TEAM ROSTER **WITH** JERSEY NUMBERS, PLAYERS NAME, AGE AND WEIGHT, INSURANCE CERTIFICATES, AND COACHES CERTIFICATION CERTIFICATE OR CARD. FAILURE TO TURN IN TO THE LEAGUE TWO LEGAL ROSTERS AT BOOK REVIEW WILL RESULT IN GAME FORFEITURE UNTILL THE ROSTERS ARE IN HAND. Legal rosters are defined as a form that is typed, not hand written, including the team name, age division, players jersey numbers, name, age and weight with all coaches for that particular team listed. Any players moving up must be hand written in at the bottom with all their above information included. FAILURE TO PRESENT TEAM BOOKS AT THE BOOK REVIEW WILL RESULT IN THE TEAMS FORFEITING ALL POST SEASON PLAY. IF ANY OF THE REQUIRED PAPERWORK IS ABSENT IN THE BOOKS ALL GAMES ARE FORFIET UNTILL ALL MISSING PAPERWORK IS IN THE OFFICE OF COMMISSIONERS HAND. ANY **PRESIDENT** MAY INSPECT BOOKS AFTER THEY ARE RECEIVED, HOWEVER, NO PICTURES WILL BE ALLOWED TO BE TAKEN OF INFORMATION IN THE BOOKS, WITHOUT THE CONSENT OF THE LEAGUE PRESIDENT AND COMMISSIONER OR CEO. EACH PRESIDENT OR HEAD COACH MUST HAVE THEIR ORIGINAL BOOK AT EACH GAME. FAILURE TO HAVE THE TEAMS' BOOK ON HAND FIRST TIME WILL RESULT IN THAT GAME'S FORFEITURE. PROBATION FOR THE REST OF THE CURRENT SEASON AND WILL BE POSTED ON THE LEAGUES WEB SITE FOR RECORD. A SECOND OFFENSE IN THE SAME YEAR WILL RESULT IN OFFENDING TEAM SUSPENDED FROM ALL POST SEASON PLAY. 4. WEIGHTS ARE COUNTED IN WHOLE NUMBERS. FRACTIONS OF POUNDS ARE NOT COUNTED. EXAMPLE: A PLAYER WEIGHING 99.9 LBS. WILL BE ROSTERED AS 99 POUNDSPRACTICES: 1. VIOLENT PRACTICE DRILLS SUCH AS "BULL IN THE RING," AND ALL VARIATIONS OF THIS TYPE DRILL ARE EXPRESSLY FORBIDDEN BY MISSISSIPPI YOUTH FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION, INC. COACHES VIOLATING THIS RULE SHALL BE SUBJECT TO BEING EXPELLED FROM MYF.

2. Practice schedules shall be limited to 2 hours a day when practicing 3 days a week or less; ANY more that 3 days a week all days must be limited to 1-1/2 hours a day. Mississippi Youth Football Association, Inc. strongly suggests that teams do not practice on Wednesday or Sunday. It is strongly suggested that league Presidents also suspend practice for any school related event or program that practice may interfere with. Teams may begin practice at any time of the year, at the discretion of the league President, however we encourage teams not to begin earlier than July 15, to reduce the chance of player AND parent burnout.

V. REGULAR SEASON GAMES; A. ANY TEAM THAT FORFEITS A GAME THAT THEY WERE SUPPOSED TO TRAVEL TO MUST PAY \$300.00 TO THE HOST TEAM PER TEAM/GAME THAT THEY DID NOT SHOW UP FOR AND WILL BE INELIGIBLE FOR POST SEASON PLAY. SAID FINES MUST BE PAID BEFORE BEING PUT ON THE NEXT SEASONS SCHEDULE. TEAMS MUST BE GIVEN 30 MINUTES AFTER SCHEDULED GAME TIME TO FIELD A LEGAL TEAM. A LEGAL TEAM IS DEFINED AS 11 PLAYERS OF THE SPECIFIED AGE GROUP, SIX OF WHICH MUST BE PLAYERS OF ELIGIBLE WEIGH AND JERSEY NUMBERS. NO TEAM IS ALLOWED TO "WAIT" ON THEIR STAR PLAYER TO ARRIVE; THEY MUST TAKE THE FIELD AS SOON AS THEY HAVE A LEGAL TEAM OR FORFEIT THE GAME. IF A TEAM ARRIVES WITH 8 OR MORE PLAYERS BUT LESS THAN 11 AT THE END OF THE 30 MINUTE GRACE PERIOD OR KNOWS THAT IS ALL THE PLAYERS THEY HAVE COMING, THE HOST TEAM MUST PUT AN EQUAL NUMBER OF PLAYERS ON THE FIELD AND PLAY THE GAME. THE GAME IS FORFEITED BY THE TEAM WITH LESS THAN 11 PLAYERS, BUT, NO PENALTY WILL BE ASSESSED. EXCEPTION TO THE NO SHOW PENALTY WILL ONLY BE THOSE REASONS DEEMED BY THE COMMISSIONER TO BE PANDEMIC SICKNESS OR ACTS OF GOD.

#### A.1 CONCESSION FEES

VI. THE CONCESSION FEES ARE AT THE DISCRETION OF THE HOST TEAM.

- **B.** Admission to Games; Regular season gate admissions will not exceed \$7.00. Any discounts given for age such as senior citizen and young children are at the sole discretion of the host. Myfai sponsored semi final and championship games gate fees will not exceed \$10.00
- **1.** ALL PARTICIPATING COACHES, AND THEIR SPOUSES, PLAYERS, and CHEERLEADERS, SHALL BE ALLOWED TO ATTEND FREE OF CHARGE.
  - A. THE FOLLOWING LIMIT WILL APPLY TO EACH MEMBER.
    - I. 1 PRESIDENT AND 1 PRESIDENT SPOUSE
    - II. 5 COACHES' AND 5 COACH/SPOUSE.
    - III. 2 CHEERLEADER coaches AND 2 CHEERLEADER/SPOUSE.

#### 2. COACHES

- 1. All coaches must be listed on the official team roster, All teams are allowed 5 coaches total. The head coach is responsible for keeping his sideline clear, during the game with one coach on the field in rookie, midget and peewee games, 4 coaches, players, 2 water carriers, cheer leaders with 2 cheer coaches, and pre-game designated statisticians who do not coach are allowed on the sidelines. All others must be behind the fence or in the stands. In tinamite games with two coaches on the field only three coaches are allowed on the sideline.
- 2. Free attendance may be used for games that the ABOVE LIST has a GAME SCHEDULED ON THE FIELD for THAT DAY. Presidents, or Coaches may NOT use their status as such to attend games free where their team is not playing. iv. Anyone found abusing the privileges issued by MYF by attending games where their team is not playing without paying or caught allowing others to use their names will have their privileges revoked and will be suspended for a period determined by the Commissioner.
- 3. ALL HEAD OR ASSISTANT COACHES **MUST** ATTEND THE ANNUAL COACHES MEETING RULES EXEMPLIFICATION. FAILURE TO COMPLY WILL RESULT IN THE TEAM BEING INELIGIBLE FOR PLAYOFFS AND A \$300. SAID FINE IS PAYBLE BEFORE BEING ADDED TO NEXT YEARS SCHEDULE.

#### VII. REGULAR SEASON PLAY

- 1. THE DISTRICTS AND REGULAR SEASON SCHEDULE SHALL BE
  ANNOUNCED BY THE COMMISSIONER BEFORE THE 1<sup>ST</sup> GAME OF THE
  SEASON EACH YEAR.
- 2. EACH PRESIDENT MUST EMAIL THEIR TEAM(S) DECLARATION TO THE COMMISSIONER AS SOON AS POSSIBLE BUT IN NO CASE LATER THAN 7 DAYS PRIOR THE FIRST GAME TO BE INCLUDED IN THE CURRENT YEARS SCHEDULE.

#### VIII. POST SEASON GAMES

- A. PLAYOFFS AND BOWL GAMES
- B. If any team accepts a playoff position and does not play the games through playoff conclusion they will pay \$500.00 to the host and be ineligible for the following season playoff games. Fine must be paid before being added to the following season schedule. (I.E. defeat is conclusion)
  - 1. Post Season play format will be set each year and announced by the commissioner by the 4TH game week of the current regular season.
  - 2. Post season playoff brackets will be determined by a blind drawing conducted by the Commissioner on the Sunday following the last regular season game for round one, two or 3 if a 5 round playoff is deemed necessary. In the first round the first place teams in each district will play at home whenever possible and the second place teams must travel. NO FIRST PLACE TEAMS WILL PLAY EACH OTHER IN THE FIRST ROUND The semifinals and State Championship games location shall be determined by the Commissioner and MYFAI shall host these games. All times shall be at the sole discretion of the Commissioner. No wildcard teams, if any are necessary, may host a first round playoff game, they will travel.
  - 3. The office of the commissioner will provide all post season trophies.
  - 4. LEAGUE SPONSORED Bowl games will be set and played at the discretion of the Commissioner and the same rules apply as post season play.

- B. ADMISSION TO PLAYOFF GAMES
- 1. GATE ADMISSIONS WILL NOT EXCEED \$7.00 FOR THE FIRST ROUNDS, \$10.00 FOR THE SEMIFINAL AND CHAMPIONSHIP ROUND. ANY DISCOUNTS GIVEN FOR AGE SUCH AS SENIOR CITIZEN AND YOUNG CHILDREN ARE AT THE SOLE DISCRETION OF THE HOST.

#### IX Cheer and Pep Squads Conduct and Re

- 1. Cheer squads of all types perform at the will and pleasure of the Commissioner, and are subject to penalties and other disciplinary actions as deemed necessary by the Commissioner. Cheerleaders, Cheer teams, and Pep Squads are an important part of this association and shall be treated as such, whether an affiliate of the member league or as an independent body.
- 2. Admission to regular season and post season games is covered in rules
- 3. No cheer or music, which has profanity or vulgar content, shall be allowed.
- 4. Dances or cheers in which the teams make suggestive or inappropriate movements or acts are forbidden.
- 5. All cheer squad actions are the sole responsibility of their home league president.
- 5. All cheerleaders, cheer teams, and pep squads, whether an affiliate of the member league or an independent body, must adhere to association participation rules.
- 6. All cheerleaders, cheer teams, and pep squads, whether an affiliate of the member league or an independent body, participate at the discretion of the Commissioner and may be expelled for any acts that cause their league or this association to viewed in a negative light.

#### X. Protest ″'&; -±¥®©; a∘-

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#### **B. INVESTIGATIONS**

- 1-THE COMMISSIONER MAY INVESTIGATE EACH PROTEST OR APPOINT ONE OR MORE INDIVIDUALS TO ASSIST HIM IN THE INVESTIGATION
- 2- TO AID IN THE INVESTIGATION THE COMMISSIONER OR HIS DESIGNATES SHALL HAVE THE AUTHORITY TO DEMAND FROM LOCAL LEAGUES ANY DOCUMENTS, FILMS OR OTHER EVIDENCE INCLUDING PERSONAL TESTIMONY OF ANY PARTICIPANT OR SPECTATOR. REFUSAL OR FAILURE TO PROVIDE ANY AND ALL EVIDENCE WILL BE CONSIDERED AN ATTEMPT TO IMPEDE THE INVESTIGATION AND WILL WEIGH HEAVILY ON THE DECISION TO APPROVE OR DENY THE PROTEST. ANY MEMBER FOUND TO HAVE PRIOR KNOWLEDGE OF A RULE, TEAM OR PLAYER INFRACTION AND DID NOT REPORT IT IN A TIMELY MANNER WILL BE SUBJECT TO DISCIPLINARY ACTION BY MYFAI.
- 3- ALL INFORMATION GAINED IN THE INVESTIGATION SHALL BE HELD BY THE COMMISSIONER OR HIS DESIGNATES UNTIL SUCH TIME AS THE INVESTIGATION IS COMPLETE.

#### C. RULINGS

## 1- ONCE THE INVESTIGATION IS COMPLETE THE COMMISSION SHALL ISSUE A RULING IN WRITING.

#### **ENFORCEMENT**

1- ALL RULINGS BY THE COMMISSIONER OR HIS DESIGNATES SHALL BE FULLY AND PROMPTLY ENFORCED BY THE LOCAL LEAGUE. PROOF OF ENFORCEMENT SHALL BE PRODUCED AS REQUESTED BY THE COMMISSIONER. FAILURE TO FULLY ENFORCE RULINGS OR FAILURE TO FURNISH PROOF AS REQUESTED SHALL RESULT IN REMOVAL FROM THE LEAGUE SCHEDULE AND SUSPENSION FROM MYFAI UNTIL SUCH PROOF OF ENFORCEMENT IS PROVIDED.

#### XI. GAME RULES

#### A. OFFICIAL TIME, TIME OUTS, FIELD OF PLAY

1. ALL GAMES WILL HAVE A MINIMUM OFFICIATING CREW CONSISTING OF TWO (2) ON FIELD OFFICIALS AND ONE (1) CLOCK OFFICIAL. ANY EXTRA OFFICIALS DESIRED MAY BE EMPLOYED AT THE EXPENSE OF THE HOME LEAGUE, HOWEVER, UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES OTHER THAN A CLOCK FAILURE MAY THE CLOCK OFFICIAL BE ON THE FIELD.

- 2. HEAT TIME OUTS WILL BE ALLOWED THROUGH THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER AND THEREAFTER AT THE REFEREE'S DISCRETION. HEAT BREAKS WILL FOLLOW THE GUIDELINES SET BY MHSAA.
- 3. All tackle games will consist of four (4) quarters. Each Rookie, Midget and Peewee game quarters will be eight (8) minutes, Tinamites will be six minutes . There will be a sixty-second break between quarters. Half time will be ten (10) minutes. The clock will be operated by a certified official and per MHSAA rules.
- 4. The offensive team will have 30 seconds to put the ball into play once the referee has set and signaled the ball ready for play.
- 5. MAXIMUM PENALTY FOR ALL INFRACTIONS EXCEPT UN-SPORTSMANLIKE CONDUCT WILL BE TEN (10) YARDS. MALICIOUS UN-SPORTSMANLIKE CONDUCT ON A PLAYER OR **ANY** UN-SPORTSMANLIKE PENALTY ON A COACH WILL BE FIFTEEN (15) YARDS. **REFEREES ARE REQUIRED TO REPORT THESE INFRACTIONS TO THE OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER WITHIN 24 HOURS.**
- 7. Games balls for tinamite, rookie and midget teams shall be within 1 and  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch in length and width of a wilson k2. They shall be of a bladder type and should be filled to the manufactures recommended pressure. Nerf and solid balls in any age group are strictly forbidden. **Peewee official ball** will be a standard size 8 regulation junior high ball, air filled to manufactures recomended pressure.

#### B. ON FIELD COACHES (Five total)

- 1. There will be one coach allowed on the field at a time on offense or defense, except tinamite. The only exception to this rule is when an injury occurs.
- 2. COACHES MUST NOT COACH AFTER THE OFFENSIVE TEAM BREAKS HUDDLE: THERE WILL BE ONE WARNING FOR THE OFFENDING TEAM. THE REFEREE NEEDS ONLY TO WARN A TEAM ONCE, NOT EACH COACH ON A TEAM, AND THEN A UN-SPORTSMAN PENALTY FOR THE NEXT INFRACTION IN THE SAME GAME WILL BE ASSESSED.
- 3. Defensive coaches may direct their defense until the offensive line goes down to set if a team is using a "no huddle" offense.
- 4. Coaches must stand at least five (5) yards behind their deepest players on offense and defense. Warnings and penalties are the same as coaching after a huddle break.
- 5. COACHES OR THEIR ASSISTANTS ARE PROHIBITED FROM USING ANY ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS DEVICES ON THE FIELD OR SIDELINES. THIS COVERS RADIOS OR CELL PHONES. IF A COACH IS "ON CALL" DUE TO THEIR PROFESSION THEY MAY HAVE THEIR CELL PHONE ON THEIR PERSON BUT MUST EXIT THE PLAYING FIELD BEFORE USING THE DEVICE. COMMISSIONERS OF MYFAI MAY KEEP THEIR CELL PHONES ON THEM DUE TO GAME DAY QUESTIONS THAT OCCUR IN ANY GIVEN SATURDAY.
- 6. COACHES ON THE FIELD AND SIDELINES DURING GAMES ARE REPRESENTATIVES OF MYFAI AND ROLE MODELS' FOR OUR CHILDREN AND AS SUCH ARE EXPECTED TO ACT AND DRESS ACCORDINGLY.

  NO VULGAR OR INAPPROPRIATE LANGUAGE OR ACTIONS WILL BE TOLERATED. ALL APPAREL MUST BE NEAT AND APPROPRIATE, CUTOFF RAGGED SHORTS AND SHIRTS OR SAGGING PANTS WILL NOT BE ALLOWED. OFFENDING COACHES WILL BE REMOVED FROM THE FIELD.

#### C. KICK OFFS, PUNTS, FIELD GOALS, AND PATS

#### 1. KICK OFFS

A) ON A KICK OFF THE BALL WILL BE SPOTTED TEN (10) YARDS FROM MIDFIELD IN THE KICKING TEAM'S TERRITORY.

B) IN LIEU OF A KICK OFF THE KICKING TEAM CAN ELECT TO HAVE THE BALL SPOTTED TWENTY (20) YARDS FROM THEIR OPPONENT'S GOAL LINE.

#### 2. Punts

A) IN LIEU OF PUNTING THE PUNTING TEAM CAN ELECT TO HAVE THE REFEREE ADVANCE THE BALL THIRTY YARDS FROM THE LINE OF SCRIMMAGE. IF THE THIRTY-YARD SPOT CARRIES THE BALL INSIDE OF THE TEN- (10) YARD LINE THE BALL WILL BE SPOTTED AT THE TEN- (10) YARD LINE. IF THE THIRTY-YARD SPOT CARRIES THE BALL INTO THE END ZONE, THEN THE PUNT IS CONSIDERED A TOUCHBACK AND WILL BE SPOTTED AT THE TWENTY- (20) YARD LINE. THE CLOCK WILL RUN OFF TEN (10) SECONDS FOR THE PUNT

#### 3. FIELD GOALS

A) IF A TEAM ELECTS TO KICK A FIELD GOAL AND THE GAME IS BEING PLAYED ON A REGULATION 100-YARD FIELD, THEN THE REFEREE WILL ADVANCE THE BALL TEN (10) YARDS TO SET A NEW LINE OF SCRIMMAGE. THE GOAL LINE ALSO ADVANCES 10 YARDS. MHSAA RULES APPLY TO ALL FIELD GOAL ATTEMPTS ONCE THE REFEREE HAS PLACED THE BALL.

#### **BPATS**

B) IF A TEAM ELECTS TO KICK A PAT AND THE GAME IS BEING PLAYED ON A REGULATION 100 YARD FIELD, THEN THE REFEREE WILL ADVANCE THE BALL TEN (10) YARDS TO THE HIGH SCHOOL PAT MARK. MHSAA RULES APPLY TO ALL PAT ATTEMPTS ONCE THE REFEREE HAS PLACED THE BALL. THE GOAL LINE ALSO ADVANCES 10 YARDS. \* KICKING OFF, PUNTING AND FIELD GOALS ARE COMPLETELY AT THE TEAMS DISCRETION, THEY DO NOT HAVE TO ANNOUNCE THEIR INTENT TO OFFICIALS OR THE OPPOSING TEAM BEFORE THE GAME OR ANY OTHER TIME PRIOR TO THEIR DECISION TO KICK.

#### D. GAMES RESULTING IN A TIE

- 1. ALL DISTRICT GAMES THAT RESULT IN A TIE WILL BE PLAYED OFF BY MHSAA TIEBREAKER RULES.
- 2. ALL NON-DISTRICT GAMES THAT RESULT IN A TIE MAY REMAIN A TIE, OR MAY BE PLAYED OFF BY MHSAA RULES IF **BOTH** TEAMS AGREE TO PLAY THE TIE BREAKER.

#### E. Field dimensions:

Length of the field shall be 80 yard and two ten yard end zones Width shall be at least 80% of a regulation high school field (160'). The minimum width shall be 129' up to 160' plus or minus 18". Field width, length and condition will be considered for use and approved or denied at the sole discretion of the commissioner or his designate. \* During playoffs fields shall be held to a higher standard when considered for use by MYFAI.

- F. ALL CHAIN CREWS MUST OPERATE ON THE SIDELINE OPPOSITE FROM THE PRESS BOX AND MUST CONSIST OF ADULTS OR JUNIOR/SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL PLAYERS, ONE OF WHICH MUST BE AN ADULT CHAIN CREWS MUST NOT TALK TO PLAYERS OR COACHES ON THE FIELD OR SIDE LINES OR USE ELECTRONIC DEVICES. THE REFEREE MUST REMOVE OFFENDERS.
- **G. Official football Requirements:** The Wilson K2 football shall be the standard ball used. Other brand footballs may be allowed as long as they meet the General requirements as listed below:

All balls shall be bladder type balls. No nerf type balls are allowed.

All balls shall be + or - 1 and  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch in length and diameter of a Wilson K2 football.

All balls shall be inflated with AIR only.

All balls shall be fully inflated to the manufacturer recommendations.

All rules not specifically addressed in this section will follow the guidelines and rules set by the Mississippi High School Athletic Association, (MHSAA)

#### XIIV. Tinamite Division

#### Mission Statement:

The Mississippi Youth Football Association will in the 2011season sanction and schedule 6 & under tackle football play for the purpose of furthering youth sports, encouraging sportsmanship and participation. The games will be a tool to expound the league's motto, "It's Easier to Build a Boy than to mend a Man". All involved in this arm of the league will be expected to conform to stricter guidelines on sportsmanship and participation than ever before. It is our goal to bring our love for the game to more of our youth through fun and participation. **Participation rule for this division is a minimum of one play per half.** 

MYFAI will add the Office of Vice Commissioner for the Tinamite division to the executive Board Of Directors. This officer will be chosen by the teams fielding Tinamite teams for a three year term, subject to the approval of the Commissioner. The mandatory requirement of three years active participation in MYFAI to hold office is hereby waved for this selection only and will be for a two year term. Any future officers will revert to the standard rules and requirements of three years active participation.

#### **IMPORTANT NOTE:**

Unsportsmanlike conduct by coaches or fans in this age group will not be tolerated. This play is for the kids and the offending Adults will be suspended or expelled. Unsportsmanlike conduct by the players will be addressed on a case by case basis and penalties will range from warnings to suspensions and through expulsion if deemed necessary A; Tinamites shall consist of players 6 years old and under. There can be two coaches on the field for offense and defense. Rules pertaining to league scheduled game attendance etc. will be the same as all other divisions. TEAMS ARE ALLOWED TWO COACHES ON THE FIELD IN THIS AGE DIVISION ONLY. THE EXPRESSED INTENT IS TO ALLEVIATE DELAYS IN PLAY, THEREFORE, ONE COACH MUST HANDLE THE LINE AND THE OTHER MUST HANDLE THE BACKFIELD ON OFFENSE AND DEFENSE.

ANY RULES VIOLATION PENALTIES ON THE LINE WILL BE AN UNSPORTSMANLIKE PENALTY ADMINISTERED ON THE LINE COACH, LIKEWISE ANY RULES VIOLATION PENALTIES CONCERNING BACKFIELD PLAYERS WILL BE AN UNSPORTSMANLIKE PENALTY ADMINISTERED ON THE BACKFIELD COACH. ANY PLAYERS, COACHES OR FANS EJECTED FROM THE GAME FOR ANY REASON **MUST** LEAVE THE STADIUM AREA.

- 1. Age shall be determined by the age attained as of September 1, of the current year.
- 2. Maximum weight for eligible players shall not exceed 75 LBS. Players over this weight may not line up in any eligible position.
- 3. Players 75lbs and under shall wear jersey numbers 0 through 49, 80 through 99.
- 4. Players exceeding 75 LBS shall wear jersey numbers 50 through 79 only.
- 5. Field of play: The field dimensions shall be same as all other groups in MYFAI
- 6. There shall be at least two certified referee on the field at each game
- 7. Players: each team shall consist of 11 players in standard formations. It shall be deemed an official game if a team can field a minimum of 11 players; If less than 11, but 8 or more, the game will be played, but it is an official forfeit, the opposing team **must** reduce his players on the field to the number of players fielded by the deficient team. The score will be recorded as a 6/0 win for the proper team.
- A. GAME RULES: A; Violation of any of the following rules will result in normal team penalties PLUS an additional unsportsmanlike penalty on the respective line or backfield coach on the second violation. (IE a second split end penalty is a 5 yard illegal formation plus a 15 yard unsportsmanlike on the line coach)
- 1. Defense lineman must line head up on the offensive linemen, in a 3 or 4 point stance and at no time will they be allowed to line up in the gap.
- 2. AN OFFENSIVE LINE CONSISTS OF SEVEN, (7) OR MORE PLAYERS WITH AN ELIGIBLE PLAYER AT EACH END ON THE LINE THEREBY DESIGNATED AS "ENDS"
- 3. Offense must line up in standard formation, no swinging gates, or split line formations will be allowed
- 4. There shall be no nose guard allowed, no player may line head up on the center.
- 5. Quarter back sneaks will not be allowed due to the defense not being allowed to line up a nose guard. QB sneak is defined as a straight ahead charge behind the center.
- 6. Linebackers are required to line up at least three yards from the line of scrimmage.
- 7. There shall be no blitzing of defensive backs, or cornerback
- 8. The defense may not stunt players.
- 9. Defensive interior linemen, (tackle to tackle), must be in a 3 or 4 point stance
- B. The game shall consist of 4 six minute quarters with an 8 minute half time.
- C. Each team shall be allowed two time outs per half, time outs may not be carried over from one half to another.
- D. GAME BALL REQUIREMENTS ARE THE SAME AS ALL OTHER AGE GROUPS,