

2020
BRAZOS VALLEY FOOTBALL
ASSOCIATION
BY-LAWS and RULES
(Effective June 2, 2020)

MYFA COACHES MEETING
SUNDAY, JULY 26, 2020

PLAYER CERTIFICATION & WEIGH-IN DATE
SATURDAY, AUGUST 8, 2020

MAKE UP PLAYER CERTIFICATION & WEIGH-IN DATE
SUNDAY, AUGUST 23, 2020

FIRST GAME DATE
SATURDAY, AUGUST 29, 2020

WEEK 1 PLAYOFF GAMES
SATURDAY, October 31, 2020

BVFA SUPER BOWLS
LOCATION TO BE DETERMINED
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2020

(Revised 06/09/20)



**Brazos Valley Football Association
PO Box 2305
Burleson, TX 76097**

<http://www.brazosvalleyfootball.org>

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**Brazos Valley Football Association
2020 Brazos Valley Football Association
Board of Directors, Officers, TASO Official & Advisory Board**

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		Jim Myers
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Brazos Valley Football Association

2020 By-Laws & Rules

ARTICLE I -- NAME

Section 1

The name of the corporation is the Brazos Valley Football Association, Inc.

Section 2

The Brazos Valley Football Association, Inc. may be referred to herein, and in general usage as BVFA.

ARTICLE II -- PURPOSE

Section 1

The purpose and goals of BVFA are:

(A) To teach the fundamentals of football.

(B) To develop good character within each player.

(C) To encourage the development of a physically fit body.

(D) To create a healthy competitive spirit among the players.

(E) To ensure the safety of each player.

Section 2

The motto of BVFA is: **“The Child first, and the Sport second!”**

ARTICLE III -- ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

Section 1

The period of duration of BVFA is perpetual.

Section 2

BVFA is a nonprofit corporation organized exclusively for such purposes that qualify BVFA as an exempt organization under section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code.

Section 3

No part of the net earnings of BVFA shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to its members, trustees, officers, or other private persons, except that BVFA shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes set forth in the Brazos Valley By-Laws and Rules. No substantial part of the activities of BVFA shall be the carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and BVFA shall not participate in or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of or in opposition to any candidate for public office. Notwithstanding any other provision on (a) by a corporation exempt from federal income tax under section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or (b) by a corporation, contributions to which are deductible under section 170(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code. Moreover, notwithstanding any other provision of these By-Laws, this corporation shall not, except to an insubstantial degree, engage in any activities or exercise any powers that are not in furtherance of the purposes of this corporation.

Section 4

Fiscal Year: The fiscal year shall be the calendar year.

Section 5

Indemnification: The corporation does hereby save and hold harmless and indemnify the officers and directors of the Association to the fullest extent allowed by law while acting reasonable within the scope of their capacity as an officer. This indemnification shall be considered to act secondarily and in excess to any coverage afforded to any officer under any validity collectible insurance policy from any source.

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Section 6 **Dissolution:** Upon the dissolution of BVFA, assets shall be distributed for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or shall be distributed to the federal government, or to a state or local government, for a public purpose. Any such assets not so disposed of shall be disposed of by a Court of Competent Jurisdiction of the country in which the principal office of the corporation is then located, exclusively for such purposes or to such organization or organizations, as said Court shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes.

ARTICLE IV -- MEMBERSHIP

Section 1 BVFA membership is open to non-profit organization that can field one or more football teams in each division (Bantam, Minor, Major).

Section 2 Annual Membership Fees – Each member association of BVFA will pay an annual non-refundable fee of \$100.00 per team (flag & tackle) along with an additional \$280 per team Film Fee (tackle only). All fees payable by the first August meeting. BVFA

Section 3 Application for membership in BVFA must be in writing and presented at a regularly scheduled meeting for discussion. All applications must be submitted by the May meeting. The vote to accept or decline an application will take place at that meeting, pending a 30-day investigation period of applicant by elected officials.

Section 4 Any organization requesting membership to BVFA within a town that an existing BVFA Member Organization already exists, must have a minimum of 2 years of organized football activities prior to submitting membership application to Brazos Valley Football Association.

Section 5 Every effort should be made by the participating towns to have a participating team in each age division.

Section 6 BVFA expenses shall be equally shared by Member Organization.

Section 7 Any member association that misses consecutive meetings without prior notification will receive notice from the BVFA Executive Board that the member association's status with BVFA has been changed to inactive. For an Association that is inactive to become active its Town Representative must attend a scheduled BVFA meeting and make a request for status change.

Section 8 It is the goal of the Brazos Valley Football Association (BVFA) to ensure the safety of the children that participate in BVFA football activities. The coaches, directors, officers of each BVFA member organization and the BVFA Officers will be of a character and exhibit behavior that ensures child safety.

(A) Therefore, the BVFA Officers shall select an independent company to conduct background checks of all BVFA coaches, directors, officers and cheerleader coaches. The BVFA Officers will report results of each association only to Town Representative.

(B) Each member organization shall monitor their behavior to ensure that this goal is attained. Each member organization shall discipline or remove any person whose behavior or background is inconsistent with this goal.

(C) If a BVFA Town Representative or Officer is made aware of a situation in which the safety of a child is at risk or may be at risk, the member organization and BVFA must be notified so that the appropriate action may be taken to protect the child.

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- (D) If the member organization fails to act in the appropriate manner and allows a coach who failed to pass or submit a Background Check form, the Head Coach of the team shall be banned for the remainder of the season and the following year. BVFA Executive Committee shall also be authorized to take the disciplinary action that they deem appropriate against the individual or member organization, up to and including removal, banning, forfeiture of games and disassociation.
- (E) Any person convicted of, on probation for, or accepting deferred adjudication for an alcohol related offense within the past twelve months may not transport any BVFA participants other than their own children.
- (F) Any person convicted of, on probation for, or accepting deferred adjudication for a first DWI or misdemeanor within the past thirty-six months may not transport any BVFA participants other than their own children.
- (G) Any person convicted of, on probation for, or accepting deferred adjudication for a second DWI, a misdemeanor for illicit or illegal drugs, or a felony within the past sixty months may not participate in any BVFA activities other than being a spectator.
- (H) Any person convicted of, on probation for, or accepting deferred adjudication for any sexual offense, injury to a child or child related offense from the time that he or she was seventeen years of age until the present time may not participate in any BVFA activities other than being a spectator.
- (I) Member organization shall pay the following for background checks: \$15 per application received before/on the day of the annual BVFA coaches meeting and \$25 per application received after the annual BVFA coaches meeting.
- (J) Failure to disclose information on a Background Check Form is grounds for denial.
- (K) If a person's background check application is denied, he/she may appeal by appearing, in person, at the next scheduled BVFA meeting, and plead their case. The town representatives may overturn the denial, with a 2/3-majority vote. In order to call for a 2/3 vote, 2/3s plus one of the total number of Board members must be present.
- (L) If any person is found based on past or current behavior to be a threat to the safety of the children, spectators or coaches or their main purpose is found to involve the disruption of games and safety of the participants may be removed from any BVFA and member association activity by a majority vote of the BVFA Board of Directors. This shall be enforced by each association and will be upheld for the remainder of that season or a specified time voted on by the Directors.

ARTICLE V-- BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1

BVFA shall be managed by the Board of Directors. Each active member organization shall appoint one (1) individual to the BVFA Board of Directors. The appointed member of the BVFA Board of Directors is called a Town Representative. The term of each Town Representative shall be determined by each member organization for their respective seat on the BVFA Board of Directors, and until a successor is elected, or appointed, and qualified. An individual may not be both a Town Representative and BVFA Officer at the same time.

Section 2

Each member organization shall have only one vote (regardless of the number of teams) on all matters. There will be no proxy vote. An alternative Town Representative shall be allowed to vote with a signed letter providing authority from the recognized Town Representative.

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- Section 3** The immediate Past President may also serve as a non-voting member of the Board of Directors.
- Section 4** The Board of Directors shall elect the Officers.
- Section 5** The Board of Directors shall have authority over all matters of BVFA and shall write and/or amend the By-Laws or Rules & Regulations. If the Board of Directors is undecided or tied on any decision, the President shall determine the outcome of the issue.
- Section 6** Any suggested by law or rule change must be made for the Board's consideration before the season starts. No rule changes shall be made after June 1st of that season.
- Section 7** **Advisory Board:** The Corporation may have up to ten advisory board members. Advisory board members serve only in an advisory capacity without vote or other formal authority over the affairs of the Corporation. Advisory board members shall be notified of all meetings of the Corporation but are not required to attend. Advisory board members shall be elected for one-year terms or for terms for the remainder of the current year. The Advisory Board shall provide guidance and serve only in an advisory capacity. They are not required to attend or be fined for missing meetings. All advisory board member terms end on December 31st each year.

ARTICLE VI -- OFFICERS

- Section 1** The Officers of BVFA shall consist of the President, Vice President, Secretary-Treasurer and the Chairman of the Rules. The Officers shall be non-voting members of the Board of Directors.
- Section 2** Elections of Officers for each season will be held by the Board of Directors during the last meeting of the year preceding the year in which the Officers shall serve.
- Section 3** If the office of President becomes vacant the Vice President shall assume the duties for the remainder of the elected term. If the offices of the Vice President, Secretary-Treasurer, or Rules Chairman become vacant the Board of Directors shall appoint a replacement to serve for the remainder of the elected term.
- Section 4** **Duties of the Officers:**
- (A) The **President** shall be the principle executive officer of BVFA and subject to the control of the Board of Directors. He shall determine the location and time of all BVFA meetings and instruct the Secretary-Treasurer to notify the Board of Directors and Officers.
- (B) The **Vice President** shall perform such duties from time to time that may be assigned to him/her by the President. In the President's absence, or in the event of his/her inability or refusal to act, the Vice President shall perform the duties of the President and shall be subject to the control of the Board of Directors.
- (C) The **Secretary-Treasurer** shall have custody of the BVFA By-Laws & Rules, BVFA Checkbook, and all other corporate and financial records of BVFA. He/she shall receive and disburse all funds with the approval of the BVFA Board of Directors. He/she shall keep an accurate record of all funds received and disbursed and shall submit a financial report at all BVFA Board of Directors meetings. He/she shall be responsible for corresponding with government agencies and filing any required reports. He/she shall transmit all corporate and financial records to any person elected to succeed him/her.

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(D) The **Chairman of Rules** shall be responsible for reviewing the BVFA By-Laws & Rules with the Board of Directors during the first quarter of each year. He is responsible for assisting the Board of Directors in interpreting the BVFA By-Laws & Rules. After June 1st through the end of the football season the Chairman of Rules and the Officers are responsible for making all rules interpretations.

Section 5

Executive Committee:

(A) The Executive Committee shall be composed of the President, Vice President, Secretary-Treasurer and Rules Chairman.

(B) The Executive Committee shall establish the policies and procedures to ensure that the By-Laws and Rules passed by the Board are implemented and followed.

(C) Executive Committee shall determine and enforce the penalties established by the Board for violations of any Article, Section, Rule or Procedure.

(D) A 2/3 vote of the Board is required to annul or reverse a decision of the Executive Committee. In order to call for a 2/3 vote, two-thirds plus one of the total number of Board members must be present.

ARTICLE VII -- MEETINGS

Section 1

There shall be a meeting in the 1st Quarter of each year. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the coming year's activities, problems with the previous year activities, review applications for membership in BVFA, and any proposed changes to the By-Laws and Rules.

Section 2

A quorums of the Board of Directors must be present before any business can be conducted. The requirement for a quorum shall be met if the majority of the Board of Directors is present at a meeting.

Section 3

The location and time of all BVFA meetings shall be determined by the President.

Section 4

BVFA meetings shall be presided over by the President. If the President is unable to attend the meeting it will be presided over by the Vice President or in his absence the Secretary-Treasurer or Rules Chairman.

Section 5

Notice of meetings shall be given by written notice, e-mail, telephone, or in person by the Secretary-Treasurer or any other BVFA Officer at least seven (7) days prior to the date of the meeting. Meeting Minutes shall be distributed to member associations by either paper or electronic copy for the approval at BVFA meetings. Delivery method shall be at the discretion of the BVFA Secretary/Treasurer unless otherwise requested by a member association.

Section 6

If a Town Rep or his/her representative or a BVFA Officer is not present at a BVFA monthly meeting that Town Representative's Association or the BVFA Officer will be fined \$25.00 for each meeting missed. Each BVFA Officer will be allowed to miss one meeting without being fined. The fine will be paid to the BVFA Secretary/Treasurer. A monthly drawing will be held to determine which association receives the previous month's fines. Only Member Associations and BVFA Officers represented at the previous meeting will be eligible for the drawing. The BVFA Secretary/Treasurer will distribute money collected to winners of the drawings at first regular BVFA meeting in August.

ARTICLE VIII -- CONTRACTS, CHECKS, DEPOSITS, AND FUNDS

- Section 1** **Contracts:** The BVFA Board of Directors may authorize the President or Vice President to enter into any contract or execute and deliver any instrument in the name of and on the behalf of the corporation. Such authority may be general or confined to specific instruments.
- Section 2** **Check and Drafts:** All checks or orders for the payment of money, notes, or other evidences of indebtedness issued in the name of the corporation shall be signed by at least two Officers.
- Section 3** **Deposits:** All funds of the league shall be deposited from time to time in such banks, trust companies, or other depositories as Officers of BVFA may choose.

ARTICLE IX -- BVFA REVENUE

Section 1

ARTICLE XIV -- PARENTAL PERMISSION AND INSURANCE

- Section 1** All players must supply written permission from their parent(s) or legal guardian(s) to participate in the BVFA.
- Section 2** Member organizations are required to participate in BVFA's General Liability Insurance and Excess Accident Medical Insurance Plan. Players and cheerleaders for each organization will be covered under this insurance plan with each member organization paying a per team fee to Brazos Valley Football Association for the insurance coverage.
- (A) Insurance policies will be required to cover players and cheerleaders during a member organization's official organized practices and games. All member organizations will have coverage in place no later than the annual BVFA official start date of August 1st for each season.
- (B) BVFA's member organization insurance policies are set up to coordinate with the family insurance policies of players. Family insurance policies shall be the primary carrier and any BVFA/Member organization insurance coverage shall be secondary for any occurrence. This policy is considered usual and typical coverage for these activities.
- (C) All bills that are not covered or paid by the family personal insurance policy or BVFA/Member organization will be the responsibility of the family.
- (D) BVFA/Member organization insurance claim forms are provided to each member organization. A member organization's Town Representative is responsible for providing families with a claim form when requested and then verifying that all information listed on the claim form is accurate and complete prior to submitting to the insurance provider. A duplicate copy of each claim submitted must be sent to the BVFA Secretary-Treasurer for BVFA record keeping purposes.

ARTICLE XXIV -- 7on7 FOOTBALL

Section 1

AGE GROUPS & DIVISIONS: Divisions will be established as defined below. If a division fails to make a 4-team minimum, it will be combined with another division.

(A) **Minor Division:** Players may not turn the age of 10 before May 1st.

(B) **Major Division:** Players may not turn the age of 12 before May 1st. **No 7th**

Graders.

(C) 7on7 coaches must maintain a team book with a copy of a birth certificate or legal proof of birth along with a current picture of the child. This book must be available at all games and a challenging/opposing coach can request to review the book before or immediately after a game only. Failure to provide a team book upon request will be a violation and subject to normal punishment by BVFA officers per BVFA By-Laws.

(D) Any player residing within a BVFA Member Association area that does not offer or participate in the BVFA 7on7 League, are eligible to play for other BVFA Member Associations for 7on7 only.

Section 2

FIELD DIMENSIONS:

(A) Field Length

1. Minor Division – 30 Yards

2. Major Division – 40 Yards

(B) Field Width--160 feet (60 feet to hash mark, 40 feet between)

(C) End Zone—10-yards deep

Section 3

STARTING THE GAME:

(A) Both games (when both ends of the field are being utilized) will begin at the same time. The official shall blow his whistle indicating the game has begun. The game time will be displayed on a visible scoreboard.

(B) Visitors (TBD before kickoff), will always align their team on the right sideline facing the end zone, home will always align their team on the left sideline facing the end zone.

(C) Ball is placed on the right hash mark or the center of the field when at the 40-yard line (30-yard line for Minor division).

(D) Referee will announce score and time remaining before each offensive possession begins.

Section 4

MOVING THE BALL:

(A) No kicking/punting is allowed.

(B) The field is marked at 15-yard intervals with cones or yard markers. (3 first downs without a penalty would result in a touchdown).

(C) **Major Division:** Division will receive 4 downs at each interval.

1. The first interval will be from the 40-25-yard line.

2. The second interval will be from the 25-10-yard line.

3. The last interval, which is “Goal-To-Go”, 10-yard line to the End Zone.

4. If the offensive team fails to make a first down the opposing team will take possession of the ball at the 40-yard line.

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(D) Minor Division: Each minor team will have 4 downs at each interval.

1. The first interval will be from the 30-20-yard line.
2. The second interval will be from the 20-10-yard line.
3. The third interval, which will be goal to go, 10-yard line to the End Zone.
4. If the offensive team fails to make a first down the opposing team will take possession of the ball at the 30-yard line.

(E) Possession always begins at the 40-yard line (30-yard line for Minor) at the right hash. No penalty can be assessed in excess of the 40/30 yd. line. A loss of down will be assessed instead.

(F) Offenses always move in the same direction.

Section 5

SCORING:

(A) Touchdowns are worth 6 points.

1. Teams will be automatically awarded the 1-point for the PAT following the score of a touchdown, unless the scoring team immediately informs an official of their intent to attempt a 2-point conversion.
2. 2-point conversion attempts will be from the 10-yard line.

(B) Interceptions are worth 2 points.

1. Interceptions that occur on the PAT are worth 2 pts for defensive team.

(C) Official game score is kept by the officials.

Section 6

BREAKING TIES:

(A) NO GAMES IN 7on7 WILL END IN A TIE.

(B) Each team will receive (1) offensive possession during each overtime period.

(C) A coin flip will determine the first possession. The coin flip will be called by the visiting team.

(D) Each team will begin their offensive possession from the 15-yard line and have 4 downs to score. If a team scores on their offensive possession in the first overtime period, that team may accept the automatic 1-point PAT or elect to attempt 2-point conversion from the 10-yard line.

(E) In the event that additional overtimes are required, each team will be required to attempt 2-point conversions from the 10-yard line until a team can be declared a winner.

RULE 1

P.A.T.'s:

(A) 1-Point Conversion - The "extra point" will be automatically awarded to a team following the score of a touchdown, unless the scoring team immediately informs an official of their intent to attempt a 2-point conversion. Teams will be given less than 10 seconds to make this decision from time the touchdown is scored.

(B) 2 Point Conversion – The 2-point conversion is achieved by scoring from the 10-yard line.

(C) Interceptions on a PAT attempt are dead balls and worth 2 points to the defense.

RULE 2

GAME CLOCK AND TIME OUTS:

(A) Neither team receives any time outs during the game.

(B) The game clock is continuous during both halves of play.

(C) Each half is 20 minutes with a 10-minute half-time.

(D) Games will start 10 minutes after the completion of the previous games.

(E) All teams must show up 15 minutes before game time. It is imperative all games begin and end on schedule to prevent delays of other games.

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- (F) If a team is not present at the start of a game, the present team can elect to receive a win by forfeit or allow the other team 10 minutes on the game clock before electing the win by forfeit.
- (G) A scoreboard clock shall be used to display game time. In the event of an injury to a player that requires stoppage of play to occur, the official shall use a stop watch to track the amount of time lost due to the injury timeout. At the completion of the regulation 20-minute time period, the official shall extend the game to account for time that was lost. The extended time shall not exceed 5 minutes. This time will be kept by an official.

RULE 3

OFFENSIVE FORMATIONS:

Standard offensive formations must be used to simulate contact football situations. The following Offensive formation rules apply:

- (A) There must be 3 players on the LOS. The center must not have anyone within 4 yards of his spot.
- (B) Any player on the LOS that is "covered" by another player on the LOS is ineligible to receive a pass. Example: TE is aligned 4 yards from the center on the line of scrimmage; a WR is aligned on the LOS between the TE and the sideline. The TE is ineligible to receive a pass by the formation because the WR is "covering" the TE. In order to be eligible, the WR needs to be off the LOS.
- (C) A maximum of 3 players can be on one side of the center on the initial alignment. A team can motion a player so more than 3 players are on one side of the center at the time of the snap.
- (D) Only one player is allowed to be in motion at any one time.
- (E) The QB can be aligned under center or in the shotgun formation.
- (F) The center is not an eligible receiver at any time during a play. The center must snap the ball between the legs or underhand to the quarterback.

RULE 4

QUARTERBACK PASS CLOCK: The quarterback only has (4) seconds to throw the ball (6 seconds for the minor division). Time starts when the ball is snapped and stops when the quarterback releases the ball. If the time is over 4 (or 6) seconds, it will result in a loss of down for the offensive team.

- (A) If the QB releases the football in 4.0/6.0 seconds or less, the play will stand.
- (B) If the QB clock has exceeded 4.0/6.0, the official will wait until the play is over (the play is not blown dead), then brings the ball back to the original line of scrimmage with a loss of down.
- (C) The official will blow his whistle to signal the end of the play, approx. 2 seconds after the expiration of the 4.0/6.0 second allotment if the ball has not been thrown by the offensive team.
- (D) In the event the defense intercepts a pass that is thrown after the allotted 4.0/6.0 seconds and before the official has whistled the play dead, the defense will be awarded the 2 points and possession of the ball.

RULE 5

OFFICIAL GAME BALLS: Each team will use its own ball during offensive possessions.

- (A) K2 balls for the Minor division only.
- (B) Major Division may use a TDJ or TDY sized ball.
- (C) The intent of this rule is to ensure that the higher levels do not use an undersized ball to gain an advantage. Synthetic or genuine leather balls are permitted.

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RULE 6

TURNOVERS:

- (A) Fumbles and interceptions are dead balls at the spot with the last team retaining possession.
- (B) An interception will award 2 points and possession to the defense.
- (C) All fumbles will be considered dead balls with the offensive team retaining possession at the spot where the fumble occurred.
- (D) A muffed snap is not a fumble/dead ball. The 4.0(6.0) second count remains in effect on snaps.

RULE 7

GAME CLOCKS:

- (A) Each team will have 40 seconds to snap the ball once the previous play was whistled over by an official.
- (B) Delay of game penalty will be a loss of down plus a 5-yard penalty.
- (C) Play clock is typical for all divisions and teams.
- (D) It is the responsibility of the offense to get the ball back to the line of scrimmage. The center must refer to referee's spot for official marking and placement of ball.

RULE 8

LEGAL PASSES:

- (A) All passes must be forward and have a 3-yard separation between the passer and receiver.
- (B) No double passes, lateral passes, pitches or handoffs are allowed as that would constitute an illegal pass.
- (C) "Shuffle" passes are permitted as long as the 3-yard separation is achieved between passer and receiver.

RULE 9

BLOCKING:

- (A) Once a receiver catches a ball, **all other offensive players must stop at their current position.** They **cannot block** or be eligible to obtain the ball in any manner (i.e. hook and latter/ hitch and pitch). If an offensive player blocks for another, the play will be blown dead at the spot of the block.

RULE 10

END OF THE PLAY:

- (A) Receiver/Ball carrier is legally down when touched below the neck with one or both hands. (Excessive force by shoving, pushing, or striking a blow will be penalized by automatic first down plus 5 yards. Expulsion of a player(s) may occur if fouls are ruled unsportsmanlike & flagrant).

RULE 11

MARKING THE FOOTBALL:

- (A) Offensive team is responsible for retrieving and returning the ball to the previous spot or the new scrimmage spot.
- (B) The play clock does not stop and any delay by the offense in retrieving and returning the ball to the line of scrimmage while attempting to verify the spot with an official will result in a 5-yard delay of game penalty from the succeeding spot.
- (C) The center must correctly spot the ball with the official and place the ball correctly prior to running an offensive play. If an offensive play is run from an inaccurate spot, a 5-yard penalty will be assessed or loss of down if ball is at the original LOS.

RULE 12

DELAY OF GAME/DEAD BALL FOULS:

- (A) Two delay of game penalties in the same possession results in a turnover. The defensive team will then put the ball in play on the 40 (30 for Minor) yard line.

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- (B) Any dead ball foul on a play that results in the defense getting the ball and it is unable to be penalized back to the 40 (30 Minor) yard line will result in a loss of down penalty. The defense, now the offense, would be starting play with 2nd down.

RULE 13 DEFENSIVE PASS INTERFERENCE:

- (A) Defensive Pass Interference will be a spot foul (1st down at the spot).
- (B) Defensive pass interference in the end zone will be an automatic 1st and goal at the 5-yard line. If the ball is closer to the end zone than the 5-yard line at the time of defensive pass interference, the spot closer to the end zone will be utilized with an automatic 1st down.

RULE 14 OFFENSIVE PASS INTERFERENCE:

- (A) Offensive Pass Interference is the same as NCAA rules. (15 YARD PENALTY) If the offensive team is between the 40 and 30-yard cones, and a 15-yard penalty can't be administered, then the penalty will result in loss of down.
- (B) Offensive receivers are **NOT** allowed to run "pick" plays that create physical contact with defenders to allow other receivers to become open.

RULE 15 ILLEGAL CONTACT:

- (A) Responsibility to avoid contact is with the defense.
- (B) There will be **NO** chucking, or deliberate bumping, jamming or grabbing. These actions will result in a "tack on" penalty at the end of the play (5-yard penalty) or the down will be replayed with a 5-yard penalty should the result of the play be an incomplete pass

RULE 16 UNSPORTSMANLIKE CONDUCT:

- (A) No taunting or "trash talking" (5-yard penalty & expulsion if flagrant) is allowed at any time during game.
- (B) Any players involved in a physical confrontation will be immediately ejected from the game.
- (C) A team removed from a game for fighting will not be allowed to participate or play for remainder of year.

RULE 17 MINOR DIVISION COACHES ONLY: A coach shall be allowed on the field during a team's offensive possessions. The coach shall remain a minimum of 10 yards behind the line of scrimmage. After the ball is snapped, the coach on the field, shall not be allowed to provide verbal instructions to players. 1st offense of verbally instructing players during play will be a warning. 2nd and subsequent offenses will result in a loss of down and 5-yard penalty.

RULE 18 MOUTH PIECES: All players are required to have mouth pieces at all times during the play of the game.

RULE 19 DRESS CODE: Players will not be allowed to wear caps, hats, visors or sunglasses (excluding prescription) on the field during the game.

RULE 20 TEAM FORFEIT: Head coaches are required to contact the opposing head coach, hosting location and BVFA a minimum of 24 hours prior to the start of game if their team is unable to play scheduled games.
(A) Head coaches will attempt to secure a replacement team to fill in for team's forfeited game.

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(B) If a replacement can be located, the game will not be count towards the standings. The opposing team of the forfeiting team will receive the win by a 17-0 margin for the standings.

(C) Member association of a forfeiting team will be responsible for cost of officials and field fees. Cost of officials will be \$50 per game and Field Fees will be \$50 per game.

(D) If a head coach of a forfeiting team fails to notify the designated parties of their team's inability to play in scheduled games for a 2nd time during a season, the team will be removed from the official schedule for the remainder of the season and the head coach will face a yearlong suspension from all BVFA activities.

ARTICLE XXV – VIOLATIONS OF BY-LAWS AND RULES

Section 1

Violation of any Article, Section or Rule shall bear a penalty as determined by the BVFA Officers. Penalties may range from a Letter of Reprimand up to being removed from BVFA. Penalties shall be determined by the Executive Committee.

Section 2

Reporting a Violation:

(A) Only a Town Representative may report a violation of the By-Laws and Rules to the Executive Committee. The violation must first be reported by telephone and a complete written report must be submitted. Violations may be submitted to either the Rules Chairman or President.

(B) Complete written report of the violation must state the specific Article and Section or Rule Number that has been violated; the date and description of the violation; identity of the person or persons who committed the violation; how and when the Town Representative became aware of the violation; and include any supporting evidence or documentation that may be necessary to support the allegation.

(C) Violation that occur during, and affect the outcome of, a game. Protests may only be submitted for conference, playoff and Super Bowl games. Protests will not be allowed to be submitted for any non-conference games.

(1) Only a Head Coach of a team involved in the game may choose to report a violation.

(2) The Head Coach must put up a \$300.00 deposit (cash, money order or cashiers check only) with the complete written report. If the violation is upheld the deposit will be returned to the coach. If the violation is not upheld the deposit goes to the BVFA general fund.

(3) The Head Coach must report the violation to the Town Representative no later than 24 hours after the completion of the game. The Town Representative must report the violation by telephone to the Rules Chairman or President by the Sunday that follows the game, no later than 12:00 am.

(4) The complete written report must be signed by the Head Coach and Town Representative. It must be delivered to the Rules Chairman or President no later than 12:00 am of the first Tuesday that follows the Sunday in which the notification of the violation was given by telephone.

(5) The Executive Committee will meet and determine the outcome of the report of violation no later than the following Wednesday at 12:00 am. The President will telephone the Town Representatives of the parties immediately after a decision is made. An email will be sent to all Town Representatives explaining the reported violation and the Executive Committee's decision.

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(6) A complete written report of a violation that occurs in the final game of the Regular Season must be presented at the BVFA Regular Meeting on the Sunday immediately following game. A decision will be made at that time and all Town Representatives will be notified of the decision by the resident at the meeting.

(D) Violations that do not affect the outcome of a game.

(1) Notification that a violation has occurred must be made by the Town Representative by either email or telephone to the Rules Chairman or President within 24 hours of the time he or she becomes aware of the violation.

(2) The complete written report of the violation must be received by the Rules Chairman or President no later than 72 hours after the telephone notification of the violation was made. This report may be made by email or letter and signed by the Town Representative.

(3) The Executive Committee will meet and determine the outcome of the report of violation not later than five (5) days after receiving the written report. The President will telephone the Town Representatives of the parties immediately after a decision is made. An email will be sent to all Town Representatives explaining the reported violation and the Executive Committee's decision.

(4) A complete written report of a violation that occurs in the final week of the Regular Season must be presented at the BVFA Regular Meeting on the Sunday immediately following the final Regular Season game. A decision will be made at that time and all Town Representatives will be notified of the decision by the President at the meeting.

Section 3

Teams as listed in Article X Section 1 may not be voted out of the BVFA for reasons other than for disciplinary action or for any misconduct exhibited by members of a team(s), including coaches, at or during a game. The Head Representative of TASO officials shall report to the BVFA President any misconduct by any member of a team. Disciplinary action shall be determined by the BVFA Officers.

ARTICLE XXVI – MEDIA AGENCIES & VENDORS

Section 1

Definitions:

(A) A “media agency” for purposes of these criteria shall mean a daily or weekly publication, cable system, radio station, television station or television network, which issues Press Credentials to its employees.

(B) A “vendor” for the purposes of these criteria shall mean a person or company that promotes or exchanges goods or services for money.

(C) The “game area” for the purposes of these criteria shall mean football field and the surrounding area in which BVFA requires individuals to pass background checks in order to enter. The location of media and vendor employees shall be in the sidelines area outside of the Team Area (25-yard line to 25-yard line), which extends around the end zones.

Section 2

Media & Press: Any Media Agency employee presenting current Media Credentials for admission to a game shall complete and sign the BVFA Media Agency & Press Credentials Agreement form. After the Media Agency & Press Credentials form is completed and signed the person will be admitted and allowed access to the game area and press box, if available and there is room.

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Section 3

Vendors:

(A) A vendor must submit a completed and signed Vendor Application & Agreement a minimum of ten (10) days prior to the date of the event or game at which the vendor is applying for approval to conduct business.

(B) If a vendor sets up, performs services and/or transacts business in the game area the vendor's employees shall be subject to the same background check requirements as BVFA Officers and Member Associations (Article IV Section 8) and must wear IDs with photographs.

Section 4

Approval or Rejection: A Member Association shall approve or reject, unless the event or game is directly under the supervision of BVFA Officers. A Vendor application for an event or game directly under the supervision of BVFA Officers must be approved by the Executive Committee.

Section 5

Approved Forms: A Member Association shall make a copy of any Media Agency & Press Credentials form or Vendor Application & Agreement that it approves and keep it. The original form shall be sent to the BVFA Secretary-Treasurer no later than seven days after it is approved.

ARTICLE XXVII -- AMENDMENTS

The BVFA By-Laws and Rules may be amended by a majority vote of a quorum of the Board of Directors at any regular or special meeting called for that purpose between February 1 and June 1 of any year. Special Policies, which ensure the safety and the health of players, may be instituted by the Board of Directors after June 1.