

GREATER 19 YOUTH FOOTBALL LEAGUE

BY-LAWS:

ADOPTED FEBRUARY 24, 2000

REVISED MAY 18, 2001

REVISED MAY 09, 2002

REVISED JUNE 08, 2006

REVIEWED AND REVISED AUGUST 09, 2007

BY – LAWS

Article I - Name

The name of the organization shall be the **Greater 19 Youth Football League**, hereinafter referred to as the **G19YFL**. It is comprised of Youth Football teams from the following five original members: Bethel Park, Canon McMillan, Keystone Oaks, Upper St. Clair and Peters Township and from the following organizations who subsequently joined the league: North Allegheny, Seneca Valley and South Fayette. Youth Football Leagues/teams from other school districts/communities may be added in accordance with the procedures set forth in **Article VII** of these By-laws. Organizations may only draw children into their program that live within their school district boundaries.

Article II - Objectives

1. That every player (as specified in the G19YFL's General Rules) is provided the opportunity of playing.
2. That **SAFETY** is of prime importance.
3. That, although scores are kept, the emphasis on winning/losing be minimized.
4. That the program fee be as inexpensive as possible (non-profit).
5. That each community will attempt to field teams and strive to increase the membership of the children participating at each age group on an ongoing basis. No community shall register teams or participate in regular season games in leagues outside the Greater 19 Youth Football League.
6. That each community will strive to evenly separate talent at each age group in an attempt to gain and maintain parity within the league.

Article III – Governing Body

Section 1 In general, all G19YFL's matters as covered by these By-laws will be decided by a vote of the Board of Representatives. No majority = no change/deletion/addition.

Section 2 There shall be a **Board of Representatives** comprised of two representatives from each of the participating Municipalities. Said representatives will be selected/elected to the G19YFL Board of

Representatives by each Municipality according to its own procedures prior to January of each year. Any time the Board of Representatives votes, its vote will be one vote per Municipality.

Section 3 There shall be five Officers; President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasury and Sportsman’s Committee Chair (ranked in that order) – who shall be elected biannually (with the President/Secretary and Vice-President/Treasurer elections not occurring in the same year) by a majority vote of the Board of Representatives. Said Officers may or may not be members of the Board of Representatives. The Sportsman’s Committee Chair will be elected at the end of his/her two year term regardless of other officers being elected that year.

Section 4 When an organization has participated in full and good standing for three years, candidates may be put forth from said organization and will be eligible for election as an above-mentioned Officer.

About Nominations/Elections

Officers will be nominated and elected one at a time in ranked order. Unsuccessful candidates for one office may be nominated/elected for another office.

About vacancies that occur in any office

- A. If a vacancy occurs in any office other than the President, the President shall appoint a replacement to serve the remainder of the term, in accordance with **Article III** Section 3, to serve the remainder of the term.
- B. If a vacancy occurs in the Presidency, the Vice-President will assume the Presidency and appoint a new Vice-President, in accordance with **Article III** Section 3, to serve the remainder of the term.
- C. A Nominations Committee comprised of 1 representative from each community will review each nomination and make recommendations to the entire board of representatives concerning the qualifications of each candidate and 1 candidate will be put forth for each office.

Section 4 The Board of Representatives and Officers will serve for a term of one year, January through December. There is no restriction on re-election/re-appointment to consecutive terms, although scrutiny will still occur via review by the Nominations Committee.

Section 5 The Board of Representatives shall obtain legal counsel from the membership or outside counsel on a voluntary basis. Legal counsel will provide legal advice but may not be a member of the board.

Article IV – Sportsman’s Committee

Section 1 There shall be a Sportsman’s Committee comprised of one representative from each of the participating municipalities headed by the Sportsman’s Committee Chair. Its members may or may not be members of the Board of Representatives. Its members will be appointed annually in February by the Municipalities.

Section 2 The Sportsman’s Committee will review and establish, by April 1st of each even numbered year, the By-Laws of the G19YFL. Any changes, deletions and/ or additions are subject to the approval of the Board of Representatives. No majority = no change/deletion/addition; the by-laws remains as is.

Section 3 The Sportsman’s Committee will review and establish by August 1st of each year the General Rules of the G19YFL (separate document). Any changes/ deletions/additions are subject to the approval of the Board of Representatives. No majority = no change/deletion/addition; the rule remains as is.

Section 4 The Sportsman’s Committee will investigate all alleged infractions as listed in Exhibit 1 to these By-Laws, as well as any alleged infractions not specified in Exhibit 1. The members of the Sportsman’s Committee whose municipalities were not involved in the alleged infractions will recommend disposition/penalty to the Board of Representatives, and said Board of Representative (excluding members from municipalities involved) will make the final disposition, which could include (but is not limited to) fine and/or suspension/ejection from the G19YFL. In case of a tie, the highest ranking Officer, upon consensus of all officers whose municipality was not involved in the infraction, will cast the tie-breaking vote.

Article V – Game Protests

Section 1 Since the G19YFL’s emphasis on winning and losing of games is not of prime importance; protests regarding matters other than player eligibility are discouraged.

Section 2 Protest on eligibility of players will be submitted by the challenging coach within 24 hours to an executive board member whose Municipality was not involved in the game. Said Officer will present the protest to the Sports Committee at which time a recommendation will be made to the Board of Representatives and a decision concerning eligibility will be made. If an ineligible player was used, it will be recorded that the team whose player was ineligible lost the game. If both teams utilize an ineligible player, it will be recorded that both teams lose the game.

Section 3 Protests/challenges on any matters other than player eligibility will be submitted within 24 hours to an executive board member whose Municipality was not involved, who will then submit it to the Sports Committee for further review. Disposition of all matters will take place before the next scheduled game in accordance with **Article IV**, Section 4 of these By-Laws.

Article VI – Duties of Officers

The Officers (or Board of Representatives with the President casting the tie-breaking vote if no majority emerges from amongst the Officers) shall:

- (1) Authorize expenditures of the G19YFL.
- (2) Annually set the team entry fees which will be sufficient to pay, but shall not exceed by more than \$ 100.00, the anticipated annual expenditures of the G19YFL. (*Current fee is \$ 75.00*)
- (3) Enforce all rules and regulations (including these By-Laws) of the G19YFL.

The **President** shall preside at meetings and shall administer all affairs of the G19YFL in accordance with these By-Laws.

The **Vice-President** shall assist the President and shall assume the President's role in the absence or inability of the President to serve.

The **Secretary** shall:

- (1) Manage the correspondence of the G19YFL and see that the G19YFL and game statistics are regularly and accurately maintained.
- (2) Record minutes of all meetings and disseminate copies in a timely manner to Officers, members of the Board of Representatives, and members of the Sports Committee.

The **Treasurer** shall administer the financial affairs of the G19YFL and ensures that all monies are directed solely to the G19YFL's operation or charitable organizations chosen via a majority vote of the board.

The **Sportsman's Committee Chairman** shall organize and oversee all add-hoc meetings of the Sportsman's Committee and shall report the findings and recommendations of said committee to the full board at their next regularly scheduled meeting. The Chairman will further organize (with the committee) all reviews of the G19YFL By-Laws and General Playing rules at the appropriate times set forth in this document.

Article VII – G19YFL Membership

- Section 1 New Municipalities may be added to the G19YFL upon receiving a majority vote of the Board of representatives. No majority = no admission.
- Section 2 Upon acceptance, the new municipality shall be placed on probation for one (1) year. At the end of this first year, a vote by the standing board will be taken and a majority vote will determine said municipality's tenure in the league.
- Section 3 During the year of probation (year 1), the new municipality will have no formal vote concerning league business although participation and input will be entertained and encouraged.
- Section 4 Team entry fees, based on the number of teams the Municipality had in the G19YFL the previous year, are due at the regular August meeting. Team numbers for the current season should be finalized by August 1st. If any additional team fees are payable, or if any refunds (for fewer teams) are payable, they will be paid/refunded at the regular September monthly meeting.
- Section 5 Team rosters are to be distributed (in paper form using the required and provided template) to all organizations at the August board meeting or at any special meeting call prior to the start of the season.
- Section 6 All municipalities, regardless of status or standing will have representation at Sportsman's Committee meetings unless otherwise impermissible per this document.

Article VIII - Meetings

- Section 1 Regular meetings shall be held on the second Thursday of each month, or at such other time as may be stipulated by the President.
- Section 2 Special meetings may be called by the President, or upon the request of any three Officers, or upon request of a majority of the Board of Representatives.

- Section 3 Each Municipality must have at least one representative in attendance at all meetings. Failure to do so may result in disciplinary action by the Officers (excluding any Officer from the absent Municipality). No majority = no disciplinary action.
- Section 4 All Officers and members of the Board of Representatives and Sports Committee should make every attempt to attend every G19YFL meeting.
- Section 5 Unless otherwise specifically provided herein, the most recent revision of Robert's Rules of Order shall govern the proceedings of all meetings.
- Section 6 The order of business at the G19YFL's meetings shall be as follows:
- (1) Call to order
 - (2) Reading of minutes
 - (3) Communications and correspondence
 - (4) Report of the Treasurer
 - (5) Unfinished business
 - (6) New business, and good of the G19YFL.
- Section 7 Prior to the start of the season, all head coaches will attend a mandatory special meeting to review the General Rules of the G19YFL and to meet with a group representing the referee's to discuss the rules of football. The start and end dates of the upcoming season will be decided by the board via a majority vote by August 1st.

Article IX – League Alcohol Policy

The possession or consumption of alcohol is banned from all G19YFL events where children are present in any playing or practice capacity (this includes non-school properties where practices or games might be held and the grounds of those locations). This does not preclude an organization from having alcohol at team banquets or year end parties if they so desire.

Article X – Revision of the G19YFL By-Laws

- Section 1 These By-Laws may be amended/revise at any regular or special G19YFL meeting by majority vote of the Board of Representatives with the Officers present. No majority = the amendment(s)/revision fails. A formal review by the Sportsman Committee will occur on a yearly basis.
- Section 2 All Officers and members of the Board of Representatives must be notified in advance of the meeting at which amendments/revisions are to be voted upon as to the specific amendments/revision. This is to ensure

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that each Municipality has the opportunity to send all its eligible votes to the meeting at which the by-laws amendments(s)/revision will be voted upon.

General Playing Rules are a separate document and not part of these By-Laws.

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CHANGE LOG – All changes made to the document after release.

08/09/2007 – Removed references to Thomas Jefferson from the document