

Laurel Highlands Developmental Football League

By-Laws

Est. Dec. 2014

Amended May 2015

Article I. Name of the Organization

Section 1.01 The name of the organization shall be the **Laurel Highlands Developmental Football League**, herein referred to as the “league”.

Article II. Purpose

Section 2.01 The purpose of this organization is to provide a structure where youth football organizations can compete in as safe, healthy, and sportsman-like environment as possible. Every member organization shall be encouraged to promote player safety, sportsmanship, teamwork, respect for fellow players, coaches and competitors, and football fundamentals.

Article III. Member Organization

Section 3.01 A Member Organization is any non-profit youth football organization that meets the requirements of membership as determined by the league. Member Organizations enjoy the full benefits of the league. All Member Organizations are required to appoint one (1) League Representative and one (1) Alternate League Representative.

Article IV. Probationary Member Organization

Section 4.01 Probationary Member Organizations are those organizations that are serving their first year of membership of the league or who have been placed on probation as the result of disciplinary actions. The league reserves the right to waive the probationary period for new members at its sole discretion. Probationary Members are required to appoint one (1) League Representative and one (1) Alternate League Representative. Probationary Member organizations shall have no voting privileges until they have participated in one (1) full season. A season is August 1 through Dec 1.

Article V. Membership

Section 5.01 Members of this league are non-profit youth football organizations, primarily from the same area as the Laurel Highlands Athletic Conference. Membership in this league is attained by meeting all of the criteria of the league for membership and by receiving a two-thirds majority vote by the League Representatives for inclusion.

Section 5.02 There is no financial obligation for any member to the league. Each Member will maintain their financial matters individually. However, if opinions (advise) or assistance is required by a member, other members may provide assistance.

Section 5.03 Founding Members of this league are considered Member Organizations and are granted full privileges of league membership without any probationary period. The founding members of this organization are:

Somerset Eagles, Westmont Warriors, Johnstown Trojans & Richland Rockets.

Article VI. Criteria for Membership

Section 6.01 (a)The organization applying for membership must be a non-profit, youth football organization. (b)The organization must complete a league membership application. (c) The organization must receive a two-thirds majority vote by the League Representatives to be accepted as a probationary Member Organization.

Article VII. Officers

Section 7.01 The officers of the board (Executive Board) shall consist of a Commissioner, Vice-Commissioner, Secretary, and Director-at-Large. The officers shall be elected by the League Representatives.

Section 7.02 Elected officers will serve a term of one year.

Section 7.03 (a)The Commissioner shall preside at all Board meetings, appoint committee members, and perform other duties as associated with the office. (b)The Vice- Commissioner shall assume the duties of the Commissioner in case of the Commissioner's absence. (c)The Secretary shall be responsible for the minutes of the Board, keep all approved minutes in a minute book, and send out copies of minutes to all. (d)The Director-at-Large shall be responsible for duties assigned by the Commissioner.

Section 7.04 The Elected Officers will have the authority to take any action it deems appropriate and reasonable in response to any issue that may arise outside of meetings that affects the league or any of its members with regard to the safety, health and welfare of the league and its members. Any and all decisions of the Elected Officers or Executive Board may be repealed, altered or otherwise changed by two-thirds vote of the League Representatives. The Elected Officers shall make every reasonable attempt to make themselves available to all of the League Representatives, especially during game days.

Article VIII. League Representatives

Section 8.01 League Representatives are appointed by each individual Member Organization. For the purpose of these bylaws, the term League Representative shall also mean Alternate League Representative in those cases where the League Representative is absent.

Article IX. Process

Section 9.01

Roberts Rules of order shall govern the meeting process.

Section 9.02

Elections

Elections shall be held annually and conducted at the January monthly

The Commissioner shall appoint a nominations committee of no less than three (3) League Representatives at the Fall Quarterly meeting. The nominations committee shall be responsible for: (a) gathering and documenting the names of individuals who are interested in being considered for an Officers position within the league; (b) calling for, receiving and documenting the names of individuals who are nominated "from the floor" just prior to the election; and (c) conducting a secret ballot election process during the Winter Quarterly meeting.

Section 9.03 Each Member Organization's Representative shall have one (1) vote for elections.

Section 9.04 In the event of a tie, the Executive Board shall cast one (1) vote, which is derived from a simple majority vote among the existing Executive Board.

Article X. Section 10.01

Committees

The Board may appoint standing and ad hoc committees as needed.

Meetings

Regular meetings shall be held during each calendar quarter. (4 meeting per-year)

Special meetings may be held at any time when called for by the Commissioner or a majority of League Representatives.

Section 11.03 Whenever possible, agendas should be provided at least five (5) days in advance of quarterly meetings. The Commissioner shall be responsible for creating the meeting agenda and the Secretary shall be responsible for sending them to League Representatives. Agendas shall be considered non-exclusive, in so much as any other item may be placed in front of the membership for consideration anytime during a meeting.

Section 11.04 League Representatives, Alternate League Representatives, Football Directors, Head Coaches and Presidents of Member Organizations are the only individuals authorized to speak during quarterly meetings. The Commissioner may waive this section at their discretion.

Section 11.05 Executive Board Members and League Representatives are the only individuals that may place a motion on the floor for discussion and vote.

Article XII. Voting

Section 12.01 Each Member Organization's League Representative shall have one (1) vote for motions.

Section 12.02 (a) A majority of League Representatives constitutes a quorum.
(b) In absence of a quorum, no formal action shall be taken except to adjourn the meeting to a subsequent date.

Section 12.03 Passage of a motion requires a simple majority (i.e., one more than half the League Representatives present).

Section 12.04 In the event of a tie, the Executive Board shall cast one (1) vote which is derived from a simple majority vote among the Executive Board.

Article XII. Amendments of the Bylaws

Section 14.01 These by-laws may be amended by a two-third vote of League Representatives present at any meeting, provided a quorum is present and provided a copy of the proposed amendment(s) was sent to each Board member at least one week prior to said meeting.

Article XIV. League Rules

Section 15.01 The League Rules will be provided as a separate document which will serve to dictate and prescribe how the game of football will be played at the youth level within this league organization. Any rule not covered by the League Rules shall be dictated by PIAA, USA Football, and/or NFHS rules/guidelines. The rules Committee shall address all rules issues.

Article XV. Amendments of the League Rules

Section 16.01 The League Rules may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the League Representatives present at any meeting provided (a) a quorum is present (b) a copy of the proposed amendment(s) was sent to each Board member at least one week prior to said meeting and (c) the meeting is not within the period August 1 thru December 1.

Section 16.02 The League Rules may be amended within the period August 1 thru December 1 by a unanimous vote of League Representatives present at the meeting provided a copy of the proposed amendment(s) was sent to each Board member at least one week prior to said meeting.

Article XVI. Disbandment

Section 17.01 Should the league ever disband, a two-thirds majority vote will be needed formally disband the league.